



WILDLIFE VIEWING-
REPTILES & AMPHIBIANS

www.cgcounty.org

Recreational Experiences Close to Home!

Prime CGCCB Areas for Herp Watching

Mike Zack WL Area-The habitat on this area includes two small lakes (Fin & Feather and Clark), native prairie remnants, and tree plantings.

Lime Creek Conservation Area-A 9-mile network of trails dissects this scenic 440-acre area of upland timber, open fields, restored prairie, flood-plain forest, & wetlands.

White Wildlife Area-A 3/4 mile boardwalk trail loops through 34 acres of open marsh, wooded swamp, restored prairie and streamside timber.

Wilkinson Pioneer Park-This scenic 80-acre corridor along the Shellrock River includes river & stream habitats and a rare native prairie.

Shellrock River Greenbelt & Preserve-A 6.5 mile roadway trail traverses through 590 acres of woods, meadows, and ponds along the limestone bluffs of the Shellrock River.

Blair Meadows/Willow Creek Preserve-This 25-acre site is comprised of mature trees, shrubs, and a small field.

Mallard Marsh-This 227-acre area consists of wetlands, wooded hills, upland habitat.

Kuhn Wildlife Area-This 80-acre site along the Winnebago River includes riparian forest and two ponds.

Zirbel Slough-A 330-acre prairie marsh/upland complex is a prime habitat for reptiles and amphibians.

Grover's Meadow-A 120-acre area with cropland, uplands, wetland basins, and woody vegetation providing excellent habitat diversity.

Walch Wildlife Area-This large 303-acre tract features numerous prairie pothole marshes, grasslands, and a scenic stream.

Winnebago Oxbow-This 80-acre area along the Winnebago River includes an oxbow lake, riparian woodland, a restored prairie, seasonal wetland basins, and a unique hillside fen wetland.

Prairie Pothole Wildlife Area-This 70-acre tract includes 13.5 acres of restored wetlands and 56.5 acres of native prairie restoration and oak/hardwood timber.

Finding Herps:

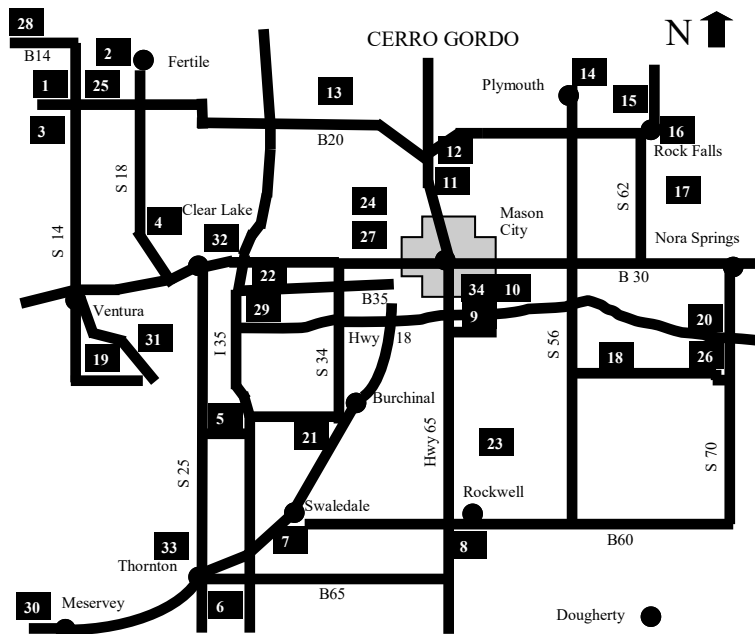
- Reptiles and amphibians hibernate in winter, meaning spring through early fall is the time to look for them. They are secretive creatures; discovering them takes patience, unhurried movement, and some searching. Try looking under rocks and logs (just be sure to carefully replace them in their original position).
- Ponds & wet areas are the places to look for most amphibians, turtles, & water-dwelling snakes. Turtles can often be found on pond banks & logs sunning themselves. Drier terrain is better for other species, such as fox & bull snakes.
- Spring and Summer evenings are best for discovering amphibians. Tadpoles and larval salamanders are often found in small ponds and wetlands. Tiger salamanders emerge in the evening, especially after a rain, leaving hiding places under logs or leaf litter and moving towards water in search of a mate. This is also when male frogs and toads sing to define territories and attract mates.
- The Cerro Gordo County Conservation Board manages a variety of areas that provide excellent reptile and amphibian habitats. These areas are briefly highlighted on this flier. A majority of Iowa's reptiles and amphibians are protected by law, and it is illegal to capture or kill them. Some of them are also listed as threatened or endangered species in the state. Enjoy viewing and photographing these fascinating creatures, but please leave them to survive in their habitats. Please call 641-423-5309 to report any unusual species. A photo is the best means of verification. For more information on Iowa's reptiles and amphibians visit: <http://www.herpNet.net/Iowa-Herpology>.



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Email: conserv@cgcounty.org



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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Haugen Wildlife Area-22151 Apple Ave 2. Mallard Marsh-2500 - 325th St 3. Kuhn Wildlife Area-1873 - 310th St 4. Winter Garden Park-1220 N 16th St NW 5. Zirbel Slough-8447 - 200th St 6. Ingebretson Park-203 Ash St E 7. Stille Wildlife Area-4821 Jonquil Ave 8. Linn Grove Park-518 Madison St W 9. Mike Zack Wildlife Area-16638 - 230th St 10. Averydale Access-South of US Hwy 18 on Birch Drive 11. Lime Creek Conservation Area and Nature Center- 3501 Lime Creek Rd 12. Spring Creek Preserve-15829 - 300th St 13. King Fisher Hollow-10250 Wheelerwood Dr 14. Strand Park-20057 - 340th St 15. White Wildlife Area-22038 Vine Ave 16. Wilkinson Pioneer Park-21425 Vine Ave 17. Shellrock River Greenbelt & Preserve 18. Claybanks Forest-22924 - 225th St 19. Blue Wing Marsh-3748 - 220th St 20. Grover's Meadow-15580 Zinnia Ave 21. Walch Wildlife Area-10811 - 190th St 22. Trolley Trail-B-35 from Mason City to Clear Lake 23. Blazing Star Prairie-16747 - 180th St | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 24. Blair Meadows Preserve-1/4 mile west of intersection of Eisenhower Ave & 12th St NW (north side of road) 25. Winnebago Oxbow-3100 - 320th St 26. Limestone Prairie Preserve-24928 - 225th St 27. Willow Creek Preserve-1/4 mile west of intersection of Eisenhower Ave & 12th St NW (south side of road) 28. Prairie Pothole Wildlife Area-24493 Apple Ave 29. Bluebill Wildlife Area-14369 Indigo Ave 30. Prairie Land Trail-13773 240th St (trailhead) 31. Sister's Prairie Trail-2854 235th St (trailhead) 32. Donna Walker Nature Area-8103 - 315th St 33. Ring-Neck Wildlife Area-5891 - 125th St 34. Goranson Access-3139 Birch Dr |
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