



What is the Explore the River Series?

As part of River Action's Summer Education Program, the Explore the River Series gives participants a first-hand look at the wildlife, history, culture, and geography of the Mississippi River and the Quad Cities.

Who We Are 

River Action works to protect and restore the Mississippi River, foster cultural and economic activities that showcase the River, and promote awareness and adoption of sustainable practices that enhance our rivers and shared RiverWay environment.

A vibrant community takes River ACTION! To learn more or become a member, visit [riveraction.org](http://riveraction.org).

Channel Cat Talks

During our Channel Cat Talks, participants tour the Mississippi River aboard the Channel Cat Water Taxi while subject matter experts narrate.



Riverine Walks

Our Riverine Walk participants explore the great Quad Cities Riverfront and other significant places through expert-guided walks and talks.

NEW!

Bee Branch Day Tour

Join us for a guided tour of the Bee Branch Watershed, a \$249 million flood mitigation project that "daylighted" a creek once prone to frequent flash floods. The project was developed to eliminate flooding in historic neighborhoods, improve water quality, stimulate investment, and enhance the quality of life within the watershed.



July 11 | 8:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

\$30 / \$25 for Members | Bring Snacks!

Bus departs promptly at 8:30 a.m.

from the River Action office:

822 E. River Drive in Davenport, IA

This program is supported by:



MetroLINK



Modern Woodmen



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# Channel Cat Talks

All aboard! 9 A.M. Tuesday & Thursday  
Riverbend Commons: 2951 River Dr. in Moline, IL

Scan to Purchase  
Tickets Online!



## May 27 - Tuesday only

### The Inside Pitch: Minor League Baseball in the Quad Cities

Dave Heller - Owner, QC River Bandits Baseball Team

River Bandits' owner Dave Heller will discuss the history of Minor League baseball in the Quad Cities, the Kansas City Royals, and the future Major League stars currently or recently in the Quad Cities.

## May 29 - Thursday only

### Lock & Dam for Kids!

Anthony Heddlesten - Civil Engineer & Deputy Chief, Design Branch, USACE

Geared toward the younger audience, children and parents will learn about lock and dam functions, from dredging and operations to environmental restoration. Participants will have a chance to experience locking through a dam during this exciting and informative journey.

## June 3 & 5

### Paddle to the Amazon

Dana Starkell - Adventurer

At age 19 Dana and his father paddled a canoe from central Canada to the mouth of the Amazon River in Brazil. The Mississippi was a memorable part of this 2-year Guinness World Record Breaking trip. Listen as Dana shares entertaining stories from their adventure, giving a unique perspective of life on the river.

## June 10 & 12

### Raptors Along the River

Dave Murcia - Director, Wapsi River Environmental Education Center

See a live raptor up close and personal as a Scott County Conservation Naturalist discusses birds of prey found in Quad Cities habitats. Learn about local ecology and the impact humans have on these amazing flying predators.

## June 17 & 19

### RiverCurrents Tour

Ben Schwind - Education Manager, Common Chord

A history of American Roots Music up and down the Mississippi River. We'll discuss jazz, blues, gospel, rock & roll, and country and its origins in towns along the river. This presentation will feature live performances along with recorded examples of some of the legends of American music.

## June 24 & 26

### Upper Mississippi River Fish & Wildlife

Jon Duyvejonck - Biologist, US Fish & Wildlife

Learn about a wide variety of topics relative to the Upper Mississippi River including: wildlife, navigation, invasive species, water quality issues, river management, recreation, etc.

## July 8 & 10

### WEDG & Our Mississippi River

Kathy Wine - Executive Director, River Action

The goal of WEDG (Waterfront Edge Design Guidelines) is to create the best possible waterfront through resilience, ecology, and access. Take a cruise, explore, and discuss how the Quad Cities is applying these guidelines and standards to our Mississippi riverfront.

## July 15 & 17

### Channel Cat - Behind the Scenes

Jennifer Hirsch, Manager of Administration & Jake Cassidy, Director of Maintenance

Guests will learn what it takes to maintain the boats and prep for the season, how projects are funded, and what's on the horizon for passenger ferryboat service in the Quad Cities.

## July 22 & 24

### Our Unique River Landscape

Dr. Norm Moline, Augustana Professor

Pool 15 from Rock Island and Davenport to Hampton is a core segment of the Mississippi in the Quad Cities. Its east-west orientation, its flow characteristics, its split into two channels around the Arsenal, and human modifications set the context for the variety of waterfront uses here. Come and enjoy this fascinating landscape mosaic.

## July 29 & 31

### Bix & Friends

Josh Duffee - Musician & Jazz Historian

Josh Duffee celebrates the music of the 1920s by playing recordings and talking about the music that Bix Beiderbecke and other groups recorded during the Roaring 20s. Sign up for both days, as the music and information will be different for each channel cat event!

## August 5 & 7

### Living Lands & Waters - Helping Our River & Community

Andrew Layer - Programs Manager, Living Lands & Waters

Learn about the history and mission of Living Lands & Waters, driven by founder, president, and East Moline Native, Chad Pregracke. Cruise the river and discuss Andrew's role as Programs Manager, what LL&W does to keep our rivers clean, and the impact they've had on our community.

## August 12 - Tuesday only

### History of the US Coast Guard Auxiliary & the American Waterway Watch

Charles Brennan, Public Affairs Specialist, US Coast Guard Auxiliary

Hear a brief history of the US Coast Guard Auxiliary and learn about the America Waterway Watch - a public outreach program that encourages participants to report suspicious activity to the USCG or local law enforcement.

## August 14 - Thursday only

### Always Ready in the Heartland: a brief history of the US Coast Guard on the Mississippi River

Todd Wilkinson, Public Affairs Specialist, US Coast Guard Auxiliary

From maintaining aids to navigations to responding to record-breaking floods and protecting the Mississippi River's unique and vibrant ecosystem, learn more about the U.S. Coast Guard's role on America's inland waterways with US Coast Guard Auxiliary Public Affairs Specialist Todd Wilkinson.

## August 19 & 21

### The Water Quality Cycle - River to Faucet to River

Bob Bohannon, Water Quality Chemist

The Quad Cities is fortunate to have the Mississippi River as a valuable natural resource. The water quality of this river directly affects our drinking water supply. Human activities at both the regional and local levels influence the river, our drinking water, and wastewater management, which in turn impacts the river itself. Discover actions you can take to help improve the water quality within the water cycle.

## August 26 & 28

### Gongoozing on the Mississippi w/USACE

Josh Hendrix, USACE Geotechnical Engineer & Anthony Heddlesten, USACE Civil Engineer

2025 is the 250th anniversary of USACE's founding by General George Washington's appointment of the first engineer officers on June 16, 1775! Following along 2024's 200th Anniversary of the first regulation to start cleaning up the Mississippi River and the first appropriation to start working on creating navigable waterways, we will explore some USACE history and lock through the first lock constructed in the 1930s for the 9-foot channel system (navigation queue permitting) we'll learn how it operates, discuss why the system was built, and share about the maintenance and upkeep required to keep it running for over 90 years.

Questions about locations, terrain, accommodations, or distance?  
Call **563.322.2969** or email [ahamerlinck@riveraction.org](mailto:ahamerlinck@riveraction.org)



# Riverine Walks

Meeting locations listed below.  
Wednesdays at 6:30 P.M. / Saturdays at 9 A.M.

Scan to Purchase  
Tickets Online!



## May 28 - Wednesday at 6:30 p.m. only

### Modern Production Practices in Agriculture

Robb Ewoldt, Farmer

2024 Iowa Soybean Association 'Innovator in Production Research' award winner, Robb Ewoldt, discusses modern agriculture and shares a brief history of the Ewoldt Farm and their innovative farming practices. Take a short tour of the family farm and enjoy a Q & A on how conservation and sustainability is applied locally.

**Meet at: Ewoldt Farm - 10386 130th St. in Davenport, IA**

## May 31 - Saturday at 9:00 a.m. only

### A Backstage Tour of America's Best Minor League Ballpark

Dave Heller, Owner, QC River Bandits Baseball Team

River Bandits' owner Dave Heller gives a guided tour of Modern Woodmen Park, including the clubhouses, coaches' offices, batting cage, trainers' room, and other spaces fans aren't normally allowed. We'll also explore the suites, rides, and other amenities that make Modern Wooden Park America's best Minor League ballpark. (There will be stairs.)

**Meet at: Outside the suite level entrance of Modern Woodmen Park - 209 S. Gaines St. in Davenport, IA**

## June 4 & 7

### Amowa Forest Preserve & Invasive Species Removal

Andrew Layer, Programs Manager, Living Lands & Waters

Put on your pants and close-toed shoes for this Riverine Walk and optional invasive species pull. Hear about the history of Living Lands & Waters and learn about the importance of keeping tabs on invasive species in our community. If you'd like to stay for the 'pull', tools, safety glasses, water, sunscreen, bug spray, and music will be provided!

**Meet at: Amowa Forest Preserve - 19500 Hubbard Rd. (IL-5 Frontage Rd.) in East Moline, IL**

## June 11 & 14

### The Cradle of Iowa

Gates Thomas, Professor, Berklee College of Music, Boston, MA

Walk and trace the history of Davenport's East End, from the BlackHawk Treaty, to the First Bridge across the Mississippi, to the industrial engine of the 20th century and beyond. (Walking about 1000 steps.)

**Meet at: West end/rear of the Bittern YMCA parking lot - 630 E. 4th St. in Davenport, IA**

## June 18 & 21

### Land Development & Housing Styles of McClellan Heights Post the Civil War

Matt Johnston, Local McClellan Heights Resident & Historian Hobbyist

Bring your walking shoes and interest in local history for a tour of McClellan Heights. Learn about its post Civil War use, land ownership, the housing development, and some of the architectural styles of homes in the first addition.

**Meet at: Lindsay Park - East of the old fire station by the water fountain and bench near the playground. Park along 11th St. in the Village of East Davenport**

## June 25 & 28

### Finding Moline's Founders

Kirk Marske, Moline Centre Program Manager at Renew Moline

Explore Moline's earliest history, starting at its original commercial district on 3rd Ave and learn why it moved to 5th Ave in the 1900s. Learn about David Sears, John Deere, Porter Skinner, the Wheellocks, and others. (Expect a flat walk of about one mile.)

**Meet at: The Skinner Block Courtyard - 1520 River Dr. in Moline, IL by River House Bar & Grill**

## July 9 & 12

### Hauberg Estate, a Jens Jensen Landscape Restoration

Tuesday: Deb Kuntzi, Executive Director, Hauberg Estate & Molly Tieglund, Docent

Thursday: Todd Linscott, Board Chair FOHCC

The estate represents one of the few complete Jens Jensen garden designs that you can visit in the US. This garden contains all of the hallmarks of the Jensen design aesthetic and is a national treasure.

**Meet at: Hauberg Estate front door - 1300 24th St. in Rock Island, IL**

## July 16 & 19

### A Story of Growing Regeneratively

Ann McGlynn, Executive Director, Tapestry Farms & Alison Niebuhr, Seasonal Farm Manager

Using cover crops, tarping, crop rotation, and other methods, Tapestry Farms seeks to build soil health while feeding the community. Learn about their sustainable farming methods and take a tour of one of their 10 locations. (Some uneven terrain.)

**Meet at: 2005 Main St. in Davenport, IA**

## July 23 & 26

### Histories, Personalities, and Mysteries of Davenport's Oldest Cemetery

Kory Darnall & Coky Powers, Davenport City Cemetery Partnership Board Members

Meet some of Davenport's founding citizens, hear stories of early life (and tragedy!), learn about symbols found in cemeteries and how and why things are done the way they are in cemeteries.

**Meet at: Sexton's Cottage at the cemetery - 1625 Rockingham Rd. in Davenport, IA**

## July 30 & August 2

### Hennepin Canal & The Mississippi - Rock River Confluence

Dr. Norm Moline, Augustana Professor

Confluences, where rivers meet, have unique environments and histories. Enjoy the beauty and stories of the Mississippi-Rock confluence and the adjacent Hennepin Canal by Milan.

**Meet at: Lock 31 Park - 1.3 miles west of US-67 on Big Island Parkway, south of the Rock River**

## August 6 & 9

### Russel Farnham & Farnhamsburg

Gena Schantz, Historian

Adventurer and world traveler Russel Farnham was an early pioneer in Rock Island. Associated with the American Fur Company, his trading post served as the first gathering place, election center, and post office before the county was created. (Bring a chair.)

**Meet at: Schweibert Park - 10117th St. in Rock Island, IL**

## August 13 & 16

### Fish Passage Through Our Lock & Dam, and Other Interesting River Stories

Jeremiah Haas, Aquatic Biologist, Constellation Energy

Jeremiah will discuss how fish are able to traverse our waterways, including through our Lock and Dams. He will also discuss other relevant issues concerning aquatic life in the Mississippi River. There will be time for questions during the walk as he has been working on the fisheries of the Mississippi River for over 25 years.

**Meet at: Parking lot at 3017 River Dr. in Moline, IL**

## August 20 & 23

### Notorious Nahant & Spooky Marsh Tales

Brian Ritter, Executive Director, Nahant Marsh

During the 19th and 20th Centuries, two towns, Rockingham and Nahant, came and went. Learn about the train robberies, mysterious deaths, bandits, and brothels and other mysteries that came with them. (Two miles on gravel trail.)

**Meet at: 4105 Wapello Ave. in Davenport, IA - Rockingham Bottoms Parking Lot at Nahant**

## August 27 & 30

### Wild Abandon: a Native Roots Yard in the City

Rita Rawson, Master Gardener, Master Conservationist, Certified Herbalist

Experience a Native Roots Yard, where nature is thriving in an urban setting. This yard is a certified Monarch Waystation, certified Wildlife Habitat, and certified Pollinator Habitat. Have your plant identification app ready on your phone! (Stairs and uneven ground.)

**Meet at: Please contact River Action for location.**

Questions about locations, terrain, accommodations, or distance?  
Call 563.322.2969 or email [ahamerlinck@riveraction.org](mailto:ahamerlinck@riveraction.org)



# Become a Member and Save!

## \$140 Action Membership

Includes benefits of the Household Membership, plus **two** tickets to a River Action event. (Choose between Ride the Island, Floatzilla, Taming of the Slough, Senior Citizen Golf Cart Tour, or an Explore the River Channel Cat Talk.)

## \$85 Household Membership

Includes benefits of the Individual Membership **plus** discounts on select events.

## \$55 Individual Membership

Includes membership card, 'eddy Magazine' subscription, and **free** Riverine Walks.

## \$30 Student Membership

Includes membership card, 'eddy Magazine' subscription, and **free** Riverine Walks.

**Please return this portion with payment to:**

**River Action  
822 E River Dr.  
Davenport, IA 52803**

Make check payable to River Action or provide credit card info. To purchase a membership or buy tickets online visit [riveraction.org/education](http://riveraction.org/education).

**Sorry, no refunds. Rain Dates Available.  
Questions? Call (563) 322-2969.**

Bee Branch Dubuque \_\_\_\_\_ X \$30/\$25 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Total Channel Cat Talks \_\_\_\_\_ X \$20 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Total Bundle CC Talks \_\_\_\_\_ X \$60 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

CC Talks Season Pass \_\_\_\_\_ X \$200 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Total Riverine Walks \_\_\_\_\_ X \$10/Free = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Membership Type \_\_\_\_\_ = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Total Amount Enclosed/Charged = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Credit Card #: \_\_\_\_\_

Exp. Date: \_\_\_\_\_ CVV: \_\_\_\_\_



**Complete and return this portion with payment or purchase tickets online at [riveraction.org/education](http://riveraction.org/education)**

## Channel Cat Talks

**\$20 Per Session | Tues. & Thurs. 9 - 10:45 a.m.**

**NEW! Season Pass \$200 (Choose 13 Talks)**

**NEW! Bundle Pricing - Buy 3, Get 1 Free**

All Talks take place on the Channel Cat Water Taxi. Space is limited. The boat launches from Riverbend Commons, located at: **2951 River Drive, Moline, IL 61265**

### Inside Pitch

May 27 (Tues. only)

### Lock & Dam for Kids!

May 29 (Thurs. only)

### Paddle Amazon

June 3

June 5

### Raptors

June 10

June 12

### RiverCurrents Tour

June 17

June 19

### Fish & Wildlife

June 24

June 26

### WEDG

July 8

July 10

### About Channel Cat

July 15

July 17

### Pool 15

July 22

July 24

### Bix & Friends

July 29

July 31

### Living Lands & Waters

August 5

August 7

### Coast Guard

August 12

August 14

### Water Quality

August 19

August 21

### Gongoozling w/USACE

August 26

August 28

## Riverine Walks

**\$10 Per Session / FREE for River Action Members**

**Wed. Walks: 6:30 - 8 p.m. | Sat. Walks: 9 - 10:30 a.m.**

All Riverine Walks take place at the specified meeting location noted at the bottom of the session descriptions on back.

### Agriculture

May 28 (Weds. only)

### Ballpark Tour

May 31 (Sat. only)

### Amowa

June 4

June 7

### Cradle of Iowa

June 11

June 14

### McClellan Heights

June 18

June 21

### Moline's Founders

June 25

June 28

### Hauberg Estate

July 9

July 12

### Tapestry Farms

July 16

July 19

### Cemetery

July 23

July 26

### Confluence

July 30

August 2

### Farnhamsburg

August 6

August 9

### Fish Journeys

August 13

August 16

### Nahant Marsh

August 20

August 23

### Native Roots

August 27

August 30

## Bee Branch Day Tour

**\$30 / \$25 for Members | Bring Snacks!**

**Departs at 8:30 a.m. from the River Action office:**

**822 E. River Drive in Davenport, IA**

July 11 | 8:30 a.m. - 1 p.m.

