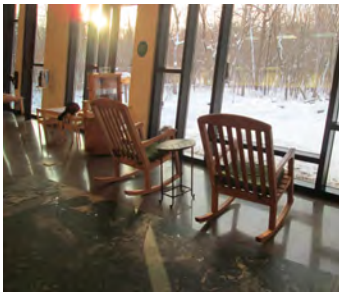
Jester Park Conservation Center

Platform for Discovery, Gateway to Wonder

Giving Opportunities

Leave a legacy on behalf of your family or business for many generations to come in support of conservation and environmental education. Now is the time to help make this Center a reality and shape the future of our great outdoors! Find a favorite feature of the Center and it will be named after you or your company for thousands of people to see and enjoy each year.



Building Sponsorship

Become a major donor of the Jester Park Conservation Center. Your cornerstone gift will recognize you as a signature building donor for all to see when they visit this engaging and inspirational Center. **{$250,000}**

Outdoor Interpretive Areas

Interpretation and discovery also extends outside of the Conservation Center. The Center will be immersed in a rich diversity of natural systems, art elements, and recreation amenities which lend themselves well to plenty of outdoor education, observation, and fun! Place your name on one of the areas below **{$50-250,000}**:

- Environmental Education Plaza
- Streamscape
- Prairie Art Walk

Indoor Interpretive Areas

No matter if you are looking for a more formal space or kid-friendly space to call your own, we have the perfect spot for you within the Center. Numerous interpretive areas, both passive and active, will educate people of all ages about water, natural systems, sustainability, outdoor recreation, and health. Place your name on one of the areas below **{$50-150,000}**:

- Environmental Education Classroom
- Board Room
- Discovery Kid Zone
- Inspirational Viewing Area
- Discovery Tree
- Art Alcove
- Rental Equipment Checkout
- Wall of Discovery
- Exploration Hallway
- Live Animal Display

Donors supporting these mentioned opportunities will be given naming rights, along with special mention on the Center's Donor Wall and on promotional materials distributed and displayed by Polk County Conservation. All supporters of the Center will be recognized.

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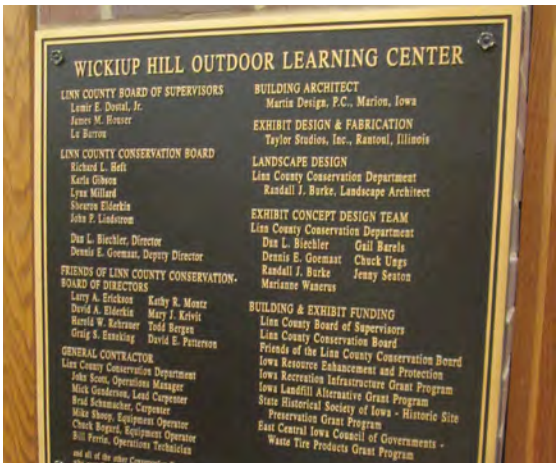
Building Sponsor

Allow your passion for the outdoors to be displayed front and center as a lead supporter of the Jester Park Conservation Center. Your cornerstone gift will recognize you as a signature building donor for all to see when they visit this engaging and inspirational center. Your gift will symbolize the importance of conservation, environmental education, and outdoor recreation in Polk County for many generations to come.



Your contribution will be boldly recognized on Center signage and on publicity materials.

Requested Donation: 250,000

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Board Room

This spacious and relaxing room will serve as a great community resource for neighbors, companies, civic organizations, conservation organizations, and will also be the site for monthly Polk County Conservation Board meetings. Breathtaking views of the prairie and stream will be plentiful from the many large windows on the west and north side of this room. Modern technology will complement the professional nature of Board room meetings and events.

The Board room donor will proudly be recognized on the Board room and on the Donor Wall on the main level of the building.

Requested Donation: $100,000

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Learning and Inspirational Viewing Area

The upper level of the Conservation Center will welcome visitors, expose them to Central Iowa's fascinating conservation past, present, and future, and provide them with an inspirational and inviting vista to the great outdoors. The Center will come alive through diverse and dynamic stories about our natural world and the role we play to sustain that world. This spacious corridor will lead you to a relaxing fireplace where you can read your favorite book or draw you to a scenic viewing area where you can take in the breathtaking views of the park.

The Learning and Inspirational Viewing Area sponsor will proudly be recognized in the Viewing Area and on the main entrance Donor Wall.

Requested Donation: $100,000

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Art Alcove

Local artists will be able to feature their work in a special area on the main level of the building for all visitors to enjoy. Combining nature and art brings a whole new dimension to environmental awareness and appreciation. Artists will exhibit on a revolving schedule and will be encouraged to use different mediums to express themselves. The Art Alcove will be an inspirational place where arts and conservation merge – and the public will experience the art-science connection of their natural world.

The Art Alcove sponsor will proudly be recognized at the exhibit itself and on the main floor Donor Wall.

Requested Donation: $50,000

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Discovery Tree

A signature educational exhibit within the Conservation Center will be a multi-level and intricate discovery tree. Visitors on each level of the building will be drawn to this three dimensional tree that symbolizes the true meaning of outdoor discovery. Visitors will experience who lives under, inside, and above the tree. They will also see how humans depend on our natural resources to provide the basics of life.

The Discovery Tree sponsor will proudly be recognized on the exhibit and on the main entrance Donor Wall.

Requested Donation: $150,000

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Discovery Kid Zone

This family-friendly exploratory kid zone located on the lower level of the Center is geared towards younger learners and their families with professionally crafted exhibits and displays. Lots of color, imagination, and experiential learning will entertain kids while their parents can socialize and enjoy the Center's adult learning opportunities. Free "open play", coupled with structured family programming will fill this interactive space with a buzz of daily activity.

The Discovery Kid Zone sponsor will proudly be recognized in the lower level activity area and on the main entrance Donor Wall.

Requested Donation: $100,000

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Live Animal Display

People of all ages will love this "live"ly exhibit that features native reptiles, amphibians, and seasonal insects portrayed in their natural habitats. Mobile touch tanks will allow these critters to be used throughout the building and provide a great hands-on learning experience. Also hands-on will be the 3D flora and fauna exhibit wall that showcases some of Iowa's native plants and animals.

The Live Animal Display sponsor will proudly be recognized at the exhibit itself and on the main floor Donor Wall.

Requested Donation: $50,000

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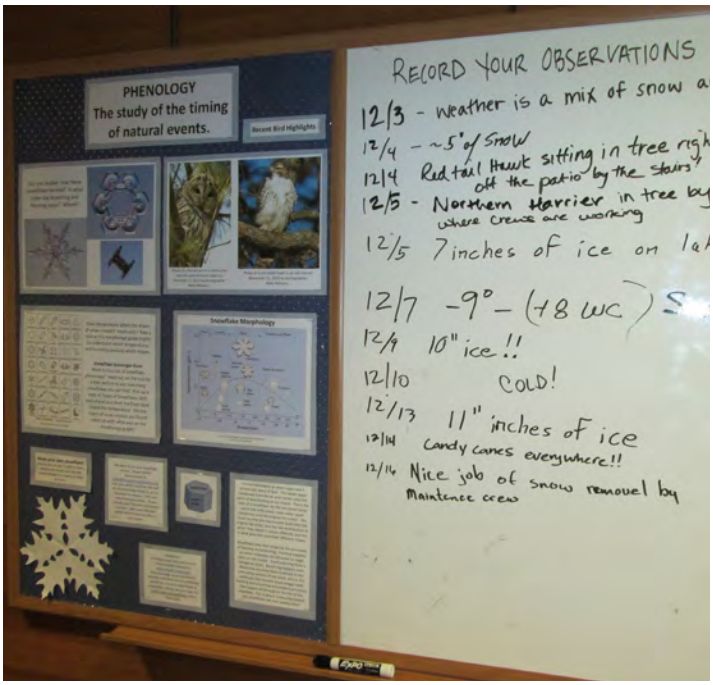
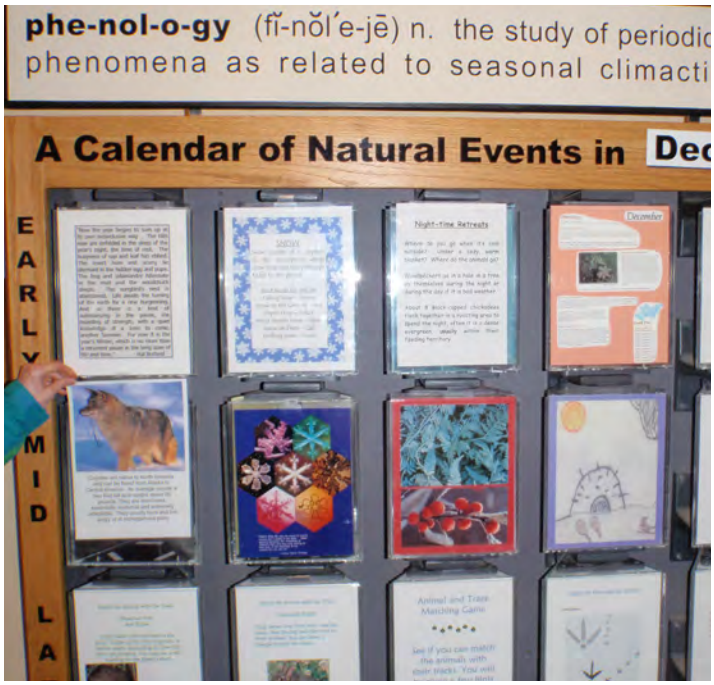
Wall of Discovery

It is here where visitors can share their discoveries made throughout the Park. By sharing stories, photos, and items collected from nature, even more visitors – both young and old – will be enticed to get outside and explore. Technology will enable staff to track and monitor many of these discoveries, putting citizen science to good use. This hands-on exhibit will lead to greater awareness of phenology, the effects of climate change, and provide users with a warm sense of place.





The Wall of Discovery sponsor will proudly be recognized on the exhibit itself and on the main floor Donor Wall.

Requested Donation: $50,000

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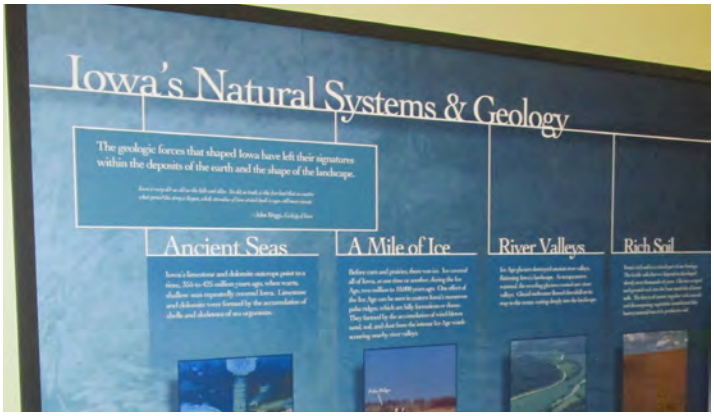
Exploration Hallway

Get lost in Iowa's habitats and geological past while strolling through 'Exploration Hallway'. Interpretive wall pillars will feature rocks, minerals, and artifacts left behind by those natural forces like glaciers and erosion – as well as those left behind by our ancient ancestors. Interactive prairie, wetland, and woodland habitats will be boldly displayed for visitors to understand the life they support and their unique complexities. Learn the monumental, multi-faceted, and mesmerizing stories of how Iowa came to be what it is today.



The Exploration Hallway sponsor will proudly be recognized in the hallway and on the main floor Donor Wall.

Requested Donation: $50,000

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Environmental Education Classroom

Help us create new conservation leaders and introduce young people to our natural world. Three environmental education classrooms will be used extensively to host thousands of school children, families, and adults each year. Trained and knowledgeable naturalists will annually conduct hundreds of diverse public programs to all ages and interests that educate about our natural systems, sustainability, outdoor health and recreation, and Science, Technology, Engineering, Math (STEM) concepts. These classrooms can also be used by the public for seminars, meetings, banquets, and gatherings.

Each classroom accommodates 50 people or they can be opened up to host a larger group up to 150 people. Classroom donors will have their name displayed on the classroom and on the Donor Wall on the main level of the building.

Requested Donation: $150,000 (naming rights to all three classrooms) | $50,000 (naming rights to one classroom)

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Rental Equipment Checkout

This is the place to come if you want to be active in the outdoors. Get fit and healthy on a pair of cross-country skis, snowshoes, or on foot with a GPS unit as you hunt for geocaches. Or choose a more tranquil route by checking out a fishing pole, insect net, or canoe paddle that can be used with one of our Discovery Pond canoes. Rental equipment will be available for checkout year-round, including nights and weekends.

The Rental Equipment Check-out sponsor will proudly be recognized at the check-out area itself and on the main floor Donor Wall.

Requested Donation: $50,000

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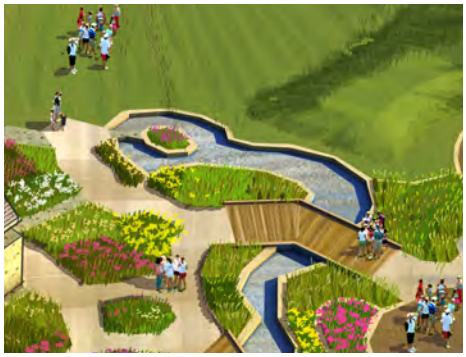
Environmental Education Plaza

The Environmental Education Plaza, located on the north side of the Conservation Center, will serve as the outdoor launching area for school and public programs. Skiers, anglers, hikers, paddlers, and wildlife explorers can set forth on their outdoor journeys from this large staging and sitting area. Special events and outdoor programs will benefit from the expansive amphitheater, fire pit, and accessible trail system that wraps around the Center and into the prairie and woodlands.



The Environmental Education Plaza sponsor will proudly be recognized in the plaza itself and on the interior Donor Wall.

Requested Donation: $250,000

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Outdoor Streamscape

Observe the amazing journey of water as it flows through a series of natural filters which improves its quality along the way. Experience hands-on learning and play on foot through a series of outdoor trails that take visitors past the story of Iowa's water and its diverse prairie, wetland, and woodland ecosystems. This highly interactive and engaging trail and stream system leads to the newly renovated Discovery Pond.

The Outdoor Streamscape sponsor will proudly be recognized on the feature and on the interior Donor Wall.

Requested Donation: $200,000

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Prairie Art Walk

The Jester Park Conservation Center is immersed in a beautiful tall grass prairie. Walking trails will lead visitors from the Center throughout the prairie to wetlands, woodlands, and the newly renovated Discovery Pond. While on this outdoor journey, visitors will walk past visually engaging public art pieces that will inspire and tell stories about topics such as water, animals, plants, history, and habitats.

The Prairie Art Walk sponsor will proudly be recognized along the trails, art pieces, and on the interior main floor Donor Wall.

Requested Donation: $50,000