Several conservation areas will be closed for the season beginning on November 14th. The seasonal closures will include sites that receive the lowest use. Circumstances prevent the District from keeping all of its sites open throughout the year. We apologize for any inconvenience this may cause our patrons.

The most heavily used sites will remain open throughout the late fall and winter season with the exception of closures associated with the district’s archery program (please check the district website for information about those dates). The following sites will remain OPEN after November 14th except when posted as closed for hunting:

- Spencer Conservation Area
- LIB Conservation Area
- Beaver Bluffs Conservation Area
- Gustafson Nature Center
- Ipsen Road Conservation Area
- Distillery Road Conservation Area

All other BCCD sites will be closed for the season. Again, we apologize for any inconvenience this may cause.

**Black Bears—Dispelling the Myths for Peaceful Coexistence**

Did you know that black bears are basically shy animals?

Did you know that myths and misconceptions are the biggest problems that black bears face?

Are you looking for a knowledgeable speaker for your next meeting or other educational event?

The North American Bear Center’s Educational Outreach Program, in conjunction with the Wildlife Research Institute, has established a Speakers Bureau nationwide. The speakers’ training reflects their knowledge of black bears, and their focus is on the scientific information that biologist gather through field research in Ely, Minnesota.

We are proud to announce that Tina Dawson Scott, BCCD Educator is trained as an Education Outreach Speaker. To schedule an educational presentation, contact Tina Dawson Scott at 815-547-7935 or tdawson@bccdil.org

Conservation District land management staff will be conducting prescribed burns at several of our conservation areas in the early spring of 2015. Prescribed fire is an essential and efficient management practice for the health of our native ecosystems, including prairies, savannas, and woodlands. Fire helps return nutrients to the soil, helps control undesirable exotic weeds and shrubs, increases blooming and seed production among our native plants, and stimulates the growth of our native prairie and woodland plant species. District staff manage the burns to minimize smoke on highways and neighboring properties.

From the staff of the Boone County Conservation District
The Mission of the Boone County Conservation District is to preserve and manage natural areas and open spaces for ecological, educational, and recreational benefits of present and future generations.

**BCCD Board of Trustees**
- Bill Wolf, President
- Jan Soltys, Secretary
- John Todt, Treasurer
- Mike Petersen, Trustee
- Sean Beckman, Trustee

**BCCD Staff**
- Dan Kane: Executive Director
- Mick Johnston: Director of Operations
- Cathie Johnson: Office Manager
- Tina Dawson Scott: Education Director
- Pam Stock: Special Events and Public Outreach Manager
- Joshua Sage: Restoration Resources and Natural Areas Manager
- Aarron Minson: Natural Areas Technician
- Mike Quigley: Maintenance Supervisor
- Joe Domino-Musselman: Crew Leader

Riffles & Eddies is a free newsletter published quarterly. If you know someone who would like to receive this publication, or has an address correction, please call our office at (815) 547-7935.

The Boone County Conservation District does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, sex, national origin, age or handicap in admission or treatment, or employment in programs or activities. In compliance with the Illinois Human Rights Act, section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 as amended, and the U.S. Constitution. The Equal Employment Opportunity Officer is responsible for compliance and may be reached at (217)423-7708.

Thanks to all our wonderful volunteers........
(Sorry if we missed you, please let us know so we can update our records)

Androwich, Ashley and Talan
Antonou, Paul
Babb, Jean
Bahena, Melissa, Isabelle, Olivia
Balentyne, Bev and Dick
Balzer, David
Bastian, Ellie
Beal, Eric
Beard, Michaela
Becker, Jennifer
Beckmann, Sean
Bellows, Carol and Lloyd
Belvidere High School KARE Club
Belvidere North High School Choral Group
Belvidere Park District
Benjamin, Brian and Cathy
Bieber, Patricia
Biggins, Brandi
Blair, Kay
Blake, Darwin and Donna
Bonacorsi, Tom
Boone County Fair Queens
Boone County Garden Club of America
Boone County Master Gardeners
Boone County RSVP
Boone County Service Unit, Girl Scouts of America
Boone County VIPS
Brunke, Danielle
Bunger, Adam
Clonin, Marilyn
Coon Creek Casters
Davis, John
Dawson, Grace
Dia, Claude
Dittbenner, Donald
Dolak, Mary
Douthat, Peggy
Downey, John
Downey, Alicia, Justin, Ken
Drall, John
Drager, Karen
Due, Loren and Pat
Edwards, David
Egan, Frank and Mary
Emling, Steve
Engelsen, Jack and Janet
Eyles, Tom
Fagerholm, Matt
Faith, Dion
Fidder, Joanne
Freedman, Danielle
Gangle, Fred
Geist, Bill
Goodman, Frank
Grose, Autumn and Nancy
Gray, Danica
Gustafson, Gus
Hardy, Jim
Hathaway, Andrea
Hathaway, Darald
Heck, Jeanine
Heisler, Sally
Herried, Harold
Holycross, Tara
Holycross, Zachary
Howlett, Gary
Huff, Jeanette
Huff, Patrick
Johns, Darlene
Johnson, Brent, Heather and Sal
Johnson, Ray
Johnson, Reynold
Johnston, Carol
Johnston, Maggie
Jones, Gwen
Kane, Kaitlyn
Kane, Diane
Kathro, Sue
Kelly, Mitzi
Kemp, Bob and Judy
Koehn, Jenny
Krause, Eva and Leon
Kudlicki, Judy
Lakey, Don
Lambert Family
Landolt, Beverly
Lange, Dave
Larson, Beth
Laseman, Valerie
Libby, Grace
Lindblade, Tom
Lindquist, Adam and Blayne
Littlejohn, Pat
Looper, Susan
Lofasto, Denise
Loper, Sue
Locke, Molly
Lynn, Charles
Madura, William
Magdziarz, Augie
Magdziarz, Mitzi
Magnus, Keith
Majernik, Barb
Marquez, Jose
Marshall, Joseph
Masanz, Richard
McCoy, Hailey
Meagher, Iona
Meyers, Kay
Miskell, Khrisa
Mlsiva, Shari and Steve
Montel, Jessica
Moore, Bev
Moore, CICI
Morariu, Joe and June
Morrall, Mark and Merri
Mullins, Linda
Munoz, Eric
Muselman, Joe
Neese, Gordon andinda
Nelson, Cynthia
Nelson, James
Newport, Bob
O’Connell Anne and Martha
O’Hara, Julia
Parker, April
Pederson, Michael
Peters, Brad
Petersen, Michael
Potempa, Dan
Racz, Andy
Rappun, Josh
Rassmusen Sr, John
Raypohle, Brandon and Colton
Reed, Diane and Gerry
Revels, Dulcia
Roman, Victor
Rossingal, Kendall and Matt
Rowling, Kathy
Sadewater Bret, Carmen, Michelle and Teegan
Sambrano, Angela
Schmidt, Derrick, Lacy and Nikky
Schultz, Janet
Scott, Brian
Sheppard, Nick
Shoemaker, Craig
Simmert, Robert and Susan
Simon, Abby
Sliktas, Connie and Dave
Smisko, Tony
Soltys Jan, Katie and Rebecca
Squires, Russel Sr
Squires, Russel Jr
St. Germain, David
Steinkamp, Tom
Stock, Mike
Studier, Emmylou
Thomas, George and Kim
Todt, John
Tremethick, Jeffery
Van Dyke, Pat
Von Hadenjosh
Wallin, Kelly and Liz
Washburn, Abigail
Werchower, Maria
Wolf, Bill and Sara
Wolfe, Alyssa, Liza and Marshall
Woodside, Joshua
Wych, Barb
Zuromski, Bill and Pamela
Monthly Meetings
(All Meetings held at the Roger D. Gustafson Nature Center are open to the public)

BCCD Board of Trustees
Tuesdays at 4:00 p.m., December 16th, January 20th and February 17th.

Gardeners of America
Tuesdays at 2:30 p.m., February 24th.
No meeting at the District in December and January.

Holiday Walk
Saturday, December 6th
6:00 p.m.—8:00 p.m.
FREE
Stroll along a luminary lit pathway and visit our authentic log cabins (where they might be serving goodies), eat popcorn popped fresh over an open fire, and see how Christmas was celebrated in the past. Held at the Roger Gustafson Nature Center Festival Ground. Call (815) 547-7935 for information.

Snowshoeing
January and February
If you have a group that would like to learn how to snowshoe the Boone County Conservation District will be offering snowshoe classes this year. Please call (815) 547-7935 to schedule a program. Cost is $5 a person.
If you are interested in joining our staff on a snowshoe trek, please call to have your name placed on the list. If the weather cooperates you will be notified as to where and when the hike will take place. BCCD has a number of snowshoes that will be available to rent for these hikes. Cost is $5 a person.

District will be Closed
Dec. 24th thru Jan. 4
Christmas and New Years
Feb. 16th
President’s Day

Eagle Watch
Saturday, January 24th
7:30 a.m.—5:30 p.m.
Join us for a day of eagle watching along the Illinois River at Starved Rock. There are programs featuring live birds of prey, nature seminars and exhibits. You can bring your own lunch or eat at the lodge. Bring binoculars if you have them. The cost to ride in our mini bus is $30 a person. There is also a minimal charge to use the trolley at Starved Rock. We will leave the Nature Center at 7:30 a.m. Space is limited. Preregister and prepayment is required, call (815) 547-7935.

Winter School Program
Sign-Ups
Sign-ups for the 1st grade winter school program will begin at 7:00 a.m. on Wednesday, December 3, 2014. Call to reserve your date.
The program dates are January 6 thru February 27, 2015.

Heirloom Garden Seed Sale
Saturday, February 21st
10:00 a.m.—3:00 p.m.
Heirloom seeds from our 5 ethnic gardens and other suppliers will be on sale at the Community Building, 111 W. 1st St., Belvidere. Please call (815) 547-7935 for more details (Cash and check only, please).

Summer Camp
Camp Information
Camp staff applications are available on our website and will be accepted starting February 1st.
Camp registration begins April 1st. Registration information will be available on our website in March.

Kid’s Ice Fishing Workshop
A FREE workshop for kids 5—15.
Lunch provided.
Saturday, February 7, 2015
9:00 a.m.—12:00 noon
Workshop will start at the Roger D. Gustafson Nature Center
603 N. Appleton Road, Belvidere, IL
Bring any ice fishing equipment you have, limited rigs available.
You must preregister for this program.
Registration begins January 5, 2015.
Call the BCCD at (815) 547-7935 to register

The District wants everyone to discover the benefits of recreation. For families considering any of our programs who have special considerations, such as diabetes, asthma or physical or cognitive disabilities, your participation is welcome too. The earlier you contact us so we can talk with you about how to make your experience safe and fun, the more likely it will be safe and fun!
Winter Bird Feeding

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Chickadees</th>
<th>Nuthatches</th>
<th>Titmice</th>
<th>Finches</th>
<th>Cardinals</th>
<th>Grosbeaks</th>
<th>Sparrows</th>
<th>Blackbirds</th>
<th>Jays</th>
<th>Wood-Peckers</th>
<th>Orioles</th>
<th>Tanagers</th>
<th>Pigeons</th>
<th>Doves</th>
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- ● Preferred
- ● Readily Eaten

The District sells bird seed all year long. Our prices are as follows:

- 50# BCCD Mix—$25.00
- 50# Striped Sunflower—$32.00
- 50# Oil Sunflower—$32.00
- 50# Safflower—$32.00

25# BCCD Mix—$13.00
5# Nyjer—$6.00
5# Oil Sunflower—$5.00
5# Striped Sunflower—$5.00
5# Safflower—$5.00
5# BCCD Mix—$3.00

If you can’t decide which seed to offer, the black oil sunflower is high in energy and has thin shells, making it the preferred food item for a wide variety of birds. Black-oil sunflower is among the favorite feeder foods of cardinals, chickadees, finches and sparrow. Woodpeckers even consume these seeds on occasion.