

DNR WATERSHED PLANNING GRANTS

APPLY FOR UP TO \$50,000 TO HELP YOUR LOCAL GROUP IMPROVE WATER QUALITY

“Thorough, locally-led Watershed Management Plans are consistently the major reason a watershed project is successful. This grant focuses on helping local groups of Iowans concerned about lakes and streams in their communities. We’re excited to give Iowans the resources they need to create sound plans for improving water quality.”

— DNR Director
Richard Leopold

DNR Watershed Planning Grants, offered by the DNR’s Watershed Improvement Program, help local groups passionate about improving water quality get started. Grant funds go towards developing a Watershed Management Plan, which identifies problems in the watershed and proposes solutions for better water quality. Making changes in the watershed, which is the land that drains to a lake, river or stream, can reduce pollution reaching our waters.



WATERSHED PLANNING GRANT BASICS

- Groups can request between \$10,000 and \$50,000
- Grants require a 50 percent local match, of which at least 20 percent is in hard dollars
- Grants must address problems in a lake, stream or river on Iowa’s impaired waters list
- Eligible watersheds must be no larger than 50,000 acres
- Grant recipients have up to 24 months to complete a Watershed Management Plan (following the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency’s nine elements)
- Groups can then apply for additional funding, like the DNR’s Watershed Project Grants, to put the completed Watershed Management Plan in to action

START PLANNING LOCALLY

Before you apply for a DNR Watershed Planning Grant, form a community group that’s committed to improving your local water quality. Assistance in starting a local effort is available from regional basin coordinators:

Vince Sitzmann

Southeast Iowa
(515) 242-6008
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Wallace Building, Des Moines

Jeff Tisl

Northeast Iowa
(563) 422-6201
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Bob Waters

Western Iowa
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iowaagriculture.gov
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APPLY FOR A PLANNING GRANT

For application forms and additional details, visit the DNR’s Watershed Improvement Program webpage at www.iowadnr.gov/water/watershed/planning.html or contact Steve Hopkins, who coordinates the grant program, at (515) 281-6402 or Stephen.Hopkins@dnr.iowa.gov.

