

IOWA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

EcoNewsWire Environmental Services

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- Water Summary Update: Iowa sees below normal rainfall for third month in a row
- Air Quality permits under review
- DNR enforcement actions

Water Summary Update: Iowa sees below normal rainfall for third month in a row

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DES MOINES — Iowa's June precipitation was 3.75 inches, 1.51 inches below normal for the month, according to the latest Water Summary Update.

An area of extreme drought returned to lowa for the first time since August 2021, and drought conditions were deteriorating as the month ended. Streamflow, groundwater and soil moisture conditions are below normal in parts of lowa.

"June rainfall in Iowa was below normal for the third month in a row. While we saw improvement in May, that changed in June, especially in northwest Iowa, where some locations are more than 8 inches short of rainfall for the year," said Tim Hall, DNR's coordinator of hydrology resources. "Unfortunately, average monthly precipitation decreases as we move through summer into fall, but there is still an opportunity to improve conditions throughout the rest of the year."

For a thorough review of Iowa's water resource trends, go to <u>www.iowadnr.gov/watersummaryupdate</u>.

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

Air Quality permits under review

MEDIA CONTACT: Marnie Stein, DNR, at 515-725-9525 or <u>Marnie.Stein@dnr.iowa.gov</u> for Title V permits.

DES MOINES – The DNR Air Quality Bureau has the following draft permits up for review. The permits help protect lowans' 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 <u>make effective comments</u>. 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 <u>www.iowadnr.gov/titlev-draft</u>.

Palo Alto County

POET Biorefining, 4724 380th St., Emmetsburg The application was submitted to modify their existing industrial organic chemicals, NEC facility. The public comment period ends Aug. 6.

DNR enforcement actions

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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.

Lyon County

Terry Van Maanen

Comply with all provisions of the construction permit for the anaerobic digester system and pay a \$10,000 administrative penalty.

Wapello County

Thomas Feltz

Cease and prevent the illegal disposal of solid waste; comply with all applicable solid waste disposal laws in the future and pay a \$7,000 administrative penalty.