

Johnson County Conservation VOLUNTEER NEWSLETTER

January 2024

We need your help for the following volunteer positions and events!

Snowshoe Groomers

Help us to groom various trails at Kent Park by hiking in snowshoes to pack down the snow. Trails needing groomed are the CEC 1/2 mile loop, the trail down to the Fishing Pond from the CEC, and the trail around Kent Park Lake. You can check out JCC snowshoes to wear during a two-hour time slot or bring your own if available. These slots are only available on various weekday work hours. Those with access to personal snowshoes have no time/day limitations. Having these trails snowshoe groomed will make them available for general hikers and will prepare the trails for events such as the Luminary Night Hike.

Contact: kmorrow@johnsoncountyiowa.gov

Winter Trail Maintenance at Cangleska Wakan

Two volunteer trail stewards are needed to help manage the trail system at Cangleska Wakan. In this role, the trail steward would commit to hiking a two-mile portion of the four-mile trail network every month until spring. While hiking, volunteer would use hand clippers to trim vegetation that is reaching into the trail corridor, namely viney wild rose stems. They would also move snow-bent shrubs, fallen sticks, and any limbs manageable. Volunteers should already know the trail system at Cangleska Wakan, be physically capable of hike in forest terrain that is steeply slopes in places. Access to snowshoes a plus for easier travel on trails during heavy snow.

Contact: kmorrow@johnsoncountyiowa.gov

Woodworking for Reptiles

We're seeking a volunteer with basic woodworking skills and access to their own woodworking tools to create a snake engagement board to enhance our three education snakes' mental and physical health. JCC would provide materials, you provide the time and skill.

Contact: fowen@johnsoncountyiowa.gov

Conservation Education Center Host

Though we're in the thick of winter, we're looking ahead to the warm summer months. Volunteer CEC Hosts are vital in keeping the CEC in Kent Park open to visitors on summer weekends. Hosts serve as friendly ambassadors greeting visitors, answering nature- and JCC-related questions when able. We are seeking volunteers for Saturdays from Memorial Day to Labor Day. Hosts unlock the CEC at 10:00 a.m. and lock up at 2:00 p.m. Hosts can serve one day or many, every bit helps!

Contact: kmorrow@johnsoncountyiowa.gov

Crochet Project Love to crochet? Then we've got a fun project for you: crocheted caterpillars! To help teach about pollinators, we are seeking volunteers to donate their time (and if possible, materials), to crochet realistic caterpillar replicas. We will provide patterns.

Contact: fowen@johnsoncountyiowa.gov

This newsletter will come out on an as-needed basis. To subscribe to the email-list for this newsletter, click on or scan the QR code to the right.



<https://www.johnsoncountyiowa.gov/conservation>

