

Membership Benefits

- ❖ Tax deductible membership
- ❖ Free DeSoto NWR Annual Pass with 25 Completed Volunteer Hours (\$15 Value)
- ❖ Quarterly Newsletter
- ❖ Opportunities to assist refuge staff with special and ongoing projects
- ❖ Volunteer dinners and gatherings
- ❖ 10% Discount at the **Eagle Emporium** DeSoto NWR Visitor Center

***Friends of Boyer Chute & DeSoto NWR-
Membership Application***

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Phone # _____

Email _____

Membership Levels

Annual Individual/Family - \$20.00

Annual Corporate - \$250.00

Life - \$500.00

Gift-Please provide your name as the donor

Please make check payable to:

Friends of Boyer Chute & DeSoto NWR

Mail To:

Friends of Boyer Chute & DeSoto NWR
PO Box 73
Fort Calhoun, NE 68023

Friends of Boyer Chute & DeSoto

National Wildlife Refuges

Non Profit Corporation



www.friendsofboyerdesoto.org

Friends of Boyer Chute & DeSoto National Wildlife Refuges

**A non-profit corporation started
in February of 2003.**

Mission

To support the Boyer Chute and DeSoto National Wildlife Refuges in their efforts to preserve, protect, and restore the biological diversity and historical resources of the Refuges, while providing the opportunity for wildlife oriented activities, education and scientific research.

Goals

- To provide awareness and education to residents of the surrounding communities about Boyer Chute and DeSoto NWR.
- To provide volunteers and support to the refuge staff with environmental, educational and wildlife oriented projects.
- To raise funds for special refuge projects.

Friends Groups are:

- Advocates for a local refuge and the National Wildlife Refuge System.
- Formal organizations designed to support the mission of a refuge(s).
- Private, independent organizations formed and managed by local citizens.

What Can “Friends” do to Help?

- ❖ **Volunteer for projects to improve refuge resources.**
- ❖ **Raise public awareness and interest in a refuge by:**
 - Offering educational programs and festivals,
 - Writing letters to publications; and participating in community meetings.
 - Increasing awareness among U. S. Senators and Representatives,
 - Voting for legislation that supports the refuge system and its natural resources,
 - Raising funds to support refuge projects and programs,
 - Joining the National Wildlife Refuge Association.

DeSoto National Wildlife Refuge was established astride the Missouri River, in both Iowa and Nebraska, to provide habitat for migratory birds, protect natural resources, conserve endangered species, and offer compatible fish and wildlife dependant recreation. DeSoto NWR consists of 7,823 acres in a variety of habitats including woodland, permanent and seasonal wetlands, native prairie and croplands. This diversity of habitats supports an abundance of migratory bird species and resident plants, mammals, reptiles, amphibians and bird species. DeSoto NWR is also home for the Civil War-era steamboat Bertrand that sank on the Missouri River in 1865 on what is now the Refuge. The more than 200,000 artifacts salvaged from the boat are on display at the Refuge's Visitor Center after being buried for more than 100 years.

Boyer Chute National Wildlife Refuge is located in Nebraska and originally was an island of sand and sediments deposited by the Boyer River. Gradually the Missouri River eroded channels (chutes) through this sediment. One of the major channels was Boyer Chute, named for a settler who hunted and trapped in the watershed prior to 1804. The Refuge is a joint Federal and local conservation partnership designed to restore a portion of the Missouri River habitat that flows through the 2½-mile long chute and parallels the main flow of the Missouri River. Boyer Chute NWR consists of approximately 4040 acres of riparian woodland, tall grass prairie, and palustrine and riverine wetlands, which are the major wildlife habitats that are being restored and protected. These habitats benefit Missouri River fishes, migratory birds, endangered species, and wildlife.