

Interpretive Signs of Pocahontas County



Struggle for Control

This sign has been on the job since 1996. It sits at the entrance to Melson Park 5 miles east of Rolfe and recounts the last Indian on Indian Battle in Iowa fought in 1854 between the Winnebago and Sioux along Pilot Creek. It is our oldest sign in our newest park alongside our longest trail, Three Rivers Trail.



Swan Lake ~ Soars Again tells of the birth, life, and resurrection of Swan and Muskrat Lakes located 2 miles north of Laurens.

Many people joined hands to restore 392 acres of wetlands, prairie, and oak savanna. As Swan Lake welcomes home her native plant and wildlife, let us celebrate their return to Pocahontas County.



Harvesting Our Heritage at Wiegert Prairie Farmstead presents the story and timeline of the Wiegert Family and their farm, now a living museum and classroom. This sign arrived in time to greet visitors to the 27th Annual Fall Fest held at the 1900s farmstead and virgin prairie located 4 miles southeast of Palmer.



Sunken Grove Wildlife Management Area

Our second sign highlights the history and wildlife of this natural treasure located 4 miles northwest of Fonda in Cedar Township.

The Fonda Presbyterian Church closed its doors in 2007 after 120 years of faithful witness. Wanting to share their love of nature, they funded a new overview and sign at Sunken Grove that PCCB completed in 2008.



*Three Rivers Trail
A Corridor Through Space and Time*

This sign is located along Three Rivers Trail just south of Wilcox Park on the east edge of Rolfe and includes railroad history, a trail map, logos of many trail partners, and a tribute to Aaron Eilerts.



*The Keystone Arch and Oak Savanna
Bridging Past and Present*

The interpretive sign at Cooper's Cove—a park and campground located 7 miles east of Palmer—greet visitors in all seasons. Under the arms of the timeless oak savanna, a restored keystone bridge embraces our cultural, family, and natural heritage in this special spot along the banks of the *Wassakapompa*—The River with Lizards.



Our newest sign

Pocahontas County Conservation — Conserving Our Natural Heritage for Those Who Follow depicts the people, job, and story of PCCB and Rosenberger Park.

The signs at Swan Lake, Wiegert Prairie Farmstead, Cooper’s Cove, Three Rivers Trail, and Rosenberger Park were all funded by grants from the Pocahontas County Foundation. We also thank Prairie Partners RC&D Area, Inc., for their support and involvement with several of the signs.

More signs are planned for Little Clear Lake Park, Meredith Park, and Moore Recreation Area. Look for them in the near future!



Conserving our Heritage

The Pocahontas County Conservation Board is committed to conserving our natural heritage for those who follow. One of the ways we showcase and share our natural as well as family and cultural heritage is through interpretive signs. They are a great addition to our environmental education program—they are always courteous and friendly, always say the same thing, and are always on the job, rain or shine.

Researching and designing these signs has been a learning experience for PCCB. Searching for usable old photos and verifying dates and names can be time consuming and difficult. We thank our area history buffs and photographers who have helped us along the way.

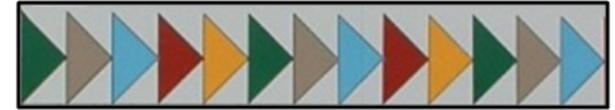
After we have collected the facts and artifacts, we work closely with the artists at Fossil Industries or Pilot Rock Signs to design each sign. It’s an exciting day when we are finally able to mount the sign for you to read and enjoy!

As you travel around Pocahontas County, plan to stop and view the new interpretive signs. We hope you enjoy their stories and photos as much as we have enjoyed finding and unearthing the many treasures lying hidden and forgotten in our own backyard.

Corinne Peterson, Naturalist



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Presented by Pocahontas County Conservation Board

