



IOWA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

EcoNewsWire

Environmental Services

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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DNR Derelict Building Grant Program makes awards to 13 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 13 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 Feb. 20, 2020.

The following projects will receive a total of \$396,864 as reimbursement grants:

City of Afton — \$31,403 to abate asbestos and deconstruct commercial building. City plans for a new community social center that will feature Wi-Fi for locals to use for gaming and access to the internet.

City of Aurelia — \$18,000 to abate asbestos and complete deconstruction activities on the old creamery. City plans to construct a new fire and emergency management station.

City of Eagle Grove — \$21,500 to inspect and abate asbestos and deconstruct the old water plant building. City plans to use the space as a small business incubator and co-working space.

City of Elma — \$71,375 to inspect and abate asbestos and deconstruct the abandoned school building. The city plans to redevelop site to feature community center, library, city clerk's office, non-profit daycare and regional health services clinic.

City of Farragut — \$12,100 to inspect and abate asbestos and complete a structural engineering analysis in an abandoned grocery store to determine the future use of the building.

City of Galt — \$8,967 to abate asbestos and deconstruct the old post office. Future park/recreational area to feature an open shelter with picnic tables and upgraded playground.

City of Hampton — \$20,000 to deconstruct an abandoned commercial building. City plans to construct a new fire station.

City of Hopkinton — \$40,000 to abate asbestos and deconstruct the old Masonic Lodge. City will create a new pocket park with seating, artwork and historical kiosks.

City of Lytton— \$11,250 to deconstruct an old grocery store and butcher shop. The city plans to construct a new building that offers shared space for healthcare, legal and other needed services for the community.

City of Mingo— \$61,400 to abate asbestos and renovate an old bank building. City plans to use the site for a new grocery store, restaurant, coffee shop or bakery that will attract bicyclists from the nearby Chichaqua Valley Bike & Recreational Trail.

City of Traer— \$20,000 to abate asbestos from the old coal power plant. City will remove building in the future.

City of Wapello — \$28,059 to inspect for and abate asbestos and renovate an abandoned church. City plans to transform site into a restaurant or retail business in a highly walkable block of the downtown.

City of West Branch — \$50,960 to abate asbestos and deconstruct an abandoned commercial building. City will remove building and transform the site into a mixed-use development that would contain restaurants, retail and residential.

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

DNR enforcement actions

MEDIA CONTACT: Kelli Book, DNR, at 515-725-9572 or 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

Administrative Orders

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

Cerro Gordo County

Valerie Lillibridge

Submit a construction permit application with control, submit a construction permit application with permit limits and stack testing, or cease operation of the incinerator;

notify the field office when option is determined; and pay an administrative penalty in the amount of \$3,000.

Air Quality permits under review

MEDIA CONTACT: Lori Hanson, DNR, at 515-725-9525
or Lori.Hanson@dnr.iowa.gov for Title V permits; or Sarah Piziali, DNR, at 515-725-9549 or 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.

Title V Operating Permits

Title V Operating permits are reviewed and re-issued every five years. Facilities with a Title V permit have the potential to emit large amounts of air pollutants compared to other facilities. The five-year reviews are a federal requirement and ensure adequate monitoring is included in the permit. The DNR plans to issue Title V Operating Permits for the following facilities. Find permit details at www.iowadnr.gov/titlev-draft.

Linn County GM Cereal Properties, Inc. – 4800 Edgewood Road S.W., Cedar Rapids. The application was submitted to operate their existing breakfast cereal manufacturing facility. The public comment period ends June 21.

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.

Woodbury County Cargill, Inc. – 1016 Clark St., Sioux City. Project No. 19-057, Addition of a new vertical seed conditioner, relocation of meal sifter and meal grinder, and replacement of tempering tank feed drag. The public comment period ends June 28.