



FRIENDS OF LAKE DARLING STATE PARK

MEDIA RELEASE – for immediate release

The Lake Darling State Park Early Reopening Ribbon Cutting and a BYO Basket Picnic will follow on Thursday, July 24, 2014 at 1:30 pm, at the Park. Lake Darling will open to the public on this date. Please be mindful of construction crews completing finishing touches, drive slowly, they have the right-of-way.

In a jam packed informal ceremony near the park entrance area Chambers of Commerce and Ambassadors will assist the Friends of Lake Darling in the Ribbon Cutting; Max-Cast's Doris Park and Steve Maxon will unveil an Iowa Arts Council supported bronze bust of "Ding" Darling; the Brighton Chamber will present Iowa DOT approved "Ding" Darling Highway naming of Highway 78; Sam Koltinsky will bestow the Darling "Brush of Excellence" to the Friends of Lake Darling.

Proceeding to the new 200 person capacity open picnic shelter, near the first new boat ramp, an inaugural picnic will celebrate the sparkling waters of the newly restored Lake Darling graced by new roads and amenities. For those who don't have time to pack a picnic basket, Washington Hy-Vee will serve grilled brats and hotdogs with side and drink for \$5.00 from 2-4 pm, with a portion of proceeds going to the Friends Cabins Project. Come, relax and get re-acquainted.

Campers may proceed to the campground on a first come basis.
Complimentary boat rides will be given by DNR staff.
Lake Darling Boat Works will have a pontoon christening and maiden voyage of their new "Little Darling."

Watch for last minute construction detours, staff will guide us. Car-pooling is recommended.

Wednesday September 17, 2014 the DNR will hold the official Grand Rededication of Lake Darling State Park program at 1:30 pm at Lake Darling Legacy Lodge.

The Four-Season Cabins Project is scheduled to be built late 2014 – early 2015. Watch for the future ADA Cabins ground breaking ceremony date.

"Darling is Back!"

Dr. Fay Vittetoe, President, Friends of Lake Darling Park
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