



22nd Annual Project AWARE General Agenda

July 13-18, 2025

Winnebago & Shell Rock Rivers ([Map](#)), 61.5 Miles, Worth, Cerro Gordo & Floyd Counties

www.iowaprojectaware.org

Sunday, July 13

Meet & Greet at East Park

- Statewide Event Shuttles (Des Moines and Tosanak Recreation Area)
- Iowa Project AWARE Event Kickoff
- **Camp** – [East Park](#) (802 3rd St NE, Mason City, IA 50401)

Monday, July 14

11.3 Miles - *Kingfisher Hollow to East Park - Winnebago River*

- **Start** – [Kingfisher Hollow Access](#) (10250 Wheelerwood Dr., Mason City, IA 50401)
- **Takeout/End** (11.3 Miles) – [East Park](#) (802 3rd St NE, Mason City, IA 50401)
- **Camp** – [East Park](#) (802 3rd St NE, Mason City, IA 50401)

Tuesday, July 15

18.0 Miles - *East Park to Rockford Fossil Prairie Park - Winnebago River*

- **Start** – [East Park](#) (802 3rd St NE, Mason City, IA 50401)
- **Support Stop** (10.3 Miles) – [Claybanks Forest Access](#) (225th St. Rockford, IA 50468)
- **Takeout/End** (7.7 Miles) – [Rockford Fossil Prairie Park](#) (1227 215th St, Rockford, IA 50468)
- **Camp** – [East Park](#) (802 3rd St NE, Mason City, IA 50401)

Wednesday, July 16

12.1 Miles - *Strand Park East Access to Boulder Park Boat Ramp - Shell Rock River*

- **Start** – [Strand Park East Access](#) (20057 - 340th Street, Plymouth)
- **Support Stop** (6.5 Miles) – [Wilkinson Pioneer Park Access](#) (21425 Vine Ave Rock Falls, IA 50467)
- **Takeout/End** (5.6 Miles) – Boulder Park Boat Ramp (603 7th St NW, Nora Springs, IA 50458)
- **Camp** – [Tosanak Recreation Area](#) (2543 Glass Rd, Marble Rock, IA 50653)

Thursday, July 17

10.1 Miles - *Nora Springs Access to Rockford Access - Shell Rock River*

- **Start** – Nora Springs Access (410 6th St Nora Springs, IA 50458)
- **Takeout/End** (10.1 Miles) – Rockford Access (105 1st Ave NW, Rockford, IA 50468)
- **Camp** – [Tosanak Recreation Area](#) (2543 Glass Rd, Marble Rock, IA 50653)

Friday, July 18

8.0 Miles - *Rockford Access to Tosanak Recreation Area - Shell Rock River*

- **Start** – Rockford Access (105 1st Ave NW, Rockford, IA 50468)
- **Takeout/End** (8.0 Miles) – [Tosanak Recreation Area](#) (2543 Glass Rd, Marble Rock, IA 50653)

Detailed Daily Agenda

Sunday, July 13 (Meet & Greet)

East Park

Camp Amenities

- Portable toilets and flush toilets - renting 8 portable toilets, flush toilets on site
- Showers available on site
- Running water available
- Electricity available
- Emergency Storm Shelter: MacNider Shower House

8:30 am – **Staff Shuttle** departs from University of Iowa – Oakdale Campus (Iowa City) (2 hour 35 minute shuttle)

10:00 am – Shuttle departs from DMACC Campus – (Ankeny) (1 hour 58 minute shuttle)

12:30 pm – Shuttle departs from Tosanak Recreation Area – (Marble Rock) (33 minute shuttle)

1:00 pm – Arrive at East Park (802 3rd St NE, Mason City, IA 50401)

Ongoing – Registration

2:00 pm – Afternoon Campground Programs

- *Knots for Paddlers* - Jeff White (Skunk River Paddler and AWARE Volunteer)

3:00 pm – Concurrent Afternoon Campground Programs

- *Canoe Skills and Safety Clinic* – Shelly Weeks, Jim Dodd, Ken & Diane Birt (Iowa Project AWARE Volunteers)
- *What Lies Beneath: Geological Wonders of the Winnebago and Shell Rock Watersheds* - Ryan Clark (Iowa Geological Survey)
- *Craft a Mug Jacket* - Barb Petersen-Benjegerdes (Iowa Project AWARE Volunteer)

4:00 pm – Concurrent Afternoon Campground Programs

- *Floating the Mississippi for a Cause* - Hank Kohler (Lifelong Paddler)
- *Bugs and Water Quality* - Kierra Determan (State Hygienic Laboratory at the University of Iowa)

5:30 pm – Concurrent Afternoon Campground Programs

- *Canoe Skills and Safety Clinic* – Glenn Harman (Iowa Department of Natural Resources) Shelly Weeks, Jim Dodd, Ken & Diane Birt (Iowa Project AWARE Volunteers)

6:00 pm – **Dinner** at East Park (802 3rd St NE, Mason City, IA 50401)

7:15 pm – Welcome & Introductions

Monday, July 14 (11.3 miles)

Kingfisher Hollow to East Park (Winnebago River)

7:00 am – **Breakfast** and **lunch distribution** at East Park (802 3rd St NE, Mason City, IA 50401)

8:00 am – Morning Safety Program (Iowa Department of Natural Resources Rivers Program)

Bus Shuttle from East Park to Kingfisher Hollow (16-minute shuttle)

9:00 am – **Depart** from Kingfisher Hollow (carrydown, river right-south side) (10250 Wheelerwood Dr., Mason City, IA 50401)

10.5 miles – **Trash Pickup Location** – Winnebago River Access Park (510 11th St NE, Mason City, IA 50401)

0.8 miles – **Take Out** – East Park Access

No Bus Shuttle

4:30 pm – **Concurrent Informal Afternoon Activities** (East Park - Mason City)

- *Turtle Time* - Kari Jeffery (Cerro Gordo County Conservation)
- *Whitewater Kayaking* - Glenn Harman (Iowa DNR River Programs)

6:00 pm – Dinner at East Park (802 3rd St NE, Mason City, IA 50401)

7:30 pm – Concurrent Evening Campground Programs (East Park - Mason City)

- *Nature Myth Busters* - Heather Hucka (Cerro Gordo County Conservation)
- *Paddling While Impaired* - Dan Haug (Prairie Rivers of Iowa)

Tuesday, July 15 (18.0 miles)

East Park to Rockford Fossil Prairie Park (Winnebago River)

7:00 am – Breakfast and lunch distribution at East Park (802 3rd St NE, Mason City, IA 50401)

8:00 am – Morning Safety Program (Iowa Department of Natural Resources Rivers Program)

No Bus Shuttle

9:00 am – Depart from East Park (paved, river right - south side of river) (802 3rd St NE, Mason City, IA 50401)

10.3 miles – Halfway point & Trash Pickup Location – Claybanks Forest Access (225th St. Rockford, IA 50468) (**make it clear to look at the map and not to trust google maps**) (carry down, river right - south side of river)

7.7 miles – Trash Pickup Location – Rockford Fossil Prairie Park (1227 215th St., Rockford, IA 50468) (paved, river right - west side of river)

Bus Shuttle from Rockford Fossil Prairie Park to East Park (22-minute shuttle)

4:30 pm – Concurrent Informal Afternoon Activities (East Park)

- *Whitewater Kayaking* - Glenn Harman (Iowa DNR River Programs)

6:00 pm – Dinner at East Park (802 3rd St NE, Mason City, IA 50401)

7:30 pm – Concurrent Evening Campground Programs

- *Potential Use of eDNA for Assessment of Fish Species* - Claire Hruby & Alex Colby (Drake University)
- *Fish and Turtles of the Mississippi River* - Denny Weiss (Retired Iowa DNR Fisheries)

East Park Amenities

- Portable toilets and flush toilets - renting 8 portable toilets, flush toilets on site
- Showers available on site
- Running water available
- Electricity available
- Emergency Storm Shelter: MacNider Shower House

Wednesday, July 16 (12.1 miles)

Shellrock Wildlife Area to Boulder Park Boat Ramp (Shell Rock River)

7:00 am – Breakfast and lunch distribution at East Park (802 3rd St NE, Mason City, IA 50401)

8:00 am – Morning Safety Program (Iowa Department of Natural Resources Rivers Program)

8:15 am – Bus Shuttle volunteers to Strand Park East Access (20057 - 340th Street, Plymouth) (13-minute shuttle)

9:00 am – Depart from Strand Park East access (carry down, river right - east side of river)

6.5 miles – Halfway point & Trash Pickup Location – Wilkinson Pioneer Park Access (21425 Vine Ave Rock Falls, IA 50467) (grass carry down, river right–south side of river)

5.6 miles –Trash Pickup Location – Boulder Park Boat Ramp (paved, east end of Shell Rock River impoundment, northeast of dam) (1603 7th St NW, Nora Springs, IA 50458)

Bus Shuttle from Boulder Park Boat Ramp (1603 7th St NW, Nora Springs, IA 50458) to Tosanak Recreation Area (2543 Glass Rd, Marble Rock, IA 50653) (23-minute shuttle)

4:30 pm –Concurrent Afternoon Campground Programs

- ???

6:00 pm – Dinner at Tosanak Recreation Area (2543 Glass Rd, Marble Rock, IA 50653)

7:30 pm – Concurrent Evening Campground Programs

- ??
- ?

Tosanak Recreation Area Amenities

- Portable toilets and flush toilets
- Showers available on site
- Running water available
- Electricity available
- Emergency Storm Shelter: Shower house in camp

Thursday, July 17 (10.1 miles)

Nora Springs Access to Rockford Access (Shell Rock River)

7:00 am – Breakfast and lunch distribution at Tosanak Recreation Area (2543 Glass Rd, Marble Rock, IA 50653)

8:00 am – Morning Safety Program (Iowa Department of Natural Resources Rivers Program)

8:15 am – Bus Shuttle volunteers to Nora Springs Access (410 6th St Nora Springs, IA 50458) (23 minutes one way)

8:30 am – Depart from Nora Springs Access (carry down, river left - north side of river)

10.1 miles – Take Out at Rockford Access (sandbar carry down, river right– south side of river) (105 1st Ave NW, Rockford, IA 50468)

- **Bus Shuttle** from Rockford Access (105 1st Ave NW, Rockford, IA 50468) to Tosanak Recreation Area (2543 Glass Rd, Marble Rock, IA 50653) (12-minute shuttle)

4:30 pm – Concurrent Afternoon Campground Programs

- ???

6:00 pm – Dinner at Tosanak Recreation Area (2543 Glass Rd, Marble Rock, IA 50653)

7:30 pm – Concurrent Evening Campground Programs

- ??
- ?

Tosanak Recreation Area Amenities

- Portable toilets and flush toilets
- Showers available on site
- Running water available
- Electricity available
- Emergency Storm Shelter: Shower house in camp

Friday, July 18 (8 miles)

Rockford Access to Tosanak Recreation Area (Shell Rock River)

7:00 am – Breakfast and lunch distribution at Tosanak Recreation Area (2543 Glass Rd, Marble Rock, IA 50653)

8:00 am – Morning Safety Program (Iowa Department of Natural Resources Rivers Program)

8:15 am – Bus Shuttle volunteers to Rockford Access (105 1st Ave NW, Rockford, IA 50468) (12-minute shuttle)

8:30 am – Depart from Rockford Access (sandbar carry down, river right - south side of river)

8.0 miles – Take Out Tosanak Recreation Area (2543 Glass Rd, Marble Rock, IA 50653) (paved, river left - north side of river)

No Bus Shuttle

- **Wash canoes**

Organize volunteers and equipment for shuttle home (depart – TBD)

~late afternoon – Post-event shuttle arrives in Ankeny