

GRAND OPENING IS SCHEDULED FOR DECEMBER, 2023!

# The Hanson Nature Center

## MOVING FORWARD

Since 1958, the Winnebago County Conservation Board has grown from managing several small roadside parks to now managing nearly 4,000 acres of public lands that provide habitat for wildlife and recreational opportunities for county residents and visitors.

Along the way, we have inspired community members of all ages to connect with nature through environmental education programming and promotion of our county's trails, parks, campgrounds, and wildlife and recreation areas. Now, we look forward to the future, creating a community hub for nature education and recreation.



## NEW HOME - GREATER IMPACT

The Conservation Board and the Friends of Winnebago County Conservation Foundation are excited to share our progress toward building a 7,680 square-foot environmental education center—the Hanson Nature Center. Construction has begun on the centrally-located 325 acres of prairie wetlands near the intersection of Highways 9 and 69 north of Leland. When completed, this center will enrich the lives of people of all ages by serving as your community focal point for environmental education for school and civic groups, as well as for families and visitors to the county.

## HIGHLIGHTS OF THE CENTER



- Interpretive and interactive natural history and live animal displays under 28'-high vaulted ceilings
- A 90-seat auditorium for public programming and community use
- A wrap-around observation deck overlooking prairies and wetlands
- Universal accessibility, including an elevator
- A separate classroom and conference room in the lower level
- Administrative offices, a kitchenette, storage, and restrooms on the main level
- Ample parking and a bus turnaround
- An outdoor amphitheater that will seat classroom-sized groups
- Future solar panels with real-time production outputs

## WHAT WE NEED NOW IS YOU!

To fund the construction of the center, we have raised 82% of our \$2.3 million campaign goal and plan to raise the funds via grants, foundations, and private donations. Your generous support is vital, and we hope that you will join us in bringing this vision to life. Please consider a pledge of support. Contributions of any amount are welcome and will make an immediate impact. **And your contribution may also be matched!** We are so grateful to those who share our belief in this mission! Thank you!

For more information, contact:

Winnebago County Conservation Board • Friends of Winnebago County Conservation Foundation  
34496 110th Avenue • Forest City, IA, 50436 • 641-565-3390 • [www.winnebagoountyiowa.gov/conservation](http://www.winnebagoountyiowa.gov/conservation)  
[info@winnebagoccb.com](mailto:info@winnebagoccb.com)

## Recognition Levels

Chickadee	<\$250
Bluebird	\$250 - \$499
Goldfinch	\$500 - \$999
Cardinal	\$1,000 - \$2,499
Sandhill Crane	\$2,500 - \$4,999
Trumpeter Swan	\$5,000 - \$9,999
Bald Eagle	\$10,000 +



Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# FWCCF

Friends of Winnebago County Conservation Foundation, Inc.

I/We pledge the following amount: \_\_\_\_\_

***Contributions can be paid according to your terms over a two-year period.  
All contributions are needed by June 30, 2024.***

***Please choose one of the following options:***

I have included a check with my total contribution. ***Checks payable to: Friends of Winnebago County Conservation Foundation, 34496 110th Avenue, Forest City, IA, 50436. (Check # \_\_\_\_\_)***

I would like to make contributions according to my personalized plan options:

To be paid \_\_\_\_\_ weekly \_\_\_\_\_ monthly \_\_\_\_\_ annually

Method of payment \_\_\_\_\_ checks \_\_\_\_\_ auto-withdrawal \_\_\_\_\_ other payment method

*WCCB will contact you to set up, reminders, auto-withdrawal forms, or other payment methods.*

I will pay by debit/credit card at [www.winnebagoccb.com](http://www.winnebagoccb.com) Use the "donate" button on the home page.

***Pledge Information:***

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

*Please check one: Cell    Work    Home*

***Public Recognition***

\_\_\_\_ Yes, list my/our name as: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_ No, I/we wish to remain anonymous.

***• The FWCCF is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, so your contributions are tax-deductible. Your contribution may also be matched.***

*• All donations will be recognized in the Winnebago County Conservation Board newsletter.*

*• Gifts of \$250 and above will be recognized in the new center, via a wall display that will be prominently showcased.*

*• You can leave a lasting legacy by pledging a larger gift in your name or in the name of a loved one. A variety of naming opportunities are available. Please contact us to discuss your interest.*

### **County Conservation Staff**

Robert Schwartz, Executive Director | Lisa Ralls, Naturalist | Rick Lillie, Natural Resource Mgr. | Nicole Templeton, Natural Resource Tech.

### **Conservation Board Members**

Julie Hagenson | Nancy Helm | Jeff Schmidt | Mike Korth | Tim Missal

### **Foundation Board Members**

Brad Huntington | Paul Fitzgerald | Nancy Helm | Tim Missal | Doug Ostermann | Lisa Ralls | Tim Ranes | Robert Schwartz | Larry Vold