



IOWA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

# EcoNewsWire

## Environmental Services

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**June 16, 2022**

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## Contracts dominate Environmental Protection Commission agenda

**MEDIA CONTACT: Alicia Plathe at 515-313-8909 or [Alicia.Plathe@dnr.iowa.gov](mailto:Alicia.Plathe@dnr.iowa.gov).**

DES MOINES—Contracts for monitoring, water quality, air quality, watershed management and technical assistance will be up for approval at the Environmental Protection Commission's June 21 meeting.

The meeting starts at 10 a.m. in DNR's second floor north conference room, 502 E. Ninth St., Des Moines. The public can also attend via video conference or by phone. To join by video, connect with <https://meet.google.com/rzo-uidn-tvg>. To join by phone, call 631-618-4607, and enter the PIN code of 484 733 354 followed by the pound (#) sign. The meeting is open to the public. Written comments may be submitted up to one day before the meeting to Alicia Plathe at [Alicia.Plathe@dnr.iowa.gov](mailto:Alicia.Plathe@dnr.iowa.gov) or to Alicia Plathe at DNR, 502 E. Ninth St., Des Moines, IA 50319.

Four contracts with the University of Iowa's State Hygienic Laboratory are up for approval. They include two contracts for stream monitoring, one for air quality monitoring and a fourth to evaluate and certify laboratories.

DNR asks for approval of contracts with Linn and Polk counties to reduce, control and prevent air pollution as required by the federal Clean Air Act.

Two contracts with the University of Northern Iowa's Iowa Waste Reduction Center are up for approval: one for the center to aid in solid waste management and one for the center to help small businesses working to control air pollution emissions.

Other contracts up for approval will:

- Work to decrease phosphorus entering three shallow lakes in northwest Iowa,

- Provide technical assistance and coordination to state revolving fund nonpoint source pollution projects,
- Improve water quality in the Yellow River, Shell Rock River and Little Sioux watersheds.

The complete agenda, including the State Revolving Fund annual Intended Use Plan and grants for Environmental Management System proposals, is available at <http://www.iowadnr.gov/About-DNR/Boards-Commissions>.

Commissioners include: Harold Hommes, Windsor Heights, chair; Stephanie Dykshorn, Ireton, vice chair; Amy Echard, Farmersburg, secretary; Brad Bleam, Rockwell City; Rebecca Dostal, Traer; Patricia Foley, Huxley; Lisa Gochenour, Logan; Ralph Lents, Menlo; and Mark Stutsman, Hills. Kayla Lyon is the DNR director.

Any person participating in the public meeting who has special requirements such as those related to mobility or hearing impairments should contact the DNR or ADA Coordinator at 515-725-8200, Relay Iowa TTY Service 800-735-7942, or [Webmaster@dnr.iowa.gov](mailto:Webmaster@dnr.iowa.gov), and advise of specific needs.

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## Iowa companies team with Pollution Prevention Intern Program, saving resources and enhancing environmental performance

**MEDIA CONTACT: Danielle Roseland, DNR, at 515-217-0010 or [Danielle.Roseland@dnr.iowa.gov](mailto:Danielle.Roseland@dnr.iowa.gov).**

DES MOINES – Eight Iowa businesses have teamed with the Iowa DNR’s Pollution Prevention (P2) Intern Program this summer to increase the efficiency of their operations and reduce associated costs.

Upper-level engineering students work on-site at their assigned company to conduct in-depth assessments, analyze data, research pollution prevention strategies, and provide calculated recommendations. Companies utilize the data to make informed decisions and drive implementations that will help meet their environmental performance goals.

“P2 is the process of going back up the pipe to identify the root cause of an inefficiency and applying source-reduction strategies to reduce or eliminate waste in a process or system,” says Jeff Fiagle, Team Lead for the DNR’s P2 Services team. Technical advisers with the P2 Intern Program provide training and oversight to the interns who seek to provide long-term solutions for the host companies.

Since 2001, more than 195 Iowa companies, hospitals, universities and government agencies have participated in this innovative program, accumulating more than \$111.8 million in savings as a result of using resources more efficiently and improving environmental performance.

Environmental benefits achieved include the reduction of:

- 5.7 billion gallons of water
- 258,720 tons of solid waste

- 10,016 tons of hazardous waste
- 504.2 million kilowatt hours of electricity
- 22.2 million therms of energy.

Companies participating in the 2022 P2 Intern Program include (listed alphabetically by town):

**Denison:** Monogram Quality Foods

**Des Moines:** Dee Zee, Inc.

**LeMars:** Wells Enterprises, Inc.

**Marshalltown:** JBS USA, LLC

**Muscatine:** HNI Corporation

**Ottumwa:** JBS Swift Pork

**Spirit Lake:** Polaris Industries – Indian Motorcycle

**Storm Lake:** Tyson Foods Inc. - Hillshire Brands

Funding for the P2 Intern Program includes federal grants, portions of solid waste tonnage fees and cost share contributed by the host companies.

Pollution Prevention Services also provides confidential, non-regulatory, environmental technical assistance in the form of assessments, development assistance for Environmental Management Systems, workshops, and access to an electronic library of technical resources. These services are offered at no-cost to help companies reduce expenses through source-reduction strategies to improve process efficiency and reduce or eliminate waste.

For more information on the Pollution Prevention Intern Program and a list of 2022 projects, visit [iowap2interns.com](http://iowap2interns.com). Case summaries of the 2022 projects will be posted to this site in the fall.

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## Public meetings to address statewide drought plan

**DES MOINES** – As part of an effort to develop a statewide drought preparedness plan, the Iowa DNR and partners will host a series of four public stakeholder meetings in July and a virtual meeting in August to gather ideas and input.

“Iowa has been through significant droughts in 1988, 2012 and 2021. While the state responded well to those events, a statewide drought plan would allow for better coordination between agencies, better communication, and improved response,” said Tim Hall, DNR’s coordinator of hydrology resources.

A number of state agencies have come together to develop such a drought plan for Iowa, including the Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship and the Iowa Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Management.

An important part of drought planning efforts is the collection of ideas and experiences from Iowans. To gather information, the agencies will host a series of public stakeholder meetings:

- Iowa Falls:  
July 6, 9 a.m.  
Ellsworth Equestrian Center, 709 Ellsworth Ave.  
[Register for Iowa Falls Drought Planning Meeting](#)
- Sioux City:  
July 20, 9 a.m.  
Siouxland Chamber of Commerce, 101 Pierce St.  
[Register for Sioux City Drought Planning Meeting](#)
- Cedar Rapids:  
July 21, 9 a.m.  
Kirkwood Community College, 6301 Kirkwood Boulevard Southwest  
[Register for Cedar Rapids Drought Planning Meeting](#)
- Creston:  
July 22, 9 a.m.  
Southwestern Community College, 1501 West Townline St.  
[Register for Creston Drought Planning Meeting](#)
- Online-only meeting:  
Aug. 3, 9 a.m.  
Virtual Meeting  
Details to be released closer to meeting date  
[Register for Virtual Drought Planning Meeting](#)

Monthly reports on drought conditions in Iowa can be found in the [Water Summary Update](#).

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## DNR enforcement actions

**MEDIA CONTACT: Tamara McIntosh, DNR, at 515-725-8242**  
or [Tamara.McIntosh@dnr.iowa.gov](mailto:Tamara.McIntosh@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.

## **Dickinson County**

Parks Marina, Inc.

Pay a \$5,000 administrative penalty.

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## **Air Quality permits under review**

**MEDIA CONTACT:** Gary Smith, DNR, at 515-725-9563 or [Gary.Smith@dnr.iowa.gov](mailto:Gary.Smith@dnr.iowa.gov).

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.

### **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).

### **Pottawattamie County**

Bunge North America—19560 Bunge Ave., Council Bluffs

Project Number 22-190, Modify airflow. Public comment period ends July 18.