



IOWA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

EcoNewsWire

Environmental Services

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Nov. 4, 2021

- [Significant October rainfall improves Iowa drought conditions](#)
- [Air Quality permits under review](#)

Significant October rainfall improves Iowa drought conditions

MEDIA CONTACT: Tim Hall, Iowa DNR, 515-452-6633 or Tim.Hall@dnr.iowa.gov.

DES MOINES —This October ranks as one of the top 10 wettest Octobers on record, with rainfall significantly improving drought conditions, according to the latest Water Summary Update.

Iowa received nearly 5 inches of rain in October, almost double the normal rainfall for the month. The U.S. Drought Monitor has eliminated the Severe Drought rating from the state for the first time since July 2020.

Streamflow and soil moisture conditions have both improved, both of which are critical for establishing good conditions for the spring of 2022.

“The widespread above-normal rainfall in October was just what was needed in Iowa,” said Tim Hall, Hydrology Resources Coordinator for the Iowa DNR. “Good soaking rainfall before the winter freeze will set us up for a much better start to 2022. Hopefully this trend can continue for the next four to six weeks.”

For a thorough review of Iowa’s water resource trends, go to www.iowadnr.gov/watersummaryupdate.

The report is prepared by the technical staff from the Iowa DNR, the Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship, IIHR—Hydroscience and Engineering and the U.S. Geological Survey, in collaboration with The Iowa Homeland Security and Emergency Management Department.

Air Quality permits under review

MEDIA CONTACT: Marnie Stein, DNR, at 515-725-9525 or Marnie.Stein@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 air quality. DNR's permitting staff review each permit application to ensure facilities comply with state and federal air quality requirements. We encourage public comments on draft permits, providing help on how to [make effective comments](#). Submit written comments to the assigned permit writer before 4:30 p.m. on the last day of the comment period. DNR considers public comments before finalizing the permits.

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.

Monroe County

Wacker Chemical Corporation – 1 Wacker Drive, Eddyville.

The application was submitted to operate their existing wet corn milling facility. The public comment period ends Dec. 4.

Construction Permits

DNR engineers review and issue construction permits to facilities before they build new or modify existing sources of air pollution. The public may review the following air quality construction permits available online at www.iowadnr.gov/airpermitsearch OR through the [EASY Air Public Inquiry Portal](#) and then click the Public Notice tab.

Marion County

Pella Corporation – Pella Division – 102 Main St., Pella.

Project No. 21-221, Amendment of Prevention of Significant Deterioration construction permits to reflect a new Volatile Organic Compounds emission limit of 99.31 tons/year, the removal of three emission units, the updated maximum capacity for each remaining unit, and the updated exhaust temperature and flow rate for Emission Point RTO. The public comment period ends Dec. 3.