

Iowa Department of Natural Resources  
Natural Resource Commission

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ITEM

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**INFORMATION**

TOPIC      Natural Resource Based Business Opportunities Grant Program

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A total appropriation of \$250,000 was made to this grant program from the following sources: \$237,500 came from the DNR Environment First Fund for the development of projects related to natural resource-based business opportunities, and \$12,500 was appropriated for administration costs. Local Resource Conservation & Development (RC&D) Boards sponsored by county governments or Soil & Water Conservation Districts were eligible to receive funding on a competitive basis. The applicants received a dollar-for-dollar match.

DNR staff recently met with the Executive Director and the President of the Iowa League of RC&D to establish guidelines on the facilitation and use of these funds. This was deemed necessary as this is only the fourth year funds have been appropriated for this program. An Emergency Rule will be proposed in September based upon these discussions.

Paul Tauke, Forestry Bureau Chief  
Conservation and Recreation Division  
August 13, 2009