

## For Immediate Release

Wednesday, September 28, 2011

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Woodbury County Conservation Board  
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### **Campground to Close for Season**

***Salix, IA -- Woodbury County Conservation Board has announced that Bigelow Park/Brown's Lake campground will close for the season on Monday, October 3, 2011. The early closure will accommodate the start of construction on a new Comfort Station/Tornado Safe Room facility. Construction is expected to be completed in time for opening of park facilities on May 1, 2012.***

***The new facility will feature a modern floor plan including family restroom/shower facilities, individual shower rooms, men's and women's restrooms and shower facilities, mechanical rooms, and a central breezeway public area. All areas except the mechanical rooms will be used as tornado shelter space, designed to accommodate 178 persons during storm events. The facility will replace an existing structure built in 1974 and scheduled for replacement. To qualify as a Tornado Safe Room, plans and specifications had to meet stringent FEMA 361 Guidelines.***

***Grant funds from the Land and Water Conservation Fund and Hazard Mitigation Grant Program will be used to construct the facility along with local Resource Enhancement and Protection funds and camping fees. H & R Construction of South Sioux City, Nebraska has been awarded a contract for the \$619,000 project.***

***The Conservation Department plans to renovate the campsites during the closure with all improvements completed by next spring. A severe storm struck the campground June 20, 2011 causing significant damage to the area and reinforcing the need for a storm shelter.***