High Quality Water Resources

A list for manure applicators and producers who need a construction permit

Passed by the 2002 General Assembly, Senate File 2293 set new requirements for the location and expansion of confinement feeding operations and for the land application of manure.

One of these changes added high quality water resources to the protected areas from certain manure application practices and as Items 10 and 35 on the master matrix, a system used to rate potential locations for confinement feeding operations needing a construction permit.

As defined by SF 2293, high quality water resources include high quality (HQ) waters and high quality resource (HQR) waters which are both listed in Iowa's Water Quality Standards in Chapter 61.3(5) “e” of the Iowa Administrative Code. Waters that were listed as HQ or HQR waters have above average characteristics and have not been channelized or significantly altered.

High quality water resources also include protected water areas (PWA) listed below and on the DNR website under state parks, other division programs.

Definitions of the three water types

High quality water (HQ): Waters with exceptionally better quality than the levels specified in the Water Quality Standards and with exceptional recreational and ecological importance. Special protection is warranted to maintain the unusual, unique or outstanding physical, chemical, or biological characteristics which these waters possess.

High quality resource water (HQR): Waters of substantial recreational or ecological significance which possess unusual, outstanding or unique physical, chemical, or biological characteristics which enhance the beneficial uses and warrant special protection.

Protected water areas (PWA): This program started in 1978 to maintain, preserve and protect outstanding natural and scenic qualities of select waters and their adjacent land areas. Sections of five rivers have been designated (see below), but other possible protected waters exist, including lakes and marshes. The long-term goal of the program is to have one PWA in each of the seven landform regions in Iowa.

How to use the list

Look for high quality water resources by county or in the PWA list below.

For More Information

Manure applicators should see the DNR factsheet “Separation Distances for Land Application of Manure,” available on the DNR website and at DNR field offices.

Producers who need to use the master matrix can find more information, including an interactive matrix, under animal feeding operations on the DNR website at www.iowadnr.com.

Protected Water Areas (PWA)

Upper Iowa River: Kendallville (Winnebago Co.) to Hwy 76 in Allamakee Co. (64.2 miles)

Little Sioux River: Spencer (Clay Co.) to the Linn Grove Dam in Buena Vista Co. (34.5 miles)

Middle Raccoon River: Panora (Guthrie Co.) to the Redfield Dam in Dallas Co. (14.6 miles)

Wapsipinicon River: Hwy 93 (Bremer Co.) to in conjunction with the Mississippi River, Clinton/Scott Co. line (177 miles)

Boone River: Webster City (confluence of Brewers Cr.) to confluence with the Des Moines River (25 miles)

CAUTION: This document is only a summary of administrative rules contained in 567 IAC chapters 61 and 65; it is a guidance document and should not be used as replacement for the administrative rules. While every effort has been made to assure the accuracy of this information, the administrative rules will prevail in the event of a conflict between this document and the administrative rules.

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High Quality Water Resources by County

Allamakee

**Yellow River** - Mouth to Allamakee-Winneshiek Co. line
**Dousman Creek** - Mouth to Allamakee-Clayton Co. line
**Suttle Creek** - Mouth to Allamakee-Clayton Co. line
**Unnamed Creek (aka Bear Creek)** - Mouth (S13, T96N, R5W) to N. line of S12, T96N, R5W, Allamakee Co.
**Norfolk Creek** - Mouth to confluence with Teeple Cr. (S24, T97N, R6W, Allamakee Co.)
**Teeple Creek** - Mouth to W. Line of S11, T97N, R6W, Allamakee Co.
**Cota Creek** - Mouth to W. line of S10, T97N, R3W, Allamakee Co.
**Trout Run** - Mouth through one mile reach
**Unnamed Creek (Erickson Spring)** - Mouth (S23, T98N R4W) to W. line of S23, T98N, R4W, Allamakee Co.
**Irish Hollow Creek** - Mouth to N. line of S17, T100N, R4W, Allamakee Co.
**Clear Creek** - Mouth to N. line of S15, T100N, R5W, Allamakee Co.
**Upper Iowa River** - Lane’s Bridge (Allamakee Co.) to Allamakee-Winneshiek Co. line

**Paint Creek** - Little Paint Creek to Rd Crossing, S18, T97N, R4W, Allamakee Co.
**Little Paint Creek** - Mouth to N. line of S30, T97N, R3W, Allamakee Co.
**Hickory Creek** - Mouth to S. line of S28, T96N, R5W, Allamakee Co.
**Wexford Creek** - Mouth to W. line of S25, T98N, R3W, Allamakee Co.
**Village Creek** - Mouth to W. line of S19, T98N, R4W, Allamakee Co.
**Clear Creek** - Mouth to W. line of S25, T99N, R4W, Allamakee Co.
**French Creek** - Mouth to E. line of S23, T99N, R5W, Allamakee Co.
**Silver Creek** - Mouth to S. line of S31, T99N, R5W, Allamakee Co.
**Waterloo Creek** - Mouth to Iowa-Minnesota state line
**Patterson Creek** - Mouth to E. Line S3, T98N, R6W, Allamakee Co.

Black Hawk

**Cedar River** - Confluence with Beaver Creek to Blackhawk-Bremer Co. line
**W Fk Cedar River** - Mouth to Blackhawk-Butler Co. line
**Shell Rock River** - Mouth to Blackhawk-Bremer Co. line
**Wapsipinicon River** - Buchanan-Blackhawk Co. line to Blackhawk-Bremer Co. line

Boone

**Des Moines River** - Fraiser Dam to Boone - Webster Co. line

Bremer

**Cedar River** - Bremer-Blackhawk Co. line to Bremer-Chickasaw Co. line
**Shell Rock River** - Bremer-Blackhawk Co. Line to Bremer-Butler Co. line
**Wapsipinicon River** - Bremer-Blackhawk Co. line to Snyder’s Access (S34, T93N, R12W, Bremer Co.)

Buchanan

**Wapsipinicon River** - Linn-Buchanan Co. line to Buchanan-Blackhawk Co. line

Buena Vista

**Little Sioux River** - entire length in Buena Vista Co.

Butler

**W Fk Cedar River** - Butler-Blackhawk Co. line to confluence with Maynes Creek
**Shell Rock River** - Butler-Bremer Co. line to S. corporate limits, Shell Rock (S12, T91N, R15W, Butler Co.)

Carroll

**North Raccoon River** - Carroll-Greene Co. line to Hwy 286 (S17, T85N, R33W, Carroll Co.)

Cerro Gordo

**Clear Lake**
Cherokee

Little Sioux River - Hwy 3 in Cherokee (S26, T92N, R40W, Cherokee Co.) to Buena Vista - Cherokee Co. line

Chickasaw

Cedar River - Bremer-Chickasaw Co. line to S29, T94N, R14W, Chickasaw Co.

Clay

Little Sioux River - Buena Vista-Clay Co. line to east corporate limit Spencer (S17, T96N, R36W, Clay Co.)

Elk Lake

Clayton

Point Hollow Creek - Mouth to Clayton-Dubuque Co. line
Bloody Run Creek (aka Grimes Hollow) - Mouth to Clayton-Delaware Co. line
Pecks Creek - Mouth to S. line S15, T91N, R3W, Clayton Co.
South Cedar Creek - N. line S7, T92N, R3W to N. line S30, T93N, R3W, Clayton Co.
Steeles Branch - Mouth to Clayton-Delaware Co. line
Brownfield Creek - Mouth to spring source (S31, T91N, R3W, Clayton Co.)
Volga River - Mouth to Clayton-Fayette Co. line
Bear Creek - S. line S18, T91N, R4W to W. line S23, T91N, R5W, Clayton Co.
Mossey Glen Creek - Mouth to S. line S10, T91N, R5W, Clayton Co.
Cox Creek (aka Anderson Hollow) - Kleinlein Cr. To S. line S12, T91N, R6W, Clayton Co.
Kleinlein Creek (aka Spring Creek) - Mouth to spring source (S10, T91N, R6W, Clayton Co.)
Hewett Creek - Mouth to S. line of S29, T92N, R6W, Clayton Co.
Dry Mill Creek - Mouth to W. line of S9, T93N, R4W, Clayton Co.
Miners Creek - Hwy 52 (Clayton Co.) to W. line of S1, T92N, R3W, Clayton Co.
Unnamed Creek (aka W. Fk. Sny Magill Cr.) - Mouth to W. line of S7, T94N, R3W, Clayton Co.
Bloody Run - Mouth to W. line of S22 T95N, R4W, Clayton Co.
Maquoketa River - Delaware-Clayton Co. line to Clayton-Fayette Co. line
Pine Creek - Mouth to confluence with Brownfield Creek (Clayton Co.)

Cedar

Turkey River - Confluence with Volga River to Clayton-Fayette County line
Little Turkey River - Clayton-Delaware Co. line to S. line S11, T90N, R3W, Delaware Co.
Ram Hollow - Mouth to Clayton-Delaware Co. line
Baron Spring - Mouth to spring source (S4, T91N, R6W, Clayton Co.)
Ensign Creek (aka Ensign Hollow) - Mouth to spring source (S29, T92N, R6W, Clayton Co.)
Mink Creek - Mouth to Clayton-Fayette Co. line
Buck Creek - Mouth to W. line of S9, T93N, R3W, Clayton Co.
Sny Magill Creek - Mouth to W. line of S6, T94N, R3W, Clayton Co.
North Cedar Creek - Mouth to W. line of S24, T94N, R4W, Clayton Co.

Clinton

Wapsipinicon River - Mouth to Clinton-Cedar Co. line

Dallas

Raccoon River - Polk-Dallas Co. line to confluence of N. & S. Raccoon River
Middle Raccoon River - Redfield Dam to Dallas-Guthrie Co. line
North Raccoon River - Mouth to Dallas-Greene County line

Dickinson

Grover's Marsh

Big Spirit Lake
East Okoboji Lake
Lower Gar Lake
Minnewashta Lake
Upper Gar Lake
West Okoboji Lake

Delaware

Bloody Run Creek (aka Grimes Hollow) - Clayton-Delaware Co. line to source S3, T90N, R3W, Delaware Co.
Steeles Brook - Clayton-Delaware Co. line to W. line S5, T90N, R4W, Delaware Co.
Twin Springs Creek - Mouth to spring source in S12, T90N, R4W, Delaware Co.
Maquoketa River - Mouth to S. Fk. Maquoketa River to Clayton-Delaware Co. line
Schechtman Branch - Mouth to S. line S14, T90N, R4W, Delaware Co.
Maquoketa River - Delaware-Jones Co. line to confluence with Plum Creek

Maquoketa River - Mouth of S. Fk. Maquoketa River to Clayton-Delaware Co. line
Spring Branch - Mouth to spring source in S35, T89N, R5W, Delaware Co.
Fenchel Creek - Mouth to Richmond Springs (center S4, T90N, R6W, Delaware Co.)
Little Turkey River - Clayton-Delaware Co. line to S LINE S11, T90N, R1W, Delaware Co.
Ram Hollow - Clayton-Delaware Co. line to source S10, T90N, R3W, Delaware Co.
Fountain Spring Creek - Mouth to W. line of NW1/4, S16, T90N, R4W, Delaware Co.

Greene
North Raccoon River - Entire length in Co.

Guthrie
Middle Raccoon River - Dallas-Guthrie Co. line to Lake Panorama Dam
Lake Panorama

Hamilton
Boone River - Webster-Hamilton Co. line to confluence with Brewers Creek
South Skunk River - Story-Hamilton Co. line to Drainage Ditch 71 (S11, T86N, R24W)

Hardin
Iowa River - Marshall-Hardin Co. line to E. corporate limits, Iowa Falls (S20, T89N, R20W)

Harrison
DeSoto Bend

Henry
Skunk River - Henry Co. Rd. (S3, T71N, R7W) to Henry-Jefferson Co. line

Humboldt
E. Fork Des Moines River - Mouth to Humboldt - Kossuth Co. line

Howard
Chialk Creek - Mouth to N. line of S36, T99N, R11W, Howard Co.
Upper Iowa River - Winnishiek-Howard Co. line to NE1/4, S12, T100N, R13W (Howard Co.)
Staff Creek - Mouth to W. line S27, T100N, R14W
Beaver Creek - Mouth to S. line S29, T100N, R13W, Howard Co.
Turkey River - Howard-Winneshiek Co. line to Vernon Springs (S34, T99N, R11W)

Bohemian Creek - Winneshiek-Howard Co. line to W. line S2, T97N, R11W, Howard Co.

Nichols Creek (aka Bigalk Cr.) - Winneshiek-Howard Co. line to W. line S23, T100N, R11W, Howard Co.

Jackson

N Fork Maquoketa River - Mouth to Jackson-Jones Co. line

Cedar Creek - Mouth to E. line of S29, T85N, R3E, Jackson Co.

Unnamed Creek - Mouth (S7, T86N, R2E) to W. line S11, T86N, R1E, Jackson Co.

Ozark Spring Run - Mouth to spring source in center of S32, T86N, R3E, Jackson Co.

Pleasant Creek - W. line S11, T85N, R4E, to W. line S15, T85N, R4E, Jackson Co.

Maquoketa River - Deep Creek to Jones-Jackson Co. line

Cedar River - Mouth to E. line of S29, T85N, R3E, Jackson Co.

Little Mill Creek - Confluence with Little Mill Cr. to confluence with unnamed Cr. (S1, T86N, R3E, Jackson Co.)

Storybook Hollow - Mouth to S. line S12, T86N, R3E, Jackson Co.

Unnamed Creek - Mouth to S. line S12, T86N, R3E, Jackson Co.

Dalton Lake

Jefferson

Skunk River - Entire length in Jefferson Co.

Jones

Maquoketa River - Jones-Jackson Co. line to Delaware-Jones Co. line

N Fork Maquoketa River - Jackson-Jones Co. line to confluence with White Water Creek

Wasipinicon River - Cedar-Jones Co. line to Jones-Linn Co. line

Johnson

Iowa River - Louisa-Johnson Co. line to northern-most point of Johnson-Washington Co. line

Cedar River - Cedar-Johnson Co. line to Johnson-Linn Co. line

Keokuk

Skunk River - Keokuk-Washington Co. line to confluence N. & S. Skunk R.

South Skunk River - Mouth to Hwy 21 (S34, T75N, R13W, Keokuk Co.)

North Skunk River - Mouth to Keokuk-Mahaska Co. line

Kossuth

E. Fork Des Moines River - Kossuth-Humboldt Co. line to Co. Rd. B63 (S23, T94N, R29W, Kossuth Co.)

Union Slough

Linn

Cedar River - Johnson-Linn Co. line to Hwy 30

Wasipinicon River - Entire length in county

Louisa

Iowa River - Mouth to S. corporate limits Wapello (S35, T74N, R3W, Louisa Co.)

Iowa River - Confluence with Cedar River to Louisa-Johnson Co. line

Cedar River - Mouth to Louisa-Mucatine Co. line

Lucas

Chariton River - Appanoose-Lucas Co. line to Highway 14

Mahaska

North Skunk River - Entire length in county

Marshall

Iowa River - Hwy 149 to confluence with Asher Creek (excluding waters in Meskwaki Settlement of the Sac Fox Tribe of the Mississippi)

Mitchell

Burr Oak Creek - Co. Rd. T46 to N. line of S5, T98N, R16W, Mitchell Co.

Beaver Creek - Mouth to Mitchell Co. Rd A31 (N line S19, T99N, R15W, Mitchell Co.)

Rock Creek - Confluence with Goose Cr. to Hwy. 9 (N line S26, T98N, R18W, Mitchell Co.)

Wapsipinicon River - Town of McIntire to N line S20, T100N, R15W, Mitchell Co.

Spring Creek - Mouth to N. line of S8, T97N, R16W, Mitchell Co.

Turtle Creek - Mouth to E. line of S7, T99N, R17W, Mitchell Co.
This list was developed to assist manure applicators and applicants for a confinement feeding operation construction permit. It was current in March 2003.

If you need more information, please contact the closest DNR field office.