

2022 Annual Report

Access Ada Hayden Boat Dock Completion

The grand opening of the ADA compliant boat dock at Ada Hayden was held September 21, 2022.



The Outdoor Alliance and our partners were well represented in the celebration. As noted in the Outdoor Alliance's 2021 annual report Access Ada Hayden, with the assistance of the Outdoor Alliance and other support from the community, raised funding required by the City of Ames (\$35,000 out of the estimated cost of \$85,000) by June 2021. The Parks and Recreation Department (PRD) of the City of Ames began in depth planning and site preparation in Fall 2021 and completed the site preparation and installation in Spring-Summer 2022. The city will continue to maintain the dock.

There was widespread publicity for the opening of the ADA compliant boat dock because this was the first dock of this type in central Iowa. Paddlers from around Iowa have come to Ada Hayden to try out the accessible dock. The dock has allowed people who would not be able to launch their boats safely an opportunity to experience being on the water at Ada Hayden. Further, many well-seasoned Ada Hayden paddlers are thrilled to be able to launch their boats with an added degree of safety and stability. The ADA compliant dock has been pulled from the water for the winter, but we look forward to using it again next spring.



Wild Women of the Woods

Story County Conservation's Wild Women of the Woods is an annual event that creates an opportunity for women to explore the outdoors, learn new skills, and network with like-minded women.

The workshops are wild ranging and have included archery, paddling a stand-up paddle board, kayaking, hiking, botany basics, compass and map, chainsaw safety, building a conscientious wardrobe, prairie seed cleaning and nature trivia.

The Outdoor Alliance has been supporting environmental education programs such as Wild Women of the Woods since 2014, our first active year as a 501c3 non-profit organization. That it attracts participants from other counties underscores the interest in its program and workshops.



Ames Reads Leopold - StoryWalk®



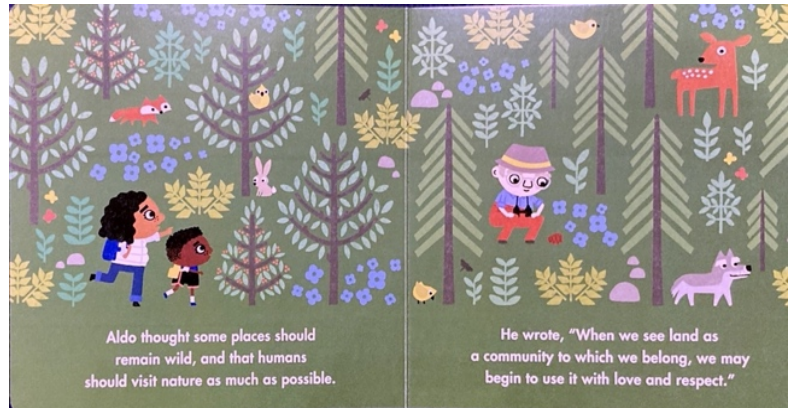
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Ames has celebrated Aldo Leopold's contributions to American conservation through reading his essays as a community event, "Ames Reads Leopold," for the past 13 years and did so again in 2022, with an outdoor walk at Brookside Park on April 24, 2022.



A new addition to the event this year was a "StoryWalk®" featuring a children's book about Aldo Leopold. A StoryWalk® is an innovative and delightful way for children and adults to enjoy reading and the outdoors at the same time. Outdoor Alliance looks forward to partnering with others to do another StoryWalk® in the future.

As we walked through the park on the cool, windy day we stopped periodically to listen to a community member read a Leopold essay. We deeply appreciated the volunteer readers: Ery Klaas, Christine Laumer, Jeri Neal, and Chris Morris. At the conclusion, Deb Marquart, ISU English Department, led a creative writing reflection about Leopold's words.



This event would not be possible without the partnership of Ames Parks and Recreation, Friends of Ada Hayden Heritage Park, Story County Conservation, Ames Public Library, Iowa State University (ISU) Master of Fine Arts in Creative Writing and Environment, ISU Bioethics Program, Leopold Center for Sustainable Agriculture, Office of Sustainability/Live Green! Initiative, ISU Sustainable Agriculture Graduate Student Association and the Outdoor Alliance of Story County.

Upcoming Projects



Getting out and enjoying public lands has been growing across the country. Story County's population has grown, too. An ongoing priority is supporting the **acquisition of public land** in Story County. The **Deppe Property** adjacent to McFarland Park is a strategic acquisition that protects the park from development and enhances opportunities at the park. The area is currently not open to the public but will be when Story County Conservation has raised the necessary funds.

Another priority is working with Story County Conservation and other groups to pave the **Heart of Iowa Trail** in Story County. The Heart of Iowa Trail is part of the coast-to-coast American Discovery Trail. The Heart of Iowa Trail passes through Collins, Maxwell, Cambridge, and Slater in Story County. From Slater, the trail goes south to Ankeny. It also goes west over the High Trestle Bridge in Madrid and then to Woodward. The Heart of Iowa Trail is expected to be connected to the Raccoon River Valley Trail west of Woodward. Paving the rest of the Heart of Iowa Trail in Story County will

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enhance access and connect Story County to so many other recreational trails and communities in the area.

The Outdoor Alliance is also looking forward to continuing our investments in **water monitoring**, outdoor recreation and



education with our partners Prairie Rivers of Iowa and Story County Conservation.

Looking Ahead

The Outdoor Alliance's goals in 2023 reflect the increasing use of public parks, trails, and participation in outdoor recreation:

- Develop strategies to attract active volunteers and new members.
- Support Story County Conservation's land acquisitions through financial contributions and service projects.
- Increase county water monitoring projects with volunteer and financial support.
- Enhance Story County conservation, outdoor recreation, and education, by partnering with local organizations to sponsor hikes, outdoor presentations, and conservation service projects.
- Explore ways to support outdoor youth programming.

Thanks for helping the Outdoor Alliance support Story County Conservation and our other partners' many efforts to make Story County a great place to live, work and enjoy outdoor recreation. The projects highlighted in this report could not have happened without your help.



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Outdoor Alliance of Story County Revenues & Expenses					
REVENUES	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
General Revenues	\$ 5,740	\$ 12,075	\$ 6,345	\$ 6,777	\$ 8,816
Dedicated Funds including Land Acquisition	-	-	\$ 19,449	\$ 27,280	\$ 3,078
Grants & Other Contributions	-	-	\$ 6,000	-	-
Community Foundation Endowment Donations	\$ 300	\$ 300	\$ 250	-	\$ 2,250
TOTAL REVENUES	\$ 6,040	\$ 12,375	\$32,044	\$ 34,057^D	\$14,14
PROJECT EXPENSES					
Story County Conservation Land Acquisition	\$ 1,000	-	\$ 5,000	\$ 4,000	\$ 3,000
Water Monitoring in Story County	\$ 1,000	\$ 2,000	\$ 2,000	\$ 1,500	\$ 1,250
North River Valley Park Dam Modifications	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,000	-	-	-
Story County Conservation Kayaking Program	-	-	\$ 2,000	-	-
Ada Hayden Accessible Dock	-	-	\$ 6,000	\$ 14,102	-
Story County Conservation Tedesco Park & Corridor Project	-	\$ 250	\$ 10,456	\$ 17,000	-
Story County Heart of Iowa Trail	-	-	-	-	\$ 3,000
Iowa Prairie Network Winter Conference	-	\$ 441	\$ 688	-	-
Environmental Education	\$ 632	\$ 1,108	\$ 250	\$ 1,685	\$ 550 ^A
Service Projects	-	\$ 199	-	\$ 220	\$ 372 ^B
PayPal Project Fees	-	-	-	\$ 197	-
Community Foundation Endowment Fund Contributions	-	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,000
Other Projects & Support	\$ 158	\$ 312	\$ 116	-	-



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Subtotal Project Expenses	\$ 3,790	\$ 6,310	\$ 27,510	\$ 39,704	\$ 9,266
OPERATING EXPENSES					
Web Hosting and Email Service	\$ -	\$ 162	\$ -	\$ 182	\$ -
P O Box	\$ 182	\$ 204	\$ 226	\$ 284	\$ 312
Annual Report & Membership	\$ 59	\$ 453	\$ 24	\$ 323	\$ 308
Liability Insurance	\$ -	\$ 828	\$ 849	\$ -	\$ 879
PayPal, IRS & Other Finance Fees	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 53
Subtotal Operating Expenses	\$ 241	\$ 1,647	\$ 1,099	\$ 790	\$ 1,552
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$ 4,031	\$ 7,957	\$ 28,609	\$ 40,494	\$ 10,818
NET REVENUES	\$ 2,009	\$ 4,418	\$ 3,435	\$ (6,437)^c	\$ 3,326
Outdoor Alliance of Story County Balance Sheet					
Current Assets	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Unrestricted Funds	\$ 8,739	\$ 12,075	\$ 6,345	\$ 6,672	\$ 7,092
Grants & Other Dedicated Funds	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 8,993	\$ 2,249	\$ 3,078
Total Current Assets	\$ 8,739	\$ 12,075	\$ 15,338	\$ 8,921	\$ 10,170
Community Foundation Endowment Assets	\$ 27,723	\$35,44 0	\$ 41,098	\$ 48,356	\$43,29 4
TOTAL ASSETS	\$36,462	\$ 47,515	\$ 56,436	\$ 57,277	\$ 53,464

2022 Current Year Notes

- ^A Environmental Education expenses include Story County Conservation's Wild Women of the Woods Program, Prairie Rivers of Iowa Family Bees & Berries event, Ames Reads Leopold and winter presentations.
- ^B Service projects include an Iowa Creek clean-up sponsored by the city of Ames and supported by Prairie Rivers of Iowa, Story County Conservation, the local Skunk River Paddlers, and the Outdoor Alliance. There was also a service cleanup project with Workiva.
- ^C Dedicated unspent revenues from 2020 were expensed in 2021 making total expenditures for the year greater than revenues.
- ^D There was an adjustment to 2021 revenues due to a math error in the 2021 Financial Report.