



IOWA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

# EcoNewsWire

## Environmental Services

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
Dec. 13, 2018

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## Time to start pre-application process for DNR grants to help improve local lakes, rivers and streams

**MEDIA CONTACT:** Steve Konrady, DNR Watershed Improvement, at 515-725-8388 or [Steven.Konrady@dnr.iowa.gov](mailto:Steven.Konrady@dnr.iowa.gov).

DES MOINES — The DNR is now accepting pre-application questionnaires for grant funding that helps locally-led groups develop water quality improvement efforts in Iowa communities.

Offered by the DNR's Watershed Improvement Program, Watershed Planning Grants help local groups passionate about improving water quality create a nine-element Watershed Management Plan, which identifies problems in the watershed and proposes solutions for better water quality. Making changes in the watershed (the land that drains to a lake, river or stream) can reduce pollution reaching our waters.

Those selected through the pre-application process will then be invited to apply for grant funding to perform a U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Nine-element Watershed Planning process, funded by EPA Clean Water Act Section 319 grants to the Iowa DNR Watershed Improvement Section.

“With the pre-application process, we’re looking to learn more about groups’ vision for water quality and identify applicants that are motivated and able to complete a nine-element watershed plan,” said Steve Konrady, who coordinates DNR Watershed Improvement grants. “We want to help Iowans put their plans in action.”

The pre-application period remains open until close of business on Feb. 28. Pre-application documents are available at [www.iowadnr.gov/watershed](http://www.iowadnr.gov/watershed). Questions may be

directed to Steve Konrady at 515-725-8388 or [Steven.Konrady@dnr.iowa.gov](mailto:Steven.Konrady@dnr.iowa.gov).

Planning grants will likely be awarded to successful pre-applicants by June 30, 2019.

The Section 319 program of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency provides DNR funding for nonpoint pollution programs, including Watershed Planning Grants.

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## Counties must sign up soon to evaluate animal confinement sites

**MEDIA CONTACT: Kelli Book at 515-725-9572 or [Kelli.Book@dnr.iowa.gov](mailto:Kelli.Book@dnr.iowa.gov).**

DES MOINES – Counties interested in evaluating construction permits for proposed animal feeding facilities must adopt a construction evaluation resolution and submit the resolution to DNR between Jan. 1 and 31.

On average, 88 counties pass a resolution each year, which allows them to review construction permit applications required for larger totally roofed animal feeding operations (confinements).

Producers in counties that file the resolutions must meet higher standards for a construction permit than sites in other counties. They must earn points on a master matrix by choosing a site and using practices that reduce effects on the environment and the community.

The Master Matrix development, submittal and approval process allows applicants and county supervisors to discuss options for site selection, facility type and management. The county submits a recommendation to the DNR on the permit application after reviewing the master matrix items the applicant selected.

Counties that participate in the master matrix process may accompany DNR on site visits to proposed locations. The county board of supervisors may also appeal the DNR's preliminary approval of a permit to the Environmental Protection Commission.

County boards of supervisors may approve the resolutions at any time, but must submit resolutions between Jan. 1 and 31, 2019. Send resolutions to Kelli Book at DNR, 502 E. Ninth St., Des Moines, IA 50319, email to [Kelli.Book@dnr.iowa.gov](mailto:Kelli.Book@dnr.iowa.gov) or fax to 515-725-8201. Sign-ups in January apply to permit applications received from February 2019 through January 2020.

For historical information on counties that adopted resolutions, check the DNR website at [www.iowadnr.gov/afo](http://www.iowadnr.gov/afo) and search for [master matrix](#).

More information is available from the Iowa State Association of Counties at [www.iowacounties.org](http://www.iowacounties.org).

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# Update on air quality online permit application system

**MEDIA CONTACT:** Marnie Stein at [Marnie.Stein@dnr.iowa.gov](mailto:Marnie.Stein@dnr.iowa.gov) or 515-725-9555.

DES MOINES – Work is proceeding on a more efficient online application system to submit and track air quality permit applications.

Expected to be online by Dec. 1, 2019, the Iowa Environmental Application System, or [IowaEASY Air](#), aims to save businesses time and money when they apply to DNR for an air permit. The system will replace outdated software that is seldom used.

Additional information: <https://www.iowadnr.gov/About-DNR/DNR-News-Releases/ArticleID/2191/Online-Permit-Application-System-Gets-New-Name>

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## Air Quality permits under review

**MEDIA CONTACT:** Lori Hanson, DNR, at 515-725-9525 or [Lori.Hanson@dnr.iowa.gov](mailto:Lori.Hanson@dnr.iowa.gov) for Title V permits; or Sarah Piziali, DNR, at 515-725-9549 or [Sarah.Piziali@dnr.iowa.gov](mailto:Sarah.Piziali@dnr.iowa.gov) for construction permits.

DES MOINES – The DNR Air Quality Bureau has the following draft permits up for review. The permits help protect Iowans' health and the air where we live. DNR's permitting staff review the applications to ensure facilities comply with state and federal air quality standards. The public has the right and is encouraged to comment on draft permits. DNR considers [public comments](#) before finalizing the permits. Submit comments in writing to the assigned permit writer before 4:30 p.m. on the last day of the public comment period.

### Construction Permits

DNR engineers review and issue construction permits to facilities before they build new or modified sources of air pollution. The public may review the following air quality construction permits available online at [www.iowadnr.gov/airpermitsearch](http://www.iowadnr.gov/airpermitsearch).

#### Black Hawk County

John Deere Foundry – 2000 Westfield Ave, Waterloo.

Project No. 18-298, Adding core wash units to existing permits.

The public comment period ends January 13, 2019.

#### Muscatine County

SSAB Iowa, 1770 Bill Sharp Blvd., Muscatine.

Project No. 18-405, Modification of permit for existing ladle dryer.

Public comment period ends January 11, 2019.

#### Wapello County

Interstate Power & Light – Ottumwa Generating Station, 20775 Power Plant Rd, Ottumwa.

Project No. 18-206, Permit amendments to amend operating limit requirements and

update language from 2015 consent decree.

Public comment goes from December 14, 2018 – January 14, 2019 and requests for a public hearing must be submitted by December 28, 2018.

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## DNR Enforcement Actions

**MEDIA CONTACT:** Kelli Book, DNR, at 515-725-9572 or [Kelli.Book@dnr.iowa.gov](mailto:Kelli.Book@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](http://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.

### Iowa County

Thomas Scott Dodge and Ronald Schintler

Remove waste tires as scheduled and no additional tires stored on the property.

### Administrative Orders

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

### Poweshiek County

Todd Van Middendorp