



Recreational Experiences Close to Home!

Prime CGCCB Areas for Bird Watching

Lime Creek Conservation Area-A nine-mile network of trails dissects this scenic 440-acre area of upland timber, open fields, restored prairie, flood-plain forest, and wetlands. Highlights: habitat diversity attracts a wide variety of bird species; Lime Creek Nature Center with bird feeding station and indoor viewing area.

White Wildlife Area-A 3/4 mile trail loops through 34 acres of open marsh, wooded swamp, restored prairie and streamside timber. Highlights: board-walk trail over marsh provides optimal viewing of wetland birds.

Shellrock River Greenbelt and Preserve-A 6.5 mile roadway trail traverses through 590 acres of woods, meadows, and ponds along the limestone bluffs of the Shellrock River. Highlights: diversity of habitat attracts a wide variety of bird species.

Mallard Marsh-This 227-acre area consists of wetlands, wooded hills, and upland habitat. Highlights: excellent waterfowl and shorebird viewing.

Zirbel Slough-A 330-acre prairie marsh/upland complex. Highlights: excellent waterfowl and shorebird viewing.

Claybanks Forest-This area is a unique 56-acre maple/basswood forest along the Winnebago River. Highlights: prime viewing for warblers and other woodland birds.

Walch Wildlife Area-This large 303-acre tract features numerous prairie pothole marshes, grasslands, and a scenic stream. Highlights: excellent viewing for waterfowl and grassland bird species.

Birdwatching Tips:

- A high quality pair of binoculars and field guide are instrumental in successful bird watching.
- Learn to use "field marks" to help identify birds: shape, size, type of bill; markings on eyes, wings, crown, rump, tail and breast are some examples.
- Learning bird songs can greatly increase bird watching success and enjoyment.
- Dress for the weather and wear earth tones, not bright colors.
- Bird watching is very rewarding, but also takes practice and patience. Joining more experienced bird watchers is a great way to become a better birder.
- A checklist of Cerro Gordo County birds is available at the Lime Creek Nature Center.
- Useful websites:
 - Iowa Ornithologist's Union: <http://iowabirds.org/>
 - Cornell Lab of Ornithology: <http://www.birds.cornell.edu/>
- Local bird watching group: North Iowa Nature Club-call 641-423-5309 for more information.



**3501 Lime Creek Road
Mason City, IA 50401**

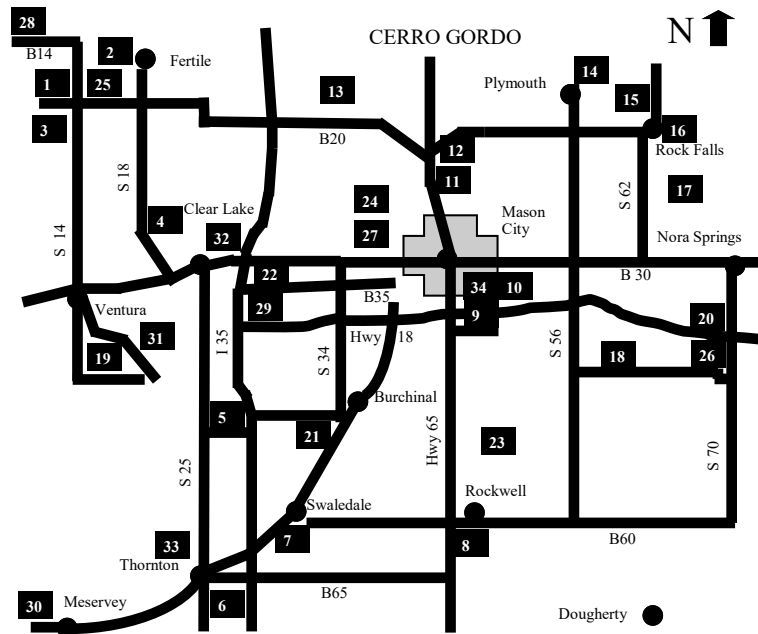
(641) 423-5309

Fax: 641-423-1566

Email: conserv@cgcounty.org



Recreational Experiences Close to Home!



- 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
- 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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