Iowa Range
statewide

Bibliography
Iowa Department of Natural Resources. 2001. *Biodiversity of Iowa: Aquatic Habitats* CD-ROM.

volvox
Volvox spp.

Kingdom:	Protista
Division/Phylum:	Chlorophyta

Features
Volvox spp. are colonial green algae. Colonies can consist of several hundred cells arranged in a hollow ball. The cells are held together by a sheath of mucous. The flagella on the individual cells extend outside the colony. An eyespot is present in each cell.

Natural History
There is a division of labor among the cells. Reproduction occurs by asexual and sexual methods and a colony may contain daughter colonies. Movement of the flagella results in a rotation of the colony. These organisms make their own food.

Habitats
Mississippi River; Missouri River; interior rivers and streams; constructed lakes, ponds, and reservoirs; natural lakes and prairie marshes; wet prairies and fens; bottomland forests

Iowa Status
common, native