

#### **Whiterock Conservancy**

is a 5,500 acre non-profit land trust that balances sustainable agriculture, natural resource protection, and public recreation on the landscape. Stretching along a seven-mile section of the Middle Raccoon River valley, the Conservancy offers 40+ miles of hiking, mountain biking, and equestrian trails, paddling opportunities beneath sandstone cliffs, and epic star parties. Spend the night at one of the campsites or Airbnb's and experience Iowa's darkest skies.

Whiterock Conservancy's mission is to improve the condition of our conservation land through appropriate land management, demonstrate sustainable farming methods, and provide educational and recreational opportunities for our visitors.

# Celebrating 20 Years of Whiterock Conservancy!

In 2004, the Garst Family made one of the largest land gifts in Iowa's history to form Whiterock Conservancy. For 20 years, Whiterock Conservancy has been a leader in Iowa for ecological restoration, sustainable agriculture, educational programming and outdoor recreation opportunities. Whiterock Conservancy is a 5,500 acre, nonprofit land trust offering a variety of opportunities including: a variety of camping and lodging experiences, art and music, unique geological features and the Historic Garst Farmhouse, listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

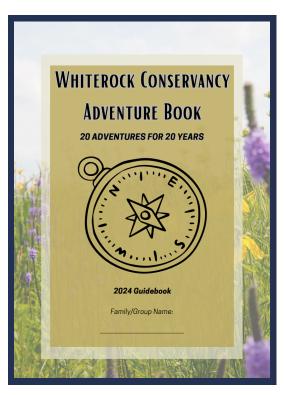
Whiterock Conservancy is honoring their 20th Anniversary with a 20 Adventures for 20 Years Activity Guide with special events happening all year long. You can pick your activity guide up at the Bur Oak Visitor Center! Here are just a few of the exciting opportunities for you, your family and friends to look forward to at Whiterock. Join us for an incredible year-long celebration of one of Iowa's greatest treasures:

January 27th - History Talk with Liz Garst April 20th: Raptor Program (Live Birds) June: Art Expo of Local Iowa Artists August 24th: Monarch Tagging

October 5th: WRC Anniversary Celebration (SAVE THE DATE)

For more information about Whiterock Conservancy, a full list of events or to print your own 20 Adventures for 20 Years Activity Guide, please visit www.whiterockconservancy.org or like us on Facebook for current updates on events and projects.

On behalf of the Whiterock Conservancy Board of Directors, along with Executive Director Kate Zimmerman and all of the Whiterock staff, we would like to thank you for your continued support of our organization and we look forward to providing another 20 years of leadership in Iowa!



### 20 adventures for 20 years

Whiterock Conservancy is excited to announce a 20th anniversary adventure booklet to help you experience the beautiful and diverse landscapes Whiterock has to offer.

From January 1st-December 31st (2024), you can experience an adventure like nothing else in Iowa.

Be sure to take photos of your quests, share them with our staff at the Bur Oak Visitor Center, and earn stamps for your adventure guide.

Once you have completed your booklet, please turn it in to a Whiterock team member to receive a 20th Anniversary Whiterock Conservancy t-shirt (while supplies last). Your name will also be entered into a drawing to win a 2-night stay at Hollyhock Cottage.



#### **Whiterock Wishlist:**

There is an additional way to help Whiterock Conservancy achieve our goals for 2024! Please consider donating an item from our wishlist.

- Art supplies: markers, crayons, safety scissors, glue sticks and construction paper.
- Commercial grade fire pits for our campgrounds.
- •Locking, fireproof, 4 drawer (legal sized) filing cabinet for the Bur Oak Visitor Center.
- Personal Protective Equipment for our land team volunteers including chaps, gloves and safety goggles.
- Nomex burn pants and shirts

Please bring or ship items to the Bur Oak Visitor Center:

1436 Highway 141, Coon Rapids, IA 50058

A full list of items can be found on our website: www.whiterockconservancy.org

# With the help of your generous financial support, Whiterock Conservancy was able to complete several projects this year!



Beautiful new dock at Garst Home Pond.



New cover crop mix following the rye harvest



Energy efficient updates to several of our guest rentals, as well as adding cable and wifi.





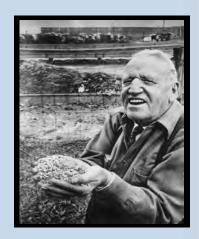


#### 65th Anniversary of Khruschev's Famous Visit

Whiterock Conservancy is now offering historic tours of the Garst Home Farm.

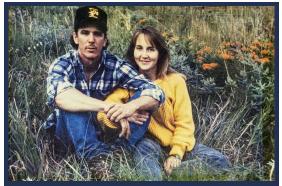
Free Tours: 1st Saturday of every month 1pm-3pm beginning February 3rd, 2024.

Please Call (712) 790-8221 x1 to schedule group tours.





## WHY I GIVE....



Welcome to the "Why I Give" section of our quarterly newsletter. Each newsletter will feature a new donor(s) and why they support and contribute their time, talent, and treasure to Whiterock Conservancy.

Jon Judson and Kay Neumann live locally near Whiterock Conservancy and have been long-time supporters of the organization since its inception, both financially and through volunteer opportunities. "We have had a long-term commitment to our natural resources, and we are pleased to support Whiterock Conservancy in their similarly important vision"

Jon, owner and operator of Diversity Farms, has planted many acres of Whiterock land with his native prairie seed and continues to collaborate with Whiterock on restoration efforts. Kay, founder of Save our Avian Resources, has provided countless educational opportunities and partnered with Whiterock on numerous projects including the osprey hack tower.

Whiterock Conservancy's partnerships and local connections with Jon and Kay are a vital resource that provide valuable knowledge and support.

When asked why they continue to support and donate to Whiterock Conservancy, Jon stated, "We fully appreciate the clean water, healthy soils and abundant wildlife that the land in Whiterock Conservancy supports."

Thank you, Jon and Kay, for your ongoing generosity, support and kindness! Whiterock Conservancy continues to grow and thrive because of dedicated and passionate donors and volunteers like you!



Jon Judson and Kay Neumann Pictured in 1987 and today



#### **Donate**

Your gift is extremely important to our work at Whiterock. Donations provide resources that make an immediate impact – whether you make your commitment annually, as a monthly sustaining gift, or to honor a loved one with a tribute or memorial gift.



SCAN TO DONATE

#### **Online**

WhiterockConservancy.org/donate

#### **By Mail**

Make your contribution payable to Whiterock Conservancy, and mail to the following address:

> Whiterock Conservancy 1436 Highway 141 Coon Rapids, IA 50058

#### **By Phone**

(712)-790-8221 ext. 2

#### **Whiterock Conservancy Staff**:

**Executive Director: Kate Zimmerman** 

Accountant: LuAnn Carlson

Administrative Assistant: Cassie Wendl

Dir. of Marketing/Guest Services: Misty Conrad

**Facilities Coordinator: James Johnston** 

Housekeeping: Brandi Perry

Housekeeping: Brenda Meyer

Housekeeping: Debbie Davis

Land Programs Manager: Tyler Bruck

Land Operations Manager: Matt Reiling

**Land Facilities Staff: Dave Burmeister** 

#### WhiterockConservancy.org/event-calendar

