#### POLK COUNTY CONSERVATION

#### OCTOBER 2019 NATURE PROGRAMS

### 2nd Annual Cache Bash Championship October 12, 10-11:30am Jester Park Nature Center

Join us to search for 12 geocaches hidden in Jester Park for this special event. Participants can start searching for geocaches at 10am. At each cache, participants must punch their passport. Turn in your passport for a chance at prizes.

FREE. No registration required. Download the free app "c:geo" or "Geocaching" on your smart phone before you arrive. GPS units will also be available.

## Fall Hike October 12, 10-11:30 Chichaqua Longouse

Chichaqua is a unique and compelling place, where one has access to a rare ancient landscape. Join us as we explore the prairie, woodland and wetlands of Chichaqua. FREE. No registration required.

### **Fossils**

## October 16, 6-7pm Jester Park Nature Center

Join us for National Fossil Day this year! Come see, touch, and learn all about Iowa's fascinating paleontological past. We will discuss how fossils form and where to find them, and will have the chance make your very own! FREE. No registration required.

# The Underworld! October 18, 6-8PM Jester Park Nature Center

Join us for a creepy crawly party, just in time for Halloween! Learn about critters that live underground, hunt for decomposers, meet live bugs, and enjoy a spooky snack. Halloween costumes are encouraged but not required! Recommended for ages 5-10. Pre-registration required; deadline is October 16. Fee: \$5.

To register for a program, visit www.leadingyououtdoors.org and click on the calendar tab

#### **Bats**

October 19, 10:30-11:30 Jester Park Nature Center

Join a naturalist as we learn about these misunderstood creatures of the night. We will explore the truth about these animals. Do they really suck your blood, turn into vampires and fly into people's hair? Come find out and meet a few of Iowa's beneficial bat species. FREE. No registration required.

## Critter Club October 20, 1-2:30pm Jester Park Nature Center

Come visit Jester Park Nature Center's resident turtles, snakes, and salamanders to learn about these misunderstood animals. You may even get to touch a turtle or snake. This is an open house program, so come anytime between 1-2:30. FREE. No registration required.

# Meter Shower Watch October 22, 7- 8:30pm Jester Park Nature Center

Come learn all about asteroids, meteors, and meteorites! Plan to spend your time gazing up at the night sky for the Orionids meteor shower, as well as the moon and any stars out this night. FREE. No registration required.

Polk County Conservation manages 20 parks, wildlife areas, and recreation trails throughout the county. As well as performing park maintenance, we also provide free or low cost educational programs. These programs are designed for families with children of all ages. We additionally offer recreational trips and outdoor skill training for adults. For more information about our programs, parks, or a map to the locations of these programs contact the Polk County Conservation

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