



NATIVE PRAIRIE [www.co.cerro-gordo.ia.us](http://www.co.cerro-gordo.ia.us)

## Recreational Experiences Close to Home!

### **Blazingstar Prairie**-16747 180th St.

Purchased in 1991 using REAP dollars. Used as a pasture this area has never had the soil surface broken up. Managed with fire and mowing to promote prairie plants and discourage woody and weed growth. Common plants include Rough and Prairie Blazingstar, Compass Plant, Gray-headed Coneflower, Wild Bergamot, Big Bluestem and Indiangrass.

### **Haugen Wildlife Area**-22151 Apple Ave.

Purchased in 1979. The majority of the native prairie vegetation is located on the north side of the area. Due to the high moisture content of this area, the prairie at Haugen is considered a mesic plant community. Common plants include Prairie Cordgrass, Big Bluestem, Indiangrass, Compass Plant, asters, sunflowers, lobelias, and gentians.

### **Limestone Prairie Preserve**-24928 225th St.

Acquired from the Cerro Gordo and Floyd County Engineers in 1997. Even with prior use as a quarry many native prairie plants were able to survive and this site contains remnants of both dry and wet plant communities. Common plants include Pale Purple Coneflower, Little Bluestem, Gray-headed Coneflower, and Sideoats Grama.

### **Walch Wildlife Area**-10811 190th St.

Purchased in 1990 using funds from Iowa Habitat stamps, Ducks Unlimited, Pheasants Forever, Iowa Natural Heritage Foundation and REAP. Since this prairie pot-hole landform was never tilled, fire has been the main tool used to restore the prairie vegetation. Common plants include Wild Bergamot, Goldenrod, Ground Cherry, False Gromwell, Big Bluestem, Little Bluestem, Indiangrass, Sideoats Grama, Canada Anemone and Swamp Milkweed.



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### **Wilkinson Pioneer Park**-21425 Vine Ave.

Donated in 1960. The south end contains one of the most diverse native prairies in the county. Common plants include Butterfly Milkweed, Sideoats Grama, Rough and Prairie Blazingstar, Little Bluestem, asters, Big Bluestem, Pale Purple Coneflower.

