# Friends of Black Hawk County Conservation Fund







#### **About Friends of Black Hawk County**

In 1955, the Iowa General Assembly approved legislation that created county conservation boards. The Black Hawk County Conservation Board was authorized by a public referendum in 1956 for the purpose of purchasing and developing land for parks, hunting, fishing and other recreational use within the county. It was among the first 16 county conservation boards established in Iowa.

The endowment will be used for the purpose of creating a financial tool to provide a long term reliable funding source for land acquisition, resource management, education, interns, equipment, and special wildlife and habitat projects in Black Hawk County. For more information about the Black Hawk County Conservation Board go to www.blackhawkcountyparks.com.

## Your Gift Will Keep on Giving

Because the Friends of Black Hawk County Conservation Fund is a permanent fund with the Community Foundation, the donated dollars are invested, and only the income from the fund is utilized. Your contribution will help carry out the mission of Friends of Black Hawk County now, and forever. To learn more about this fund, contact the Community Foundation at 319-287-9106 or info@cfneia.org.

## **Added Tax Benefits of Giving**

This fund is eligible for the Endow lowa 25% state tax credit. Gifts to permanent endowment funds of the Community Foundation that benefit lowa charitable causes are eligible to receive a 25% state tax credit through the Endow lowa program. Your gift will also be eligible for federal deductions for charitable giving. Go to cfneia.org/endowiowa for more information.

Yes! I/we want to support the mission of Friends of Black Hawk County Conservation through a gift to the endowment fund.

Enclosed is my check for \$	_ Make checks payable to Friends of Black Hawk County Conservation Fund
Name	Please send checks to:
AddressCity/State/Zip	Community Foundation of Northeast Iowa 3117 Greenhill Circle Cedar Falls, IA 50613
Phone	Gifts can also be made on our secure webpage at fund.cfneia.org/blackhawkconservation.
My gift is made in honor/memory of:	☐ I would like information about additional giving opportunities such as stock gifts, retirement assets, etc.
A found hold with the	<ul> <li>I would like to learn more about leaving a gift in our will or estate plan.</li> </ul>

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# **Unique Natural Treasures Worth Supporting**

Black Hawk County Conservation is entrusted to care for the unique natural beauty within Black Hawk County. For many of us, a walk through Hartman Reserve, Cedar Hills Sand Prairie, or any of our natural spaces can rejuvenate the spirit, reduce stress, and provide us with entertainment and exercise. What we do not realize is the true treasure we are encountering, or what it takes to keep these spaces as they are today for generations to come.

The 9,000+ acres of wild spaces include wetlands, wildlife areas, prairies, and parks, with amenities like campgrounds, cabins, lodges, bike trails, river access, educational opportunities, and more! Access to these spaces in our metropolitan area provides a better quality of life and stimulates our economy.

Gifts to the Friends of Black Hawk County Conservation Fund help us protect these natural spaces and preserve them for generations of lowans.

## Going Above and Beyond for Our Natural Spaces

The Friends of Black Hawk County Conservation Fund provides support for projects that are considered above and beyond current conservation efforts. These high-value projects don't fall under normal budgeting and fulfill unique needs with specialized services. The fund also provides a long-term funding source ensuring funds for these important projects and more services will be available forever.

The more dollars invested in the fund, the more Black Hawk County Conservation can do to maintain, protect, enhance, and preserve the

"My natural resource internship was definitely life changing. The internship was 220 hours, and I helped develop a methodology for a master plan that the naturalists were working on for the blue spotted salamander. I also led interpretative seminars and hosted school groups. It's really tough to get into the conservation field and to have an opportunity to work with Black Hawk County Conservation definitely set a career path for me. Black Hawk County Conservation is a fantastic team and they have great leadership."

#### **ZACH HALL**

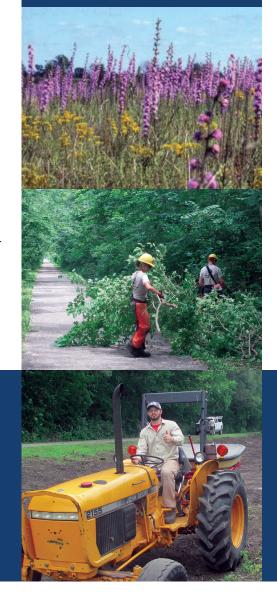
Ida County Conservation Director

County Conservation manages three extremely unique state preserves?

- 1. Hartman Bluff State Preserve
- 2. Cedar Hills Sand Prairie

Did you know Black Hawk

3. Casey's Paha (Hickory Hills Park)



## **Projects Already Funded**

- Hired two CCI crews worked on prairie restoration/invasive species control at Cedar Hills Sand Prairie State Preserve and Cedar Valley Nature Trail clearing and prairie planting work.
- Assisted with purchasing prairie seed to convert old crop ground into prairie at Railroad Lake Access and to seed sections of Hickory Hills Park into pollinator prairie habitat.
- Funded two natural resources internships one student from the University of Northern Iowa and one from Hawkeye Community College.