



IOWA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

EcoNewsWire

Environmental Services

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

August 3, 2017

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Air and water quality on August EPC agenda

MEDIA CONTACT: Alex Murphy at 515-725-8219 or Alex.Murphy@dnr.iowa.gov.

WINDSOR HEIGHTS –Commissioners will be asked to approve a plan to meet air quality goals, several contracts and two wastewater general permits at the Aug. 15 meeting of the Environmental Protection Commission.

Reduced lead emissions in the Council Bluffs area have improved air quality. Three years of air quality monitoring show that lead levels in the air now meet federal requirements. If commissioners approve a maintenance plan, the state can request the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency redesignate the area to attainment.

Commissioners will also be asked to approve renewal of general permits for storm water and private sewage disposal systems, extending their coverage for another five years.

The meeting begins at 10 a.m. at DNR's Air Quality Bureau, 7900 Hickman Road in Windsor Heights. It is open to the public with public comments following the monthly reports. People may also submit written comments to the commission before the meeting. Send comments by mail or email to Jerah Sheets, Jerah.Sheets@dnr.iowa.gov.

Appointments are scheduled at 11 a.m. and 11:30 a.m. to consider referrals to the Attorney General for Joel Thys in Benton County and Aaron Rochester in Woodbury County, respectively.

The complete agenda follows:

- Oath of Office
- Approval of Minutes
- Monthly Reports

- Public Participation
- Director's Remarks
- State Implementation Plan Revision for Lead in Council Bluffs
- Amendment to a Contract with the University of Iowa for Floodplain Mapping Updates and Maintenance
- Contract Amendment #1 to an existing contract (17ESDLQBSRALS-999) with Stantec Consulting Services, Inc. for Program Management (PM) and Community Engagement & Risk Communication (CERC) Flood Plain Mapping Services
- Contract Amendment #1 to existing contracts (17ESDLQBSRALS-0001 through 0004) with Four Pre-Qualified Companies for Flood Plain Mapping Services
- Notice of Intended Action – Chapter 64 – Renewal of Storm Water General Permits
- Notice of Intended Action – Chapter 64 – Renewal of Private Sewage Disposal System General Permit 4
- Solid Waste Environmental Management System Program's Grant Award Criteria-Update
- Referral to the Attorney General - Joel Thys due to asbestos National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants (NESHAP), open burning, and solid waste violations – Benton County
- Referral to the Attorney General - Mr. Aaron Rochester, owner of Siouxland P.C. and Electronic Recycling, L.L.C. d/b/a Recycletronics - Disabled Vets at Work (Recycletronics) for open dumping of Cathode Ray Tubes (CRT) and other electronic waste in violation of Iowa solid waste regulations and for failure to comply with the repayment obligations of a DNR Solid Waste Alternatives Program (SWAP) loan issued – Woodbury County
- General Discussion
- Items for Next Month's Meeting
- Sept. 18 – EPC Education Tour – Adams County
- Sept. 19 – EPC Business Meeting – Adams County
- Oct. 17 – EPC Business Meeting – Altoona, Iowa

The complete [agenda and item briefs](#) are available on the DNR website.

Commissioners include Chad Ingels, Randalia, chair; Ralph Lents, Menlo, vice chair; Joe Riding, Altoona, secretary; Mary Boote, Des Moines; Nancy Couser, Nevada; Howard Hill, Cambridge; Barbara Hovland, Mason City; Rebecca Guinn, Bettendorf; and Bob Sinclair, Sigourney. Chuck Gipp is the director of the DNR.

DNR Derelict Building Grant Program awards funds to 18 rural communities

MEDIA CONTACT: Scott Flagg, 515-725-8318 or Scott.Flagg@dnr.iowa.gov.

DES MOINES – The DNR Derelict Building Grant Program will award grants to 18 small, rural Iowa communities to help deconstruct or renovate abandoned structures, remove asbestos and limit construction and demolition materials going to the landfill.

The DNR Derelict Building Grant Program was instituted by statute to help rural communities with populations of 5,000 or less. DBGP funding is awarded annually on a competitive basis with cash matches required. Applications for the next funding round will be due on April 4, 2018.

The following projects will receive a total of \$350,000 as reimbursement grants:

City of Camanche — \$6,495 to perform an asbestos inspection, remove asbestos and complete a Phase I Site Assessment on an abandoned commercial building.

City of Carlisle — \$6,692 to complete deconstruction activities on abandoned commercial building. Site will be developed for a park and bike space.

City of Davis City — \$5,325 to perform an asbestos inspection, phase I and phase II environmental site assessment for an abandoned service station.

City of Dundee — \$10,000 to remove asbestos from an abandoned commercial building.

City of Harris — \$7,500 to remove asbestos from an abandoned commercial building.

City of Ida Grove — \$7,350 for renovation activities. The city plans to renovate the building and provide a multi-purpose theater focused on family entertainment.

La Porte City — \$31,660 to complete an asbestos inspection and abatement and deconstruction at an abandoned commercial building. City plans to prepare site for a new public meeting space and host the local farmers market.

City of Letts — \$37,500 for deconstruction of an abandoned commercial building. City plans to develop a new park space.

City of Lockridge — \$50,000 to deconstruct the abandoned school building. The city plans to build six senior housing units to expand senior housing options in town.

City of Merrill— \$20,000 to deconstruct an abandoned commercial building. The city plans to develop the site into a community meeting space and events area.

City of Middletown— \$34,995 to abate asbestos from an abandoned school building. The city plans to deconstruct the building in the future and develop the site into a subdivision.

City of Osceola— \$60,000 to abate asbestos and renovate an abandoned commercial building. The city plans to market the site for commercial development.

City of Preston— \$18,567 to renovate an abandoned commercial building. City plans to develop the site into a business incubator to promote small, local businesses.

City of Rembrandt— \$6,456 to abate asbestos from three abandoned commercial buildings. City plans to develop site into a green space and memorial for deceased service men and women.

City of Tabor — \$26,600 to deconstruct two abandoned commercial buildings. City plans to build a new public library on site.

City of Wayland — \$6,000 to abate asbestos from two abandoned commercial buildings. City is planning on removing the buildings in the future.

Floyd Township — \$4,800 to deconstruct and abandoned commercial building. City plans to market site for future development.

Monroe County — \$10,000 to abate asbestos from an abandoned commercial building in Albia. The county is planning on removing the building in the future.

For more information about the grant program, application forms and resources, visit: www.iowadnr.gov/Environment/LandStewardship/WasteManagement/DerelictBuildingProgram.aspx.

DNR holding public hearings on updates to wasteload allocation procedure document and E. coli water quality standards

MEDIA CONTACT: Matthew Dvorak, DNR, 515-725-8397
or matthew.dvorak@dnr.iowa.gov.

DES MOINES – The DNR is holding public hearings across the state to gather input on proposed updates to surface water quality standards.

The proposed rule aims to clarify and update procedures for technical methodologies used by the DNR to develop wastewater discharge permit limits to meet water quality criteria. The revision would also provide more flexibility for facilities seeking to use alternative permitting options.

In addition, the proposed rule would update water quality criteria for E. coli by eliminating the existing single sample maximum value. The DNR has determined that the single sample maximum value is not an appropriate tool for water quality assessment and permitting purposes. The geometric mean E. coli value will be retained as it is the more appropriate measure and is protective of recreational activity in Iowa's waters.

The DNR will host three public hearings throughout Iowa to hear comments on this rule proposal. Any interested person is welcome to attend. Meetings will be held as follows, listed by town:

Washington: Sept. 5, 4 p.m., State Bank Room, Washington Public Library, 115 West Washington St.

Urbandale: Sept. 6, 4 p.m., Meeting Room B, Urbandale Public Library, 3520 86th St.

Harlan: Sept. 7, 4 p.m., Harlan Community Library, 718 Court Street

People may make oral or written comments at any of the public hearings. Written comments will also be accepted through Sept. 8. Send written comments to: Matthew Dvorak, Iowa Department of Natural Resources, 502 E. Ninth St., Des Moines, IA 50319-0034; or by e-mail to matthew.dvorak@dnr.iowa.gov.

To view documents associated with this rulemaking, refer to links posted at the bottom of the DNR's wasteload allocation web page at <http://www.iowadnr.gov/Environmental-Protection/Water-Quality/Wasteload-Allocations>.

DNR enforcement actions

MEDIA CONTACT: Ed Tormey, DNR, at 515-725-8373 or Ed.Tormey@dnr.iowa.gov.

DES MOINES – DNR staff work with individuals, businesses and communities to help them protect our natural resources by complying with state and federal laws. This approach is very effective. In the few cases where compliance cannot be achieved, the DNR issues enforcement actions. The following list summarizes recent enforcement actions. Find the entire, original orders on DNR's website at www.iowadnr.gov/InsideDNR/AboutDNR/EnforcementActions.aspx.

Consent Orders

A consent order is issued as an alternative to issuing an administrative order. A consent order indicates that the DNR has voluntarily entered into a legally enforceable agreement with the other party.

Jackson County

City of St. Donatus

Consent Amendment to Administrative Order 2016-WW-23

Amend compliance schedule for wastewater treatment facility improvements.

Administrative Orders

Responsible parties have 30 days to appeal the order or 60 days to pay the penalty.

Cass County

Recycling Services, LLC.

Conduct site assessment and remediation as necessary, properly dispose of all remaining solid waste and contaminated soil and pay \$7,000 penalty.