



STATE OF IOWA

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DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
ROGER L. LANDE, DIRECTOR

To: NPDES permit holders, municipalities, and county governments
Date: November 18, 2011
Subject: **2012 Clean Watersheds Needs Survey**

WHY YOU SHOULD READ THIS: The Clean Watersheds Needs Survey reviews the needs and costs to keep Iowa's waters clean and safe. Your response to this enclosed survey DOES NOT OBLIGATE you to spend money, but it does demonstrate to Congress the financial needs of Iowa's wastewater projects. This survey is federally funded through your tax dollars, and your timely response saves effort and money. We appreciate your help, and encourage your input.

Please complete the enclosed *Small Community Needs Form* to document capital needs and costs in your community. As required by sections 205(a) and 516(b)(1) of the Clean Water Act, the results of this survey form will be used by the Iowa Department of Natural Resources (DNR) to compile data for the EPA 2012 Clean Watersheds Needs Survey (CWNS). Needs, as defined by the EPA, are a project, with associated costs, that addresses a water quality or public health problem existing as of *January 1, 2012* or expected to occur within the next 20 years (by *December 31, 2031*). **Examples of potential needs include projects and programs related to wastewater collection and treatment, combined sewer overflows, storm water runoff, and non-point source pollution.** Even if your community does not have needs, return of your signed survey is vital to ensuring that all communities are represented in the overall needs of Iowa's communities.

To meet EPA's signatory requirements, a local official representing your community must complete Signature Box #1. In addition, if new needs information is supplied in Step 3 of the form, you must complete and provide signatures in the "Needs Certification" and "Cost Certification" sections of Signature Box #2.

Please return your completed *Small Community Needs Form* **by fax (866-422-3212)** before **December 21, 2011**.

Information submitted will not be used or shared for any purposes other than assessing and planning for Iowa's water quality and public health cost needs. For more information about the Clean Watersheds Needs Survey, please visit www.epa.gov/cwns/cwns2012.htm. If you have any questions before or during completion of the survey, please contact Joel Sikkema by sending an email to Joel.Sikkema@dnr.iowa.gov or calling the Iowa CWNS Hotline at 855-469-2296. Thank you in advance for your valuable input and participation.

Sincerely,

Satya Chennupati

Satya Chennupati, PE
Wastewater Engineering Section Supervisor
Water Quality Bureau