



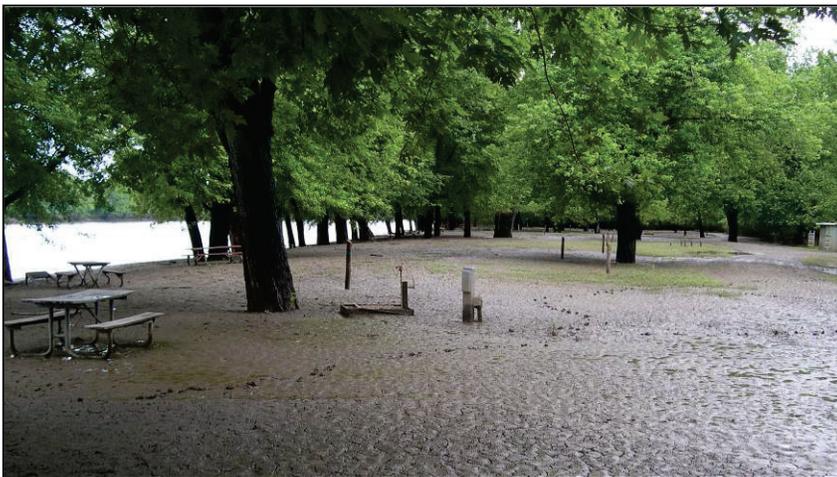
# Mississippi River Project



US Army Corps  
of Engineers®

## Battling the River Once Again

### FLOOD WATERS HIT FOR THE 4<sup>TH</sup> TIME!



The US Army Corps of Engineers, Mississippi River Project has been faced with the challenge of high water many times. When high water arrives, the staff is well prepared to take necessary actions to keep the visitors safe as well as prepare the recreation areas for the impending water. This year however has been a little on the wild side as we are heading into our 4<sup>th</sup> high water event this season. This time around the water will be affecting at least 17 of the 26 recreation areas along the

river, closing many of them down during one of the busiest times of the season over the 4<sup>th</sup> of July holiday. Not only are the campgrounds, boat ramps, and day use areas affected while the water is high, but also once the water recedes and the areas need to be cleaned and prepared for use. As you can see in the photo shown here of Blanchard Island Recreation Area after the flood of 2008, mud from the river makes clean-up of the campgrounds a time consuming task. The staff of the Mississippi River Project will continue to work hard to make recreation along the river a fun and pleasant experience for all who visit. Please remember to help those rangers out by staying clear of flooded or closed areas and call 309-794-5338 or check out the website at [www.missriver.org](http://www.missriver.org) for the most updated information.

## A HUGE THANKS TO THE AMERICORPS NCCC VOLUNTEERS

The Mississippi River Project would like to extend a huge THANK YOU to all who contributed to the success of the joint effort with the AmeriCorps National Civilian Community Corps program over the last few



months. There was a great deal of cooperation involved in bringing the group to our area including getting work plans prepared during the winter for the application process, working out how and where the group would live while they were working here, and even helping to maintain a decent food supply for the crew. Despite the miserable weather, flooding, cold, heat, and all the obstacles, the work we received from the group was OUTSTANDING and the feedback from the group was very positive. In talking with Leader Rusty Graham, the thing that impressed the group the most was that they never felt like they had any wasted time and were always kept busy, and SAFE! And now the group will be sent on their way for a much deserved break where they all get to actually go home and sleep in a real bed for a few nights and not on the soggy ground! We shall see what the future holds for this great partnership and hopefully we will be able to work together with the AmeriCorps groups again.

## Dubuque Ranger Station News

### UPCOMING PROGRAMS AT GRANT RIVER CAMPGROUND:



- **Saturday, July 6<sup>th</sup> at 8:00 PM** – History of the Potosi Brewery and Museum
- **Saturday, July 13<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM** – Dubuque Regional Humane Society
- **Saturday, July 20<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 PM** – Night Sky
- **Saturday, July 27<sup>th</sup> at 8:00 PM** – Pheasants and Other Wild Birds

These programs are offered free of charge to anyone who is interested in attending. You do not need to be staying at the campground to attend. Grant River Campground is located 2 miles south of Potosi, WI off Hwy 133. The campground offers 73 campsites, electrical hookups, shower and restroom facilities, drinking water, a dump station, and playground. For more information on the programs, please contact the Dubuque Park Rangers by e-mail at [mvrodmn11@usace.army.mil](mailto:mvrodmn11@usace.army.mil) or by phone at (563) 582-0881.

### EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT – RUSS WOLF - SEASONAL RANGER

I am currently working as part of the Mississippi River Project at the Dubuque Field Station as a student trainee. Currently I am studying at the University of Wisconsin-Platteville pursuing a Bachelor's Degree in Biology with an Emphasis in Ecology. With my free time I am working on two different projects with faculty at the University of Wisconsin-Platteville; one to study the effects of restoration on a stream and the other to design signs to place in the campus arboretum to educate

students about the various trees growing there. environment and help educate people about nature and its benefits. Working for the Army Corps thus far has been a great experience and has taught me a lot. In this position, I not only get the chance to educate the public on the Corps mission, but also listen and learn from those who spend their time along this great river. The Army Corps is filled with knowledgeable, kind, and helpful people that are willing to help me learn and answer any questions that I may have. This will be a wonderful summer working with some great people in the Dubuque Ranger Station and with the Mississippi River Project.

With my degree I am hoping to help protect the



## Thomson Ranger Station News

### UPCOMING PROGRAMS AT FISHERMAN'S CORNER CAMPGROUND:

- **Saturday, July 20<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM** – Join Berry Williams to learn about wood whittling.

Fisherman's Corner Campground is located just on Highway 84 just north of Hampton, IL. The campground offers 56 campsites, electrical hookups, shower and restroom facilities, drinking water, a dump station, and playground. To reserve a campsite contact the National Recreation Reservation Service toll free at (877) 444-6777. Campsites may also be available on a first-come, first-served basis. For more information, please contact the Thomson Park Rangers by e-mail at [mvrodmn13@usace.army.mil](mailto:mvrodmn13@usace.army.mil) or by phone at (815) 259-3628.

## Mississippi River Visitor Center News

### NEW DISPLAYS COMING TO THE VISITOR CENTER



If you have stopped in to visit the Mississippi River Visitor Center in the past few months, you may have noticed some changes to the exhibit area. The staff at the visitor center has been working away on updating and bringing new life to some of the outdated displays. With the help of a cooperative agreement with the Quad City Convention and Visitor's Bureau, donated funds from the sale of items in the gift shop may be used to improve educational displays within the facility. This cooperative effort is allowing the Visitor Center to receive new displays that will focus on the US Army Corps of Engineers'

Recreation, Navigation, and Natural Resource Management programs. The displays will also include some great hands on activities that will be sure to keep little hands busy while others are watching the boats. The Visitor Center is open 7 days a week from 9:00 AM – 5:00 PM with rangers on hand to answer questions and provide information about the area. Stop by any time to see the changes coming to the Mississippi River Visitor Center.

## Muscatine Ranger Station News

### CAMPGROUND PROGRAMS AT CORPS OF ENGINEERS PARKS

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Mississippi River Project invites campers and the visiting public to attend campground programs held at Clark's Ferry and Shady Creek Recreation Areas. Throughout the summer, from Memorial Day to Labor Day, presenters will cover a host of topics for all to enjoy. As a reminder, all campground programs are subject to cancellation or rescheduling in the event of rain or severe weather. Programming for the months of May and June include the following:

- **Saturday, July 13, 2013, 6:00 PM**, Shady Creek Campground, Join staff from the Muscatine County Conservation Board as they demonstrate Native American games with the help of participants from the crowd.
- **Saturday, July 13, 2013, 7:30 PM**, Clarks Ferry Campground, Join staff from the Muscatine County Conservation Board as they demonstrate Native American games with the help of participants from the crowd.
- **Saturday, July 20, 2013, 7:00 PM**, Clarks Ferry Campground – Join a US Army Corps of Engineers park ranger to learn about the Mississippi River and the history of navigation on the river using locks and dams.

Clark's Ferry Campground is located just off Highway 22 at 3860 Sunset Beach, Montpelier, IA 52759. Clark's Ferry offers 45 campsites, electrical hookups, shower and restroom facilities, drinking water, a dump station, playground, boat launch and wood.



Shady Creek Campground is located at 3550 Highway 22, Muscatine, IA 52761. Shady Creek offers 53 campsites, electrical hookups, shower and restroom facilities, drinking water, a dump station, playground, boat launch and wood. To reserve a campsite, contact the National Recreation Reservation Service toll free at (877) 444-6777. Campsites are also available on a first-come, first-served basis. For more information, please contact the Muscatine Park Rangers by e-mail at [mvrodmn16@usace.army.mil](mailto:mvrodmn16@usace.army.mil) or by phone at (563) 263-7913.

## Quincy Ranger Station News

### **RAIN, RAIN GO AWAY...**

The staff at the Quincy ranger office was almost in the clear to start flood clean-up until the recent rainfall to the north. This rainfall will eventually flow down to the Quincy area and inundate all the parks once again. In the meantime the rangers have been on stand-by to lend a helping hand to other field stations as the waters rise and recede. Ranger Trevor Popkin has been helping the Thomson, IL field station during this rollercoaster ride we have all been experiencing this summer.

Lock and Dam tours in the Quincy area are schedule to be held intermittently throughout the summer for summer camps and youth groups and the last boater's safety class of the season is scheduled for July 13th at the Eagles Nest in Quincy, Illinois.

**If you would like to be removed from our e-mail list please print "unsubscribe" in the subject line in a reply to us.**

**Thank you,**

**Natural Resource Management Staff**

P.O. Box 2004 Rock Island, Illinois 61204-2004

(309) 794-5338 E-mail - [mvrodmn15@usace.army.mil](mailto:mvrodmn15@usace.army.mil) Website - <http://www.missriver.org>