

Please see the following websites
for more information.

www.blankparkzoo.com

www.bgcci.org

www.amphibianark.org

Des Moines Area Boys & Girls

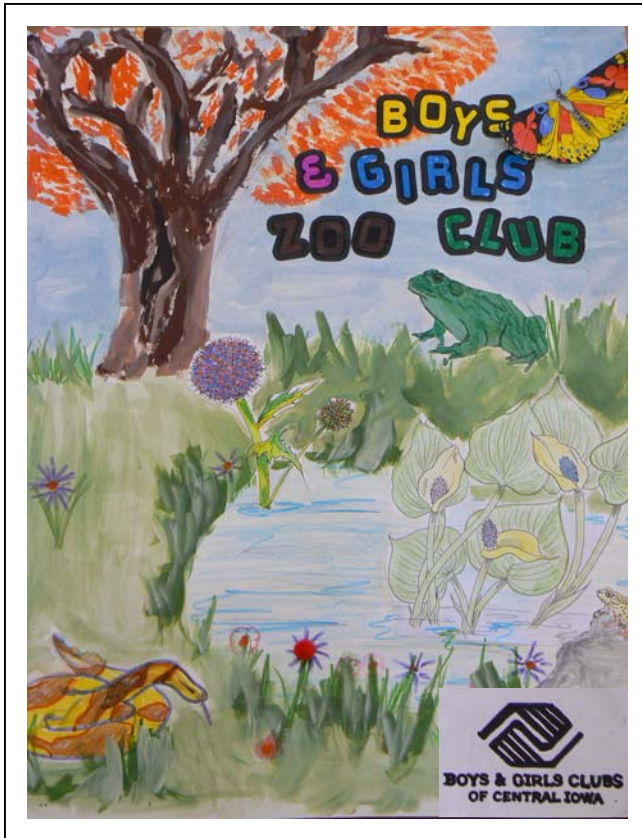


**BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS
OF CENTRAL IOWA**

Education Department 515-974-2550

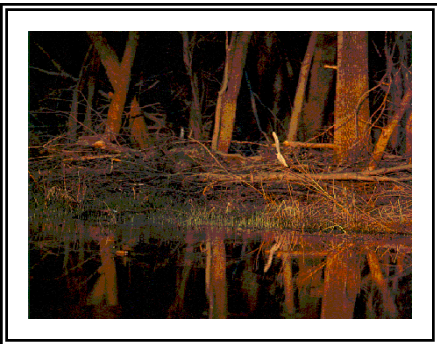
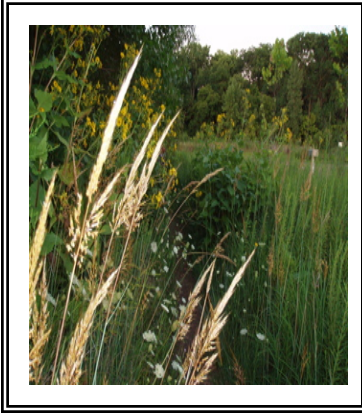


IOWA'S WILDEST ADVENTURE



WETLANDS

Wetlands are places where plants and animals live amid standing water or saturated soils. They are sometimes called swamps, potholes, marshes, bogs, shallow ponds, etc. Wetlands once dotted throughout Iowa's prairie and woodland areas. Over the past 150 years nearly all of Iowa's wetlands were destroyed and replaced by farms, towns, roads, and industries. Wetlands are important regulators of the environment, filtering sediment and organic waste from runoff and lessening impacts of floods or droughts. Wetlands have the most diverse animal and plant life.



AMPHIBIANS

Iowa has a variety of amphibian life forms. There are salamanders, newts, frogs, and toads. There are 4 different types of salamanders, 2 kinds of newts, 12 types of frogs, and 4 kinds of toads living in Iowa. The largest land amphibian in the world can be found right here in Iowa! The Tiger salamander grows to be more than a foot



length.

The most common toads in Iowa are the American toad and the Woodhouse's toad.



CONCERNS

Amphibians are in severe decline all over the world. Loss of wetland habitats, climate change due to global warming, pollution, and a deadly parasitic fungus called chytrid is killing amphibians around the world. As many as 165 amphibian species may already be extinct with populations rapidly declining.

YOU CAN HELP

- Educate yourself
- Create amphibian friendly environments in your yard
- Be kind to animals
- Don't litter or pollute
- Recycle, Reduce, Reuse
- Conserve water at home
- Donate to wildlife conservations
- Reduce the use of fossil fuels