

MARSHALL COUNTY CONSERVATION ANNUAL REPORT FISCAL YEAR 2022

JULY 1, 2021 - JUNE 30, 2022



DIRECTOR'S REPORT

MIKE STEGMANN, DIRECTOR

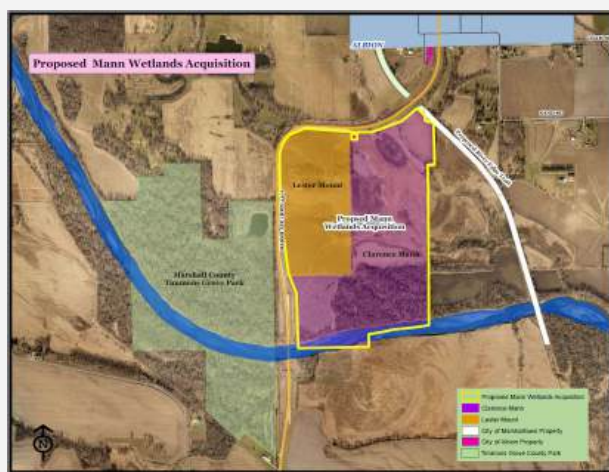
FY22 brought continued recovery planning of the damages incurred from the Derecho of 2020. The most significant recovery measures taken were approval to move forward with reconstruction of the suspension foot bridge at Three Bridges County Park. A FEMA grant is expected to cover the majority of costs incurred with this project slated to be completed in late 2022. Additionally, financial expense was approved to begin tree cleanup at Grammer Grove, in the area where maple sap had been collected to make syrup for the Trees to Table program. Two separate grants were sought to share costs for tree replanting at Sand Lake and Timmons Grove. Both grants were approved and planting completed.

A Iowa DNR Fish Habitat Grant was successful for cost sharing the expansion of Sand Lake. This acquisition project is slated for completion sometime in 2023. Development planning of that site will follow.

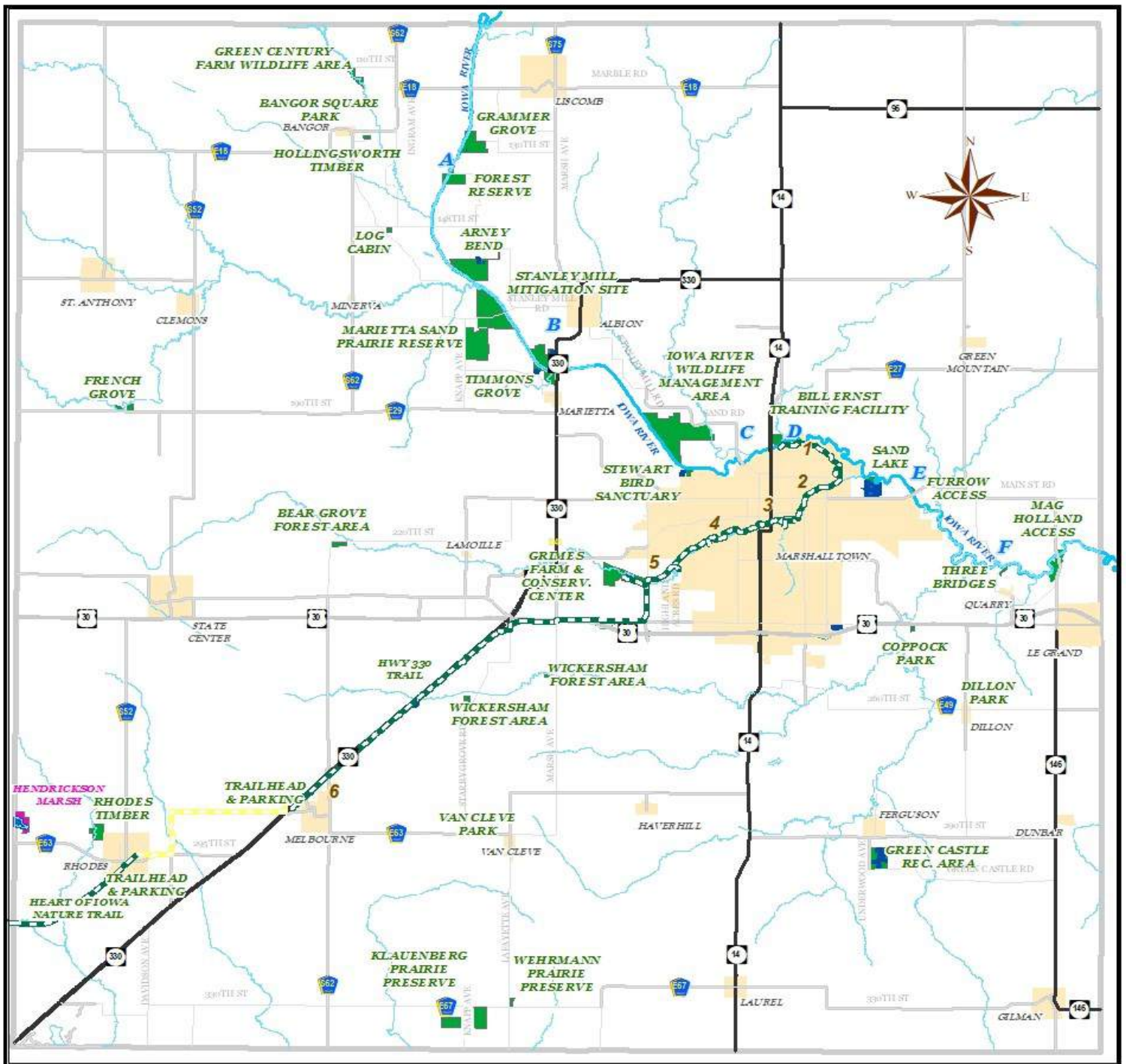
Allocation of ARPA funding brought back to life the Green Castle Campground project. Additional funds are needed to let the project for bid.

The largest undertaking of the MCCB in FY22 was entering into Memorandums of Agreements with the Iowa Natural Heritage Foundation to acquire what has been named the Mann Wetlands. This 216 acre parcel of land lies just south of Albion in the Iowa River Floodplain. There is huge potential to enhance existing remnant and reclaim wetlands as well as reconstruct native vegetation on the site. This project will require a culmination of private donations and grants to assist with acquisitions costs.

Additional work with annual programming and park maintenance seemingly got back up to full speed after covid protocols relaxed and the conservation center opened back for full use.



MCCB AREAS



ACRES

1. Arney Bend	203	10. Furrow Access	6	19. Marietta Sand Prairie	229	28. Wehrmann Prairie	8
2. Bangor Square	1	11. Grammer Grove	121	20. Mormon Ridge Log Cabin	0.5	29. Wickersham Forest Areas	17
3. Bear Grove Forest Area	23	12. Green Castle Recreation Area	116	21. Rhodes Timber	60	Total Acres	2614.55
4. Bill Ernst Training Facility	33	13. Green Century Farm	35	22. Sand Lake	95	Trails	
5. Black Walnut Acres	2.05	14. Grimes Farm	160	23. Stanley Mill	315	Heart of Iowa Nature Trail	4.3 miles
6. CD Copcock Park	10	15. Hollingsworth Timber	6	24. Stewart Bird Sanctuary	22	Highway 330 Trail	9 miles
7. Dillon Park	1	16. Iowa River Management Area	485	25. Three Bridges Park	13		
8. Forest Reserve	85	17. Klaunberg	240	26. Timmons	216		
9. French Grove	28	18. Mag Holland	80	27. Van Cleave	4		

ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION FACTS AND FIGURES

Environment Education

Fiscal year 2022, things get back to normal with in person programming. Facebook Live! was still offered, due to its success the previous Fiscal Year. A few take and make kits were offered at the beginning of the fiscal year



Facebook Live

23 Facebook Live Nature Story Hours
Reached **6580 people** with a **3345 views**



Youtube Videos

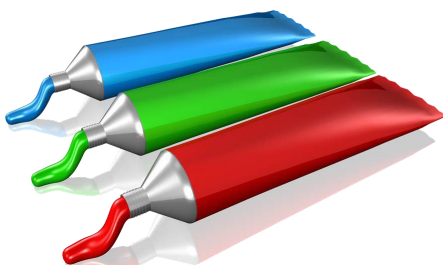
1 video
Viewed by **4 people**

In Person Programs

90 In person programs
Participants: **4693 people** and **90 groups**



- Youth Programs: 899 participants , 23 groups
- School Programs: 1564 participants, 36 groups
- Camp: 71 participants, 4 groups
- Family Programs: 742 participants, 12 groups
- Adult Programs: 152 participants, 10 groups
- Concerts: 1265 participants, 5 groups



Make and Take Kits

4 Make and take kits offered
62 people participated

REVENUE

BUDGET REVENUE

RECEIPTS

Boat Titling Fees	\$ 615.00
Miscellaneous Revenue	\$ 656.10
Insurance Claim Reimb	\$ 160,854.61
FEMA Reimb Thru State	\$ 13,303.50

REAP

Program Receipts	\$ 15,935.00
Investment Interest	\$ 255.79

TRUST

Camping Fees	\$ 5,969.10
Misc State Grants & Reimb	\$ 70,864.38
Investment Interest	\$ 1,320.07
Land Rental	\$ 20,815.00
Rent—Klauenberg Crop Ground	\$ 22,369.68
Rents	\$ 2,000.00
Misc. contributions/donations	\$ 58,814.09

B.KLAUENBERG—PRAIRIE EXP. TRUST

Investment Interest	\$ 775.81
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TOTAL REVENUE

\$ 374,548.23

GRANTS AND DONATIONS

Iowa Department of Natural Resources
Derecho Community Forestry Grant \$4154.88

Dr. Russel Watt Memorial \$1,525.00

F. Polley Memorial \$1,370.00

F. Richard Roe Memorial \$685.00

Iowa Department of Natural Resources
Fish Habit Grant 20-03 \$33,367.50

Iowa Department of Natural Resources
Fish Habitat Grant 21-01F \$33,342.00

Howard Stegmann Memorial \$2,225.00

Friends of Marshall County Conservation
Threes Bridges Swinging Bridge \$8,000.00

Sand Lake Donations \$6,353.00

Friends of Marshall County Conservation
Mann Property \$20,000.00

Marshalltown Area Chamber of Commerce
Mann Property \$5,000.00

Friends of Marshall County Conservation
Grimes Farm Shelter Lights \$3,310.00

CAMPING

TIMMONS GROVE

Nights rented: 404 sites
Campers: 442 campers
Revenue: \$7339.10



GRAMMER GROVE

Nights rented: 70 sites
Campers: 49 campers
Revenue \$ 755.00

RESERVABLE FACILITIES



CONSERVATION CENTER CLASSROOM

Number of Rentals: 3 Revenue: \$ 900.00

LEONARD GRIMES MEMORIAL AMPHITHEATER

Number of Rentals: 2 Revenue: \$ 550.00

GANDER LOOKOUT AT GREEN CASTLE RECREATION AREA

Number of Rentals: 24 Revenue: \$ 1,930.00

GRIMES FARM SHELTER

Number of Rentals: 3 Revenue: \$ 150.00

EXPENSES

ADMINISTRATION

Salaries—Officers	\$61,948.77
Salaries—Deputies/Assistants	\$224,133.11
Overtime	\$186.89
Office Supplies	\$2,558.59
Wearing Apparel/Co Emp	\$1,558.45
Environmental Ed Supplies	\$5,877.45
Official Pub/Advertising	\$55.27
Postage	\$1,133.98
Travel Expense	\$1,855.82
Communications Equip. Service	\$16,240.56
School of Instruction	\$935.00
Miscellaneous	\$6,640.82
Gas/Electric Utilities	\$4,863.27
Water	\$472.54
Law Enforcement Exp.	\$123.94
Vehicle Maintenance/Repairs	\$8,758.27
Office Equipment—Maintenance	\$673.58
License/Fees	\$2,532.49
Equipment/Office Machines	\$1,926.77
Total	\$344,602.71

MAINTENANCE & OPERATION

Salaries—Other Help	\$21,770.01
Miscellaneous Supplies	\$1,883.31
Gas/Oil	\$14,510.54
Gas/Electric Supplies	\$8,382.36
Water	\$2,745.85
Equipment Maintenance	\$6,819.42
Misc. Repairs/Service	\$152,163.63
Sanitation Service	\$18,997.73
Credit Card Fees	\$502.39
Equipment/Office Machines	\$158.80
Total	\$227,934.04

GENERAL SUPPLEMENTAL

Emp Ben—FICA CO Share	\$21,637.72
Emp Ben—IPERS CO Share	\$26,916.60
Emp Ben—Health Ins CO Share	\$47,169.32
Emp Ben—Life Ins CO Share	\$171.18
Emp Ben—Dental CO Share	\$2,370.00
Emp Ben—Flex Adm CO Share	\$57.36
Emp Ben—LTD CO Share	\$398.69
Emp Ben - STD CO Share	\$1,272.40
Emp Ben—R-FHRA Admin	\$311.32
Total	\$100,304.59

MAINTENANCE & OPERATION

Emp Ben—FICA CO Share	\$1,665.49
Emp Ben—IPERS CO Share	\$0.00
Total	\$1,665.49

REAP

Purchase	\$0.00
Total	\$0.00

CONS LAND ACQUISITION TRUST FD

Purchase	\$70,554.25
Total	\$70,554.25

B.KLAUENBERG-PRAIRIE EXP. TRUST

Misc. Repairs/Supplies	\$0.00
Gas/Electric Utilities	\$21.81
Water	\$242.11
Total	\$263.92

TOTAL EXPENSES

\$745,325.00



ANNUAL HIGHLIGHTS

ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION

During the 2022 FY, Marshall County Conservation's Environmental Education program continues to grow through new and established programming. New programming this year included: Building a Better Birder Programming, Vamos A Pescar Grant Programming, Ice Fishing, Fur, Fins, and Feather (Zoom Marshalltown Preschool), and GMG End of Year Celebration for K-6th Grade. Established programming included Nature Story Hour, held in person and via Facebook Live, Bobcat University Fishing in conjunction with MICA, The Healthy Family Fair through the Marshalltown Library, Live and Local, Nocturnal Scavenger Hunt, Monarch Tagging, Junior Conservationist, XLP, and many more.

This year we introduced a new program called "People in the Park." This program was a huge success and created huge jumps in people visiting our social media accounts. The program entailed us hiding Lego people doing outdoor recreation throughout our parks. We then took pictures of the Lego people with blurry backgrounds and posted them on Facebook. The first person to find the Lego person and return it to the nature center was registered for a kayak giveaway donated by Theisen's. Very few were not found within an hour!

Programs, events, and areas were promoted through the quarterly newsletter seasons, press releases to local news sources, monthly radio shows, and social media, including Facebook and YouTube T.V. We also worked with Marshalltown Chamber of Commerce to create promotional videos for activities like Ice Fishing in Marshall County.

Other projects in the 2022 FY included volunteers sorting and organizing the books, ordering replacements for the derecho-damaged canoes, and starting the replacement of outdoor educational picnic tables. Many of these projects would not have been accomplished without cooperation with many different agencies and organizations, including KDAO, KIX, Friends of Marshall County Conservation, MICA, REAP CEP, Iowa DNR, Farmers Market, United Way, Alliant Energy, Boy Scouts, Marshalltown Art Alliance, Trees Forever, Swift Greenhouse, Green AmeriCorp, Catholic Heart Work Camp, and countless volunteers.



ANNUAL HIGHLIGHTS CONT.

MAINTENANCE

- Lowered Green Castle lake and apply chemical for weed removal
- Constructed shelter at Sand Lake
- Tree planting at Sand Lake and water till freeze
- Tree planting at Timmons and water all summer
- Serviced all equipment throughout year
- Cut and chipped trees along trails and parks
- Supervised summer aides
- Handled all other maintenance issues as they arose
- Invasive species removal at parks as timed allowed
- Graded all park roads 2 times and repair as needed after storms
- Attended various meetings and trainings
- Built, checked and replaced Wood duck boxes around county
- Built, checked, and replaced kestrel boxes
- Fall burn at Mann Wetland
- Burn various area throughout parks and Fall burn at Mann Wetland
- Picked up trash in all parks throughout year
- Sprayed parking lots, along bike trails, and around trees in all parks
- Mowed all parks throughout year
- Mowed burn breaks in all areas 2 time
- Plowed snow as needed
- Worked on planter and plant food plots at Iowa River Area, Sand Prairie and Klauenberg
- Assisted with Naturalist programing
- Worked with eagle scouts and volunteers
- Stained decks, split rail fence, and playscape stations
- Responded to injured wildlife calls as they arose
- Worked in playscape as needed
- Stocked Walleye in Green Castle and Sand Lake
- Installed Non-toxic shot only signs in hunting areas
- Cleaned and organized at center and shop
- Tore down pit toilet at Grammer
- Constructed new playground at Grammer
- Banded geese

MAINTENANCE (Contiued)

- Met with contractors throughout year
- Assisted with fishing and kayaking events
- Fixed fence on the HOINT and trim trees
- Mowed brush around Green Castle and clear brush along lake shore
- Attended REAP Congress
- Walked and posted park boundaries as needed
- Cut and hauled cedar trees out on ice at Green Castle
- People in the Park LEGO contest
- Replaced old bridge with culvert at Grammer
- Replaced lights with LED at North Bay, Handi-cove, Timmons and Grammer shelters
- Flew drone at Mann Wetland for video and continued work on acquisition



LAW ENFORCEMENT

- Attended various trainings including: Shooting Qualifications shotgun and pistol, Force on Force, Professional Communication, Mental Health, Dependent Adult Abuse Reporting, DNR updates, ILEECF, Haz-Mat update, and Legal updates. Training hours were given by CCPOA, Sheriff's office and online.
- Patrolled parks and checked campers on regular basis and made various contacts when not on patrol. Checked hunting and fishing licenses in parks on numerous occasions while not on patrol. Dealt with problem campers and illegal dumping numerous times throughout the year. Patrolled the parks for firework use.

ANNUAL HIGHLIGHTS CONT.

BOARD

- Approved new lease agreement for copier.
- Approved filing of cracks on the Highway 330 bike trail.
- Allowed archery deer hunting only in wildlife refuge areas (Timmons South, Grimes Farm north of Linn Creek, Coppock Park, Grammer Grove).
- Approved the grinding of 200 stumps at four parks from damages incurred by the derecho.
- Approved concrete work on the Highway 330 bike trail.
- Approved the submittal of an application to the Iowa Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) for the Derecho Community Forestry Grant Program.
- Approved to install a culvert and complete dirt work at Grammer Grove.
- Approved entering into a Memorandum of Understanding with the Iowa Natural Heritage Foundation (INHF) to purchase 144 acres of land from the Manns for \$723,750.
- Approved the submittal of a REAP County Conservation Grant through the IDNR for \$525,250 for the purchase of the Mann property from INHF.
- Entered into a service agreement with Clapsaddle-Garber Associates (CGA) to engineer a showerhouse/bathroom for Green Castle Recreation Area.
- Approved new crop ground lease 89.27 acres of land at Klauenberg by C&C Farms.
- Approved a lease for a undeveloped section of the Heart of Iowa.
- Approved work by CGA for the suspension bridge at Three Bridges County Park.
- Approved work by CGA for Green Castle Recreation Area for final design, construction documents, and taking the project to bid letting.
- Approved the Fiscal Year 2021 Annual Report.
- Approved entering into a Memorandum of Understanding with INHF to purchase the Mount property for \$418,000.
- Approved derecho clean up at Grammer Grove.
- Approved IWARN of the Amateur Radio Relay League to hold after hours field days at Grimes Farm on June 25-26.
- Approved the bid from Weidner Construction for rebuilding the suspension bridge at Three Bridges County Park.
- Approved concrete work at Grimes Farm.

BOARD (continued)

- Approved submitting a Fish Habitat Grant with IDNR for the acquisition of the addition to Sand Lake Recreation Area.
- Approved the match funds for a tree replacement grant for Timmons Grove.
- Approved new lighting at the Grimes Farm Shelter.
- Approved hiring of seasonal help.
- Approved submittal of grant to the \$100M Destination Iowa Grant Program for the Green Castle Campground.
- Approved at 28E Trailhead management agreement on the HOI with city of Rhodes, Iowa.
- Approved a construction easement with Jary and Connie Hoskey for the Three Bridges Suspension Bridge Project.
- Approved Fiscal Year 2023 salary increases.



VOLUNTEERS

Thank you to all our volunteers! Volunteers help with tree planting, flowerbed maintenance, collating the newsletter, and much more.

- Adam Soddors
- Alliant Energy
- Arlie Miller
- Bob Dunham
- Boy Scout Troop 324
- Bren Lee
- Carrie Barr
- Charlotte McGinty
- Dena Graff
- Dianna Freiboth
- Doni Sheldon
- Erin Carpenter
- Gary Fulton
- Irene & Gary Williams
- Jack & Linda Mackin
- Janey Swartz
- Jenny Bledsoe
- Joan Studts
- Joe Herring
- Jolene Jebson
- Joyce and Rob Christensen
- Kathy Sievers
- Kayann Lowry
- Kristi Cameron
- Kyle Martin
- Marilyn Beard
- Micki Stanley
- Pam Paone
- Sharon Depew
- Steve Mraz
- Sue Blaisdell
- Sue Cahill
- Terri Anson
- Terry Angle



STAFF

Mike Stegmann, Director
Tami Krough, Administrative Assistant
Emily Herring, Naturalist
Jeremiah Marken, Operations Supervisor/
Park Ranger
Tyler Renze, Maintenance Technician
Alan Naughton, Maintenance Technician

CONSERVATION BOARD

Tom Mack
Pam Paone
Steve Armstrong
Rich Naughton
Tom Deimerly

SEASONAL STAFF

Bill Carey, Summer Naturalist Assistant
Julie Stahl, Summer Maintenance Technician
Alex Mandi, Summer Field Intern
Monica Carroll, Summer Field Intern
Aaron Eckley, Summer Field Intern
Trevor Stamp, Summer Field Intern
Mariah Bockes, Summer Field Intern
Hunter Hughlette, Summer Field Intern
Ethan Meyer, Summer Field Intern

COMMUNITY SUPPORT

The Marshall County Conservation Board wishes to express special recognition and appreciation for the cooperation given by the following agencies and people. And many others too numerous to mention.

- Marshall County Board of Supervisors
- Marshall County Auditor and staff
- Marshall County Treasurer and staff
- Marshall County Engineer and staff
- Marshall County Attorney and staff
- Marshall County Recorder and staff
- Marshall County G.I.S and staff
- Marshall County Zoning
- Marshall County Sheriff and staff
- Marshall County Chapter of Izaak Walton League
- Community Foundation of Marshall County
- Marshall County Pheasants Forever
- Marshalltown Community YMCA
- Marshalltown Garden Club
- Area Education Agency 267
- Iowa Valley Continuing Education
- Iowa Department of Natural Resources: Wildlife & Fisheries, Law Enforcement, & Forestry Bureaus
- IDNR Resource Enhancement and Protection
- Iowa Natural Heritage Foundation
- Iowa Department of Transportation
- Martha-Ellen Tye Foundation
- Times Republican Newspaper
- Enterprise Record – State Center
- K.F.J.B. Radio Station
- K.D.A.O. Radio Station
- Theisens
- Marshall County Soil Conservation District
- Marshall County ISU Extension Service
- Central Iowa Ornithologists
- Marshalltown Park & Rec.
- Boy Scouts of America
- Central Iowa Fair
- Alliant Energy
- Consumers Energy
- Marshall County Master Conservationists
- Marshall County Master Gardeners
- Marshalltown Area Chamber of Commerce
- Firehouse Aquatics
- Marshall County Arts and Culture Alliance