

IWTA PLANNING CALENDAR 2015

EDITOR'S NOTE: Calendar Updated 150330. Calendar prepared for the Iowa Water Trails Association by Gregg Stark. Please forward additions or corrections to iowawta@gmail.com

Jan 3-4; Quadrantids Meteor Shower Peaks.

Jan 3, 10, 17, 24, 31; Open Pool Sessions at Peet Pool, Cedar Falls; please contact Al Donaldson in advance, (319) 277-3194, alandonaldson@cfu.net

Jan 4; Full Moon.

Jan 12; Iowa Legislative Session Opens; (per diem expenses end May 1). Find contact info for your legislators at <https://www.legis.iowa.gov/legislators>

Jan 24; Indian Creek Nature Center "8th Annual Paddle Day," Cedar Rapids, Noon-4:30 pm; featuring presentations and exhibits. www.indiancreeknaturecenter.org/.

Jan 26; IWILL Day at the Capitol, afternoon, Des Moines.

Feb 1; NFL Super Bowl 49, Arizona.

Feb 2; Groundhog Day.

Feb 3; Iowa Rivers Revival Legislative Reception, 5-7 pm at Noodle Zoo in Des Moines. Info at <http://iowarivers.org/>

Feb 3; Full Moon.

Feb 6; Jupiter at closest approach to Earth, Jupiter and moons visible with binoculars.

Feb 6-8; Iowa Paddle & Pedal Expo at CanoeSport Outfitters, Indianola. Exhibits, presentations, factory reps, show specials; <http://www.canoesportoutfitters.com/index.php>

Feb 7; Nick's Pre-Expo Buffet Breakfast at Prairie Meadows in Altoona, 7:00 am, annual gathering of old and new paddling friends on the way to the Iowa Paddle & Pedal Expo. nick.gaeta@live.com

Feb 7; IWC Annual Meeting at CSO Paddle Expo in Indianola, 5:00 pm. Election of officers, discussion of issues, plans for coming year. Open to visitors, but only IWC dues-paying members may vote.

<http://iowawhitewater.org/>

Feb 8-11; PRRSUM 6th Annual Upper Midwest Stream Restoration Symposium, Dubuque.

Presentations, exhibits, project sharing. <http://www.prrsum.org/content/registration>

Feb 14; Valentine's Day.

Feb 17; REAP Day/Environmental Lobby Day at the Capitol, Des Moines, 9:00 am-1:00 pm, sponsored by Iowa Environmental Council, REAP Coalition, et al. <http://www.iaenvironment.org/>

Feb 21; Iowa Games Indoor Paddling Venue in Charles City.

<http://www.iowagames.org/Sports/WinterGames/IndoorPaddling.aspx>

Mar 2-3; Iowa Water Conference in Ames; annual gathering of water professionals, researchers, educators and students from across Iowa and surrounding states. <http://www.aep.iastate.edu/iwc/>

Mar 4; Tree Day at the Iowa State Capitol, 9:00 am, discussion with legislators, sponsored by Trees Forever. <http://www.treesforever.org/>

Mar 5; Full Moon.

Mar 7; Photographer's Feast, Photography Workshop, WIU Quad Cities, 9:00am-2:00pm, tips for shooting around our region—architecture, landscape, nature, people, events, documentary, plus walk-around poster session/Q&A with equipment suppliers. www.RiverAction.org.

Mar 8; Daylight Savings Time Begins, set clocks ahead one hour.

Mar 13-15; Canoeecopia at Rutabaga in Madison, WI. World's largest paddling sports show; several Iowa exhibitors. <http://www.canoecopia.com/canoecopia/page.asp?pgid=1001>.

Mar 18; St. Patrick's Day.

Mar 20; Vernal Equinox, First Day of Spring.

Mar 21; 2nd Annual NE Iowa Paddlefest, Cedar Falls. Keynote speaker, concurrent presentations, heated pool sessions. Info at: <http://www.mycountyparks.com/County/Black-Hawk/Park/Hartman-Reserve-Nature-Center/Events/5383/Northeast-Iowa-Paddle-Fest.aspx>

Apr 4; Full Moon.

Apr 9; CrawDaddy Outdoors "season-opener" Kayak Demo Day, Ave of Saints Lake, Waverly.

Free. Full season schedule of demos, classes, trips at <http://crawdaddyoutdoors.com/crawdaddy-events/>

Apr 11; Canoesport Outfitter DemoFest, Lake Ahquabi, south of Indianola. Fee \$5 preregistration, \$10 at event. Full schedule of events on website <http://www.canoesportoutfitters.com/calendar.php>

Apr 15; Federal Income Tax Filing Deadline for Iowans (Iowa State Income Tax filing deadline Apr 30).

Apr 18; 3rd Annual "Crossing the Delaware" paddle across Delaware County. Brother and sister hosts Sam Childs & Hannah Childs invite you to paddle any or all of the 43 miles of the Maquoketa River

in Delaware County. Options for shuttles, lunch, etc. Portage around the WW park under construction in Manchester. Forward questions or RSVP to hannah_rayj@yahoo.com Or find them on Facebook.

Apr 18; Seatasea Season Opener “Discover Kayaking & Stand-Up Paddling,” Cedar Rapids. Free. <http://www.seatasea.com/courses/discover-kayaking-and-stand-paddleboarding-free-demos>

Apr 19; Jones County Earth Day Fair & Grant Wood Trail Pancake Breakfast, Anamosa, 8:00 am—1:30 pm, exhibits, food, Lawrence Community Center. Jones CCB is one of the sponsors <http://www.jonescountyiowa.org/Pages/Conservation.aspx>

Apr 22; Earth Day, annual observance of the first Earth Day in 1970.

Apr 22-23; Lyrids Meteor Shower Peaks.

Apr 24; Arbor Day, annual observance last Friday in April, <http://www.arborday.org/index.cfm>.

Apr 24-26; Outdoor Adventure Expo at Midwest Mountaineering in Twin Cities, MN. <http://www.midwestmtn.com/>

Apr 25; Ecofest, Cedar Rapids, New Bo City Market, 10:00 am, <http://www.ecofestcr.org/>

Apr 25; Linn Area Photo Club, Canon “Explorers of Light” Seminar, Award-Winning Photographer Eddie Tapp, Cedar Rapids. 9:30am-4:30pm. Learn about Tapp and his work at <http://eddietaapp.com/> Seminar registration info at <http://linnareaphotoclub.org/>.

Apr 30; IOWATER Introductory Training for Water Testing Volunteers, Osceola. 8:30am-4:30pm. Visit www.iowadnr.gov/iowater & click on "Calendar of Events" for registration information.

Apr 30; Iowa State Income Tax Filing Deadline. Remember the Chickadee Check Off.

May 1; Iowa Legislative Session Target Close; (per diem expenses end May 1).

May 3; Full Moon.

May 9; IOWATER Introductory Training for Water Testing Volunteers, Cedar Rapids. 8:30am-4:30pm. Visit www.iowadnr.gov/iowater & click on "Calendar of Events" for registration information.

May 10; Mothers Day.

May 10; “Mother’s Day On the Marsh (MOM),” Port Louisa National Wildlife Refuge, Odessa WT, near Wapello. Sunday, 9:00 am to 11:00 am. Leisurely paddle with naturalists to learn about birds & their broods. Canoes and kayaks are available, participation limited, registration required. Open to everyone, but children under age 16 must be accompanied by an adult. www.LouisiaCountyConservation.org or call 319-523-8381.

May 16; Armed Forces Day.

May 21; “Flat-Water Essentials” IDNR Canoe School for Naturalists, Scout Leaders, Youth Group Instructors. Gray’s Lake, Des Moines. Focus on skills, hazard ID, teaching & learning styles. One day, canoes & equip provided, ACA instructors, \$25, limited space, preregistration required. Details & forms at <http://www.iowadnr.gov/Recreation/CanoeingKayaking/PaddlerResources/InstructionSafety.aspx>

May 23; IOWATER Introductory Training for Water Testing Volunteers, Sac City. 8:30am-4:30pm. Visit www.iowadnr.gov/iowater & click on "Calendar of Events" for registration information.

May 25; Memorial Day (observed).

May 27-28; IDNR Canoe School for Naturalists & Trip Leaders. Briggs Woods Park, Boone River. Focus on skills, hazard ID, teaching & learning styles, risk management. Two days, for canoes only, ACA instructors, \$25, limited space, preregistration required. Details & reg forms at <http://www.iowadnr.gov/Recreation/CanoeingKayaking/PaddlerResources/InstructionSafety.aspx>

Jun 2; Full Moon.

Jun 5-6; IDNR Free Fishing Days, many local fishing derbies for kids

<http://www.iowadnr.gov/Fishing/FishingLicensesLaws/AdditionalRegulations/FishingLicenses.aspx>.

Jun 6; 5th Annual Winnebago Outdoor Adventure Race (name change), Forest City on Winnebago River WT. 7.2 mile downstream paddle on Winnebago River, 12 mile bike on paved roads including Pilot Knob State Park, 5 km run on paved bike trail, individual and group classes.

Website; <http://forestcityparksandrec.com/adventure-race/>

Facebook; <https://www.facebook.com/ForestCityAdventureRace>

Jun 9-10; IDNR Kayak School for Naturalists & Trip Leaders. Briggs Woods Park, Boone River. Focus on skills, hazard ID, teaching & learning styles, risk management. Two days, for kayaks only, ACA instructors, \$25, limited space, preregistration required. Details & reg forms at <http://www.iowadnr.gov/Recreation/CanoeingKayaking/PaddlerResources/InstructionSafety.aspx>

Jun 11-12; Iowa Trails Summit, Cedar Falls/Waterloo, presentations re strategies, policies, & development opportunities vested in partnerships creating new trails. Summit relates to all types of Iowa trails—water, hiking, biking, equestrian, snowmobile, off road, etc. June 11 will be “Water Trails Day.” Info at <http://www.iowadot.gov/iowabikes/trailsummit.html>.

Jun 12-14; Charles City Challenge: WhiteWater Weekend. Kayak & SUP competition, riverfront activities; info & webcam at www.CCWhiteWater.com.

Jun 13; Annual Great Iowa River Canoe & Kayak Race, Sturgis Ferry Park to Hills Access on Iowa River WT. Runs 9.25 miles, divisions for Canoe, Kayak, Racing, Recreational, Youth, Paddleboard, & Company Challenge. Iowa Valley RC&D; www.ivrcd.org, click on "Projects."

Jun 14; Flag Day.

Jun 19; IOWATER Introductory Training for Water Testing Volunteers, Fayette. 8:30am-4:30pm. Visit www.iowadnr.gov/iowater & click on "Calendar of Events" for registration information.

Jun 20; Tentative Grand Opening of Manchester Whitewater Park, watch for details. <http://iowapaddling.prophbb.com/>

June 21; Father's Day.

June 21; Summer Solstice, 1st Day of Summer.

CANCELED: Jun 24-25; IDNR Canoe School for Naturalists & Trip Leaders. Updated schedule at <http://www.iowadnr.gov/Recreation/CanoeingKayaking/PaddlerResources/InstructionSafety.aspx>

Jun 26; IOWATER Introductory Training for Water Testing Volunteers, Des Moines. 8:30am-4:30pm. Visit www.iowadnr.gov/iowater & click on "Calendar of Events" for registration information.

Jun 27; Iowa Games Summer WW Slalom Venue in Charles City, 7:30 am—5:00pm. <http://www.iowagames.org/Summer/WhitewaterSlalom>

Jul 1; Full Moon (1st of 2 in July).

Jul 4; Independence Day, Saturday.

Jul 11-16; DNR Project AWARE, Wapsipinicon River from Independence to Olin, will be a 5-day event in 2015. Watch for event details on Project AWARE website at www.iowaprojectaware.com.

Jul 11; Iowa River Float, Sturgis Ferry Park to Hills Access, 9:00am-3:00pm, Louisa CCB, www.LouisaCountyConservation.org or call 319-523-8381.

Jul 16-18; Annual Lower Wapsi Cleanup, between Olin and Wheatland, with base camp at Walnut Grove County Park in Toronto. Piggy-backed onto the Project AWARE cleanup, this 10th Anniversary Lower Wapsi Cleanup will include a celebration with a great meal, music and prizes. Contact Melisa Jacobsen, coordinator@LWRCP.org

Jul 18; Iowa Games Summer Flatwater Venue in Ames.

<http://www.iowagames.org/Sports/SummerGames/CanoeKayak.aspx>

Jul 19-25; RAGBRAI, www.ragbrai.com.

Jul 25-Aug 1; Great River Rumble (GRR), Elkader on Turkey River to Savanna on Mississippi.

Annual weeklong paddle, shuttles, campsites, meals, gear transport, info at <http://www.riverrumble.org/>.

Jul 31; Odessa Full Moon Paddle, Lake Odessa, 9:00pm-11:00pm, Snively Campground, Louisa CCB, www.LouisaCountyConservation.org or call 319-523-8381.

Jul 31; Full Moon (2nd of 2 in July).

Aug 5-6; IDNR Kayak School for Naturalists & Trip Leaders. Briggs Woods Park, Boone River. Focus on skills, hazard ID, teaching & learning styles, risk management. Two days, for kayaks only, ACA instructors, \$25, limited space, preregistration required. Details & reg forms at <http://www.iowadnr.gov/Recreation/CanoeingKayaking/PaddlerResources/InstructionSafety.aspx>

Aug 12-13; Perseid Meteor Shower Peaks.

Aug 13-23; Iowa State Fair, Des Moines. Visit IDNR building, River Programs, Water Trails, & Project Aware displays. <http://www.iowastatefair.org/>

Aug 15; 6th Annual Floatzilla in Quad Cities. Floats, training sessions, food, live music, tee shirts, world record attempt for largest flotilla of kayaks & canoes; <http://www.floatzilla.org/>.

Aug 15; First Annual "PaddleFest Poker Run on the Cedar," registration 12:30 pm, benefit for Hartman Reserve Nature Center programming. Contact www.Hartmanreserve.org or call 319-277-2187

Aug 25-26; IDNR Canoe School for Naturalists & Trip Leaders. Briggs Woods Park, Boone River. Focus on skills, hazard ID, teaching & learning styles, risk management. Two days, for canoes only, ACA instructors, \$25, limited space, preregistration required. Details & reg forms at <http://www.iowadnr.gov/Recreation/CanoeingKayaking/PaddlerResources/InstructionSafety.aspx>

Aug 29; Full Moon.

Sep TBD; Iowa Tourism Conference, Ottumwa.

Sep TBD; Annual Iowa River Cleanup, route & dates tbd, Dan Ceynar, dlceynar@engineering.uiowa.edu

Sep TBD; Annual Lower Wapsi Cleanup, route & dates tbd, Melisa Jacobsen, coordinator@LWRCP.org (may tag onto end of AWARE in July)

Sep 7; Labor Day.

Sep 9; Disabled Veteran Kayaking/Canoeing event at Riverside. In conjunction with VA National TEE Tournament, Riverside Casino, Riverside, IA; info at <http://www1.va.gov/opa/speceven/tee/index.asp>. Volunteers & boats needed; contact Gregg Stark, greggpeggystark@yahoo.com

Sep 14-15 (was 15-16); IDNR Canoe School for Naturalists & Trip Leaders. Briggs Woods Park, Boone River. Focus on skills, hazard ID, teaching & learning styles, risk management. Two days, for canoes only, ACA instructors, \$25, limited space, preregistration required. Details & reg forms at <http://www.iowadnr.gov/Recreation/CanoeingKayaking/PaddlerResources/InstructionSafety.aspx>

Sep 17-19; Iowa Association of County Conservation Boards Fall Conference, Cedar Rapids. Tours, exhibits, demonstrations, presentations. <http://mycountyparks.weebly.com/2015-fall-conference.html>

Sep 23; Autumnal Equinox, 1st Day of Autumn.

Sep 26; Annual Upper Iowa River Cleanup, Chimney Rock Campground
<http://www.chimneyrocks.com/events.html>

Sep 27; Full Moon.

Oct TBD; Iowa Environmental Council Annual Conference, Des Moines,
<http://www.iaenvironment.org/>

Oct 10; Annual Jones County Fall Colors Canoe Outing, Jones CCB, North Fork Maquoketa River. times tbd. <http://www.jonescountyiowa.org/Pages/Conservation.aspx>

Oct 25-28; Mid America Trails and Greenways (MATAG) Conference in Des Moines. Indoor presentations, outdoor activities to showcase great projects, share ideas, and network with participants from eight Midwestern states. Details and registration at: <http://www.matag.org/>

Oct 27; Full Moon.

Nov 1; Daylight Savings Time Ends, set clocks back one hour, replace smoke alarm batteries.

Nov 11; Veterans Day.

Nov 17-18; Leonid Meteor Shower Peaks.

Nov 25; Full Moon.

Nov 26; Thanksgiving, Thursday.

Dec 7; Pearl Harbor Observance.

Dec 13-14; Geminid Meteor Shower Peaks.

Dec 22; Winter Solstice, 1st day of Winter.

Dec 25; Full Moon.

DEMO DAYS, BEGINNER PADDLING CLASSES (some free, some with fees):
Seatasea Watersports, Cedar Rapids, <http://www.seatasea.com>.
CrawDaddy Outdoors, Waverly, www.Crawdaddyoutdoors.com.
CanoeSport Outfitters, Indianola, <http://www.canoesportoutfitters.com/index.php>.

FULL MOON SCHEDULE 2015:

(Iowa 2015 dates, times at Cedar Rapids, note CST or CDT times.)

Jan 4, Sun	Sunrise 7:35, Sunset 4:49, Moonrise 4:50	CST
Feb 3, Tue	Sunrise 7:17, Sunset 5:24, Moonrise 5:31	CST
Mar 5, Thu	Sunrise 6:36, Sunset 6:01, Moonrise 6:15	CST
Apr 4, Sat	Sunrise 6:45, Sunset 7:35, Moonrise 8:00	CDT
May 3, Sun	Sunrise 6:00, Sunset 8:07, Moonrise 7:49	CDT
Jun 2, Tue	Sunrise 5:33, Sunset 8:36, Moonrise 8:36	CDT
Jul 1, Wed	Sunrise 5:35, Sunset 8:46, Moonrise 8:16	CDT
Jul 31, Fri	Sunrise 5:59, Sunset 8:27, Moonrise 8:29	CDT
Aug 29, Sat	Sunrise 6:29, Sunset 7:46, Moonrise 7:41	CDT
Sep 27, Sun	Sunrise 6:59, Sunset 6:56, Moonrise 6:49	CDT
Oct 27, Tue	Sunrise 7:33, Sunset 6:08, Moonrise 6:38	CDT
Nov 25, Wed	Sunrise 7:08, Sunset 4:39, Moonrise 4:58	CST
Dec 25, Fri	Sunrise 7:33, Sunset 4:41, Moonrise 5:25	CST