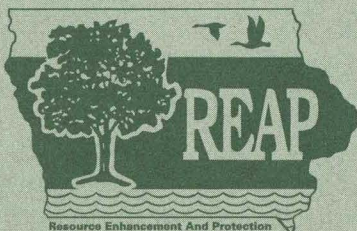


Invest in Iowa

Naturally



Resource Enhancement And Protection

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*Support Iowa's
Resource
Enhancement
And
Protection program*

In the early 1980s, a few far-sighted Iowans decided it was time to invest in and protect the state's natural beauty. They wanted to make sure there were forests, prairies, and wetlands to admire, parks to explore, as well as rich soil, clean air and water, and wildlife for future generations to enjoy.

Their efforts led to passage of Iowa's Resource Enhancement And Protection (REAP) program in 1989. Each year, lawmakers set aside funds for REAP projects. These funds used to upgrade and develop outdoor recreation areas, set aside wildlife habitat, protect our state's historical heritage, enhance soil and water resources, and teach our children and grandchildren about the environment.

The program works and, naturally, that's good for Iowa. But remember, REAP funding is set by law. Make your voice heard. Invest in Iowa's future. Then watch your investment grow.



Conservation education

Understanding the importance of our natural environment is essential if we are to preserve it for future generations. The first \$350,000 every year is set aside for conservation education. These funds help teachers learn outdoor skills and develop environmental programs for students of all ages.



Open space protection

These funds are used to buy land and build facilities to help people engage in their favorite outdoor recreation activities. Private organizations also can share in the cost of purchasing land for conservation and property taxes continue to be paid by the state, making it a popular program among local officials.



Soil and water enhancement

This money is available to landowners for soil and water protection projects. It can be used in high-priority watersheds to re-forest, re-establish grasslands, preserve habitat or soils, and improve water quality. Information is available at any of Iowa's 100 soil conservation district offices.



County conservation

These funds go directly to all counties to repair or upgrade park facilities, provide environmental education, or fund land easements and acquisition. Additional funds are available from competitive grants and to counties that commit a certain portion of taxes to local conservation boards.



City parks and open space

These funds are awarded to cities on a competitive basis. The money can be used to expand and develop new parks, repair facilities, construct picnic shelters, build trails and bike paths, or protect native areas from urban expansion. Grants are awarded for 100 percent of project costs.



State land management

These funds help renovate trails, and build and repair lodges, shelters, cabins, restrooms, and beaches in state parks. State park user permits were discontinued when this REAP program was established.



Historical resources

REAP funds can be used to renovate historical sites and maintain museums, libraries, and archives. Grants are available to individuals, businesses and non-profit organizations, and are administered by the State Historical Society in the Department of Cultural Affairs.



Roadside vegetation

Beautiful roadsides benefit all lowans and our visitors. Research has shown that native species reduce the need for herbicide control of weeds, as well as mowing and maintenance costs. Along with these economic benefits, natural roadsides add beauty and provide wildlife food and cover. Grants are available to counties and cities.

Naturally, you can work for REAP, too!

Here's how you may already be a supporter.

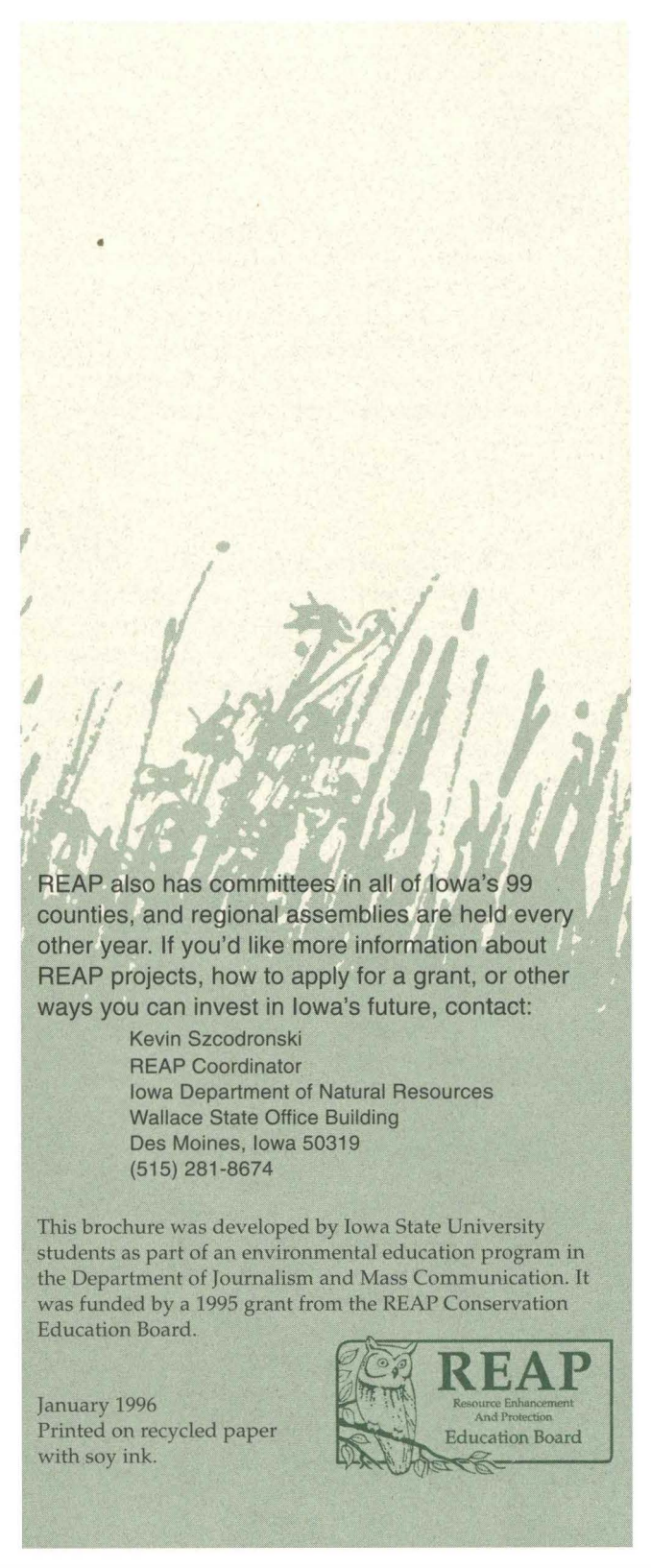
If you own a REAP license plate, you have invested in Iowa's natural resources.

All REAP license plate sales support the program.



If you're a member of any of these groups you indirectly work for REAP as members of the REAP Alliance.

* American Fisheries Society * American Society of Landscape Architects * Association for Integrated Roadside Management in Iowa * Audubon Society * Iowa Association of County Conservation Boards * Iowa Association of Naturalists * Iowa Association of Soil and Water Conservation District Commissioners * Iowa Conservation Education Council * Iowa Ducks Unlimited * Iowa Historic Preservation Alliance * Iowa Land Improvement Contractors Association * Iowa Natural Heritage Foundation * Iowa Park and Recreation Association * Iowa Pheasants Forever * Iowa Society of American Foresters * Iowa Sportsmen's Federation * Iowa Trails Council * Iowa Trappers Association * Iowa Wild Turkey Federation * Iowa Wildlife Federation * Izaak Walton League of America * League of Women Voters * Pheasants Forever, Inc. * Sierra Club * Soil and Water Conservation Society * The Nature Conservancy Wildlife Society *



REAP also has committees in all of Iowa's 99 counties, and regional assemblies are held every other year. If you'd like more information about REAP projects, how to apply for a grant, or other ways you can invest in Iowa's future, contact:

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