



IOWA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

EcoNewsWire

Environmental Services

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

February 8, 2018

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EPC meeting scheduled for Feb. 20 in Windsor Heights

MEDIA CONTACT: Jerah Sheets at 515-313-8909 or Jerah.Sheets@dnr.iowa.gov.

WINDSOR HEIGHTS--The Environmental Protection Commission will meet Feb. 20 in Windsor Heights to hear updates on Environmental Management Systems grant awards, air quality rules, and contracts for watershed improvement projects.

The meeting begins at 10 a.m. at DNR Field Office 5, Suite 200 at 7900 Hickman Road.

The complete agenda follows:

- Approval of Agenda
- Approval of the Minutes
- Monthly Reports
- Public Participation
- Director's Remarks
- Environmental Management Systems Grant Award Recommendation
- Final Rules: Air Quality Regulatory Certainty Rules Part 2 - Chapters 20, 22, 23, 25, 30, 33 and 34
- Iowa State University Contract
- Iowa State University Contract
- Demand for Hearing Humboldt
- Contracts with IDALS for Lake Geode and Price Creek Watershed Projects
- Referral to the Attorney General – Deere & Company
- General Discussion
- Items for Next Month's Meeting

- Tuesday, March 20, 2018 – EPC Business Meeting – Windsor Heights
- Monday, April 16, 2018 – Educational Tour – Adams County
- Tuesday, April 17, 2018 – EPC Business Meeting – Adams County

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.

Deadline extended for Iowans to comment on water quality standards goals for streams, rivers

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

DES MOINES — The DNR is extending the submission deadline for comments on water quality standards in Iowa to March 30.

The DNR wants to know Iowans' thoughts on improving the state's water quality goals as the DNR conducts its every-three-years review of water quality standards.

For additional information on the state's water quality standards and the triennial review process, please visit the DNR's water quality standards webpage at: <http://www.iowadnr.gov/Environmental-Protection/Water-Quality/Water-Quality-Standards>.

The public can submit written comments to Matthew Dvorak, Iowa Department of Natural Resources, [502 E. Ninth St., Des Moines, IA 50319](#), or by email at matthew.dvorak@dnr.iowa.gov.

Derelict Building Grant applications due April 4

DNR Contact: Scott Flagg, 515-725-8318 or Scott.Flagg@dnr.iowa.gov.

DES MOINES – The next round of funding for the 2018 Derelict Building Grant Program is open for applications through April 4 at 4 p.m.

The grant program was instituted by state legislation to help rural communities with populations of 5,000 or less to deconstruct or renovate abandoned commercial and public structures.

The program emphasizes reuse and recycling of building items, helps improve street appearance and commercial development, and alleviates the environmental concern these

buildings can pose. Financial assistance includes asbestos removal, building deconstruction and renovation, and other environmental services.

Funding is awarded annually on a competitive basis. A committee from the Iowa DNR, Iowa Society of Solid Waste Operations, Iowa Recycling Association, Iowa Economic Development Authority and Keep Iowa Beautiful selects the projects for funding. For more information and to obtain an application on the Derelict Building Grant Program, contact Scott Flagg at 515-725-8318 or Scott.Flagg@dnr.iowa.gov.

Livestock master matrix adopted in 89 counties

MEDIA CONTACTS: Kelli Book at 515-725-9572 or Kelli.Book@dnr.iowa.gov.

DES MOINES – In January, 89 of 99 Iowa counties notified DNR that they plan to evaluate construction permit applications and proposed locations for animal confinements by using the master matrix.

With 10 exceptions, all counties will use the matrix during the next 12 months. The following counties will not use the matrix in 2018: Davis, Des Moines, Keokuk, Lee, Mahaska, Osceola, Plymouth, Wapello, Warren and Washington.

Animal producers in these counties must meet more requirements than other confinement producers who need a construction permit. Producers qualify by choosing a site and using practices that reduce impacts on air, water and the community.

Counties that adopt the master matrix can provide more input to producers on site selection, and proposed structures and facility management. Participating counties score each master matrix submitted in their county and can recommend to approve or deny the construction permit. They can also join in DNR visits to a proposed confinement site.

While all counties may submit comments to DNR during the permitting process, counties that adopt the master matrix can also appeal a preliminary permit to the state Environmental Protection Commission.

The deadline for enrolling in the program is Jan. 31 of each year.

Find more information, including a map of participating counties by searching for Master Matrix at www.iowadnr.gov/afo or directly on the [master matrix](#) web page.

The master matrix applies to producers who must get a construction permit to build, expand or modify a totally roofed facility. Generally, these are confinement feeding operations with at least 2,500 finishing hogs, 1,000 beef cattle or 715 mature dairy cows.

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/EnforcementActions.

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.

Calhoun County

Ryan Kent

Operate and maintain all animal feeding operation structures in compliance with DNR rules and pay \$3,000 penalty.