



# 2015 REAP Assembly Report

During the months of October and November, 18 Resource Enhancement and Protection (REAP) Assemblies were conducted throughout Iowa. The REAP Assemblies are required, per Iowa Code Chapter 455A.17, to be conducted on odd numbered years to provide attendees with information about REAP expenditures, ask attendees to identify opportunities or changes in policy, programs or funding, vote on motions for the five elected delegates per region to vote on at REAP Congress. 622 Iowans participated in the 2015 REAP Assemblies. In addition to electing delegates, the participants made 64 motions that will be forwarded to the REAP Congress for consideration on January 9, 2016.

**The following motions were approved at the Assemblies.** The number behind the motion indicates the number of Assemblies at which it was approved.

- 1) This REAP Assembly recommends that the 2016 REAP Congress supports fully funding the Natural Resources and Outdoor Recreation Trust Fund through the passage of a 3/8th of a percent increase of Iowa's statewide sales tax. **17**
- 2) This REAP Assembly recommends that the 2016 REAP Congress supports fully funding REAP. **17**
- 3) This REAP Assembly recommends that the 2016 REAP Congress supports keeping the REAP formula intact. **16**
- 4) Recommend that if the Iowa Legislature implements the Natural Resources and Outdoor Recreation Trust Fund (IWILL) that REAP will not be negatively impacted. **1**
- 5) Investigate a way to fund the REAP Conservation Education Program without changing the formula. **1**
- 6) Keep the REAP formula the same and use the energy to increase conservation education funding in the Iowa Water and Land Legacy (IWILL) formula. **1**
- 7) This REAP Assembly recommends that the 2016 REAP Congress supports keeping the REAP formula intact, but increase the REAP CEP portion to \$600,000. **1**
- 8) The Department of Natural resource conducts an economic impact study on REAP. **1**
- 9) This REAP Assembly recommends that the 2016 REAP Congress supports the preservation of agricultural lands. **1**
- 10) Increased emphasis on trails and connectivity in REAP grants. **1**
- 11) Integrate cultural and recreation in grant funding. **1**
- 12) REAP projects should encourage public, private, NGO and government partnerships; projects for underserved populations and alternative forms of recreation. **1**
- 13) REAP Congress partner with community foundations to leverage funds. **1**
- 14) Resolution to thank the support and partnership of the state agencies that administer REAP. **1**
- 15) REAP should assist with stream buffer initiative, including saturated buffer. Iowans should see buffers along all waterways. **1**
- 16) Fund REAP with a stable source, such as the General Fund. **1**
- 17) REAP programs should cooperate with federal programs. There should be open partnerships among different levels of government. Vote: Passed.
- 18) Soil and Water Conservation Districts and County Conservation Boards should be eligible for REAP CEP funds to identify streams. **1**

Additionally, participants at each assembly broke into small groups to discuss the unmet needs and how those needs should best be addressed. They listed and discussed over 720 ideas, recommendations and impacts. They are listed by region in the Assembly Summary later in this document.

**Below is a list of the most prevalent themes:**

Outdoor Recreation	Conservation Education	Historic Preservation	Natural Resources Conservation
<b>Iowa's Unmet Needs</b>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Health and wellness</li> <li>• Expansion of trails (hiking, biking and water)</li> <li>• Environmentally sensitive areas and areas contiguous to existing public land</li> <li>• Repair, maintenance, improvements, expansion (staff to help maintain and sustain)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Educator funding for schools – curriculum that is STEM ready</li> <li>• Field trips – schools should be able to get REAP CEP funds</li> <li>• High adventure trip experiences – multi-day outdoor trips</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Education about funding to cities/counties/Historic Preservation Commission</li> <li>• Contractors that understand historic preservation</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pollinator habitat – STRIPS Program at ISU – Prairie habitat in field buffers with pollinator habitat</li> <li>• Education about practices – urban and community and rural workshops</li> </ul>
<b>Roadblocks for increased participation?</b>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Access – Proximity</li> <li>• People not knowing where to go: marketing, one stop shop (website with paid staff to maintain, booklet/brochure)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Funding</li> <li>• Time in schools – competition for time with common core</li> <li>• Field trips restricted for several reasons: cost share needed with schools</li> <li>• Partnerships needed with non-school interests</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hard to get people involved and engaged on historic preservation commissions. Few people doing most of the work</li> <li>• Matching fund requirement</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Funding and staffing to collect info and data – all levels are short on people and funding</li> <li>• Knowledge of available resources (staff/funding) and availability of staff</li> </ul>
<b>Strategies to overcome roadblocks</b>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Engaging more people/partnerships</li> <li>• Fund Iowa's Water and Land Legacy</li> <li>• Economic development entities partnerships</li> <li>• Working with communities to capitalize on outdoor recreation opportunities</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Expand the connection from professionals in the field to educators/students/general public</li> <li>• Creative ways to educate – boat tours – recreate and educate. County Conservation Boards and non-profits working with partners – what are the needs?</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Get historic preservation education in high school classes</li> <li>• Workshops by state/historic preservation commissions about what needs to be done: how, what, why, grants, etc.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Conservation Field Days – Coordination on education – set curriculum</li> <li>• Education – People just don't understand               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Help make decisions based on real data</li> <li>b. Broader understanding of programs available</li> </ol> </li> </ul>

## Individual Assembly Summary

### Region 1: Decorah (Allamakee, Clayton, Fayette, Howard, Winneshiek)

**Attendance:** 61

**Chair:** John Lubke

**Approved Motions:**

- 1) This REAP Assembly recommends that the 2016 REAP Congress supports fully funding the Natural Resources and Outdoor Recreation Trust Fund through the passage of a 3/8th of a percent increase of Iowa's statewide sales tax. Vote: Unanimous.

- 2) This REAP Assembly recommends that the 2016 REAP Congress supports fully funding REAP. Vote: Unanimous.
- 3) This REAP Assembly recommends that the 2016 REAP Congress supports keeping the REAP formula intact. Vote: Unanimous.
- 4) Recommend that if the Iowa Legislature implements the Natural Resources and Outdoor Recreation Trust Fund (IWILL) that REAP will not be negatively impacted. Vote: Unanimous.

**Small Group Responses:**

Outdoor Recreation	Conservation Education	Historic Preservation	Natural Resources Conservation
<b>Unmet Needs</b>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tight City budgets – many priorities</li> <li>• Maximizing the assets and marketing/tourism</li> <li>• Need to add and connect trails and natural areas</li> <li>• Organize and create accessible facilities</li> <li>• Trail maintenance</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Supplemental materials for new state/fed curriculum</li> <li>• Unstructured wilderness experiences</li> <li>• Requests for bus money, Field trips</li> <li>• Connections with STEM and Science Standards</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Simpler grant application</li> <li>• More funding for bricks and mortar projects: expensive historic preservation project</li> <li>• Identification of historical resources before demolition</li> <li>• Direction of property owners to grant opportunities</li> <li>• Lack of people with specialized training for historic preservation – money for training</li> <li>• Educating owners of historical resources about what they have and their unique needs.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Need more people and fund to meet requests</li> <li>• Managing watersheds and enhancing resources we have</li> <li>• Enhancing pollinator and monarch habitat</li> <li>• Invasive species – forestry</li> <li>• Alternative cropping systems</li> </ul>
<b>Roadblocks for increased participation?</b>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Funding</li> <li>• Need to continue to support REAP and IWILL both</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increased agricultural land (demolishing cultural resources)</li> <li>• Next generation of volunteers and in building trades</li> <li>• Hard to get people involved and engaged on historic preservation commissions. Few people doing most of the work</li> <li>• Help residents understand value of historical resources reach out to towns/historical societies to educate</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Funding: from \$30 million to \$20 million to \$16 million</li> <li>• Political emphasis</li> </ul>
<b>Strategies to overcome roadblocks</b>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Local conservation calling trees</li> <li>• Encourage new people to get involved</li> <li>• Statewide cohesive trail plan – emphasize to REAP delegates</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• DNR Sportsmen Opportunities, NASP, STP</li> <li>• Riding the technology divide</li> <li>• Making connections with educators – readily available</li> <li>• Including agriculture lessons as rural transitions to urban</li> <li>• Cross-agency collaboration</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Workshops by state/historic preservation commissions about what needs to be done: how, what, why, grants, etc.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Water quality affects all</li> <li>• Educating constituents</li> <li>• Science – what we are losing</li> <li>• Economic benefits</li> </ul>

**Region 2: Ventura** (Cerro Gordo, Floyd, Franklin, Hancock, Kossuth, Mitchell, Winnebago, Worth)

**Attendance:** 37

**Chair:** Mike Webb

**Approved Motions:**

- 1) This REAP Assembly recommends that the 2016 REAP Congress supports fully funding the Natural Resources and Outdoor Recreation Trust Fund through the passage of a 3/8th of a percent increase of Iowa's statewide sales tax. Vote: Unanimous.
- 2) This REAP Assembly recommends that the 2016 REAP Congress supports fully funding REAP. Vote: Unanimous.
- 3) This REAP Assembly recommends that the 2016 REAP Congress supports keeping the REAP formula intact. Vote: Unanimous.
- 4) Investigate a way to fund the REAP Conservation Education Program without changing the formula. Vote: Unanimous.

**Small Group Responses:**

Outdoor Recreation	Conservation Education	Historic Preservation	Natural Resources Conservation
<b>Unmet Needs</b>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Public Land acquisition/habitat</li> <li>• Basic facilities/ infrastructure</li> <li>• Trails</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Promotion for need for Conservation Education</li> <li>• More funding to support teacher education to meet new standards</li> <li>• Need for naturalist support to help in school programming</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All categories have unmet needs</li> </ul>
<b>Roadblocks for increased participation</b>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Land prices – private demand</li> <li>• Money</li> <li>• Promotion of activities/facilities and locations</li> <li>• Competition for other activities</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Money – historic preserv. costs a lot</li> <li>• Right people in the right places to get things done</li> <li>• Finding a use for the preserved property</li> <li>• Finding a way to draw people to these historic neighborhoods, once preserved</li> </ul>	
<b>Strategies to overcome roadblocks</b>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Promoters to advertise</li> <li>• Education/awareness at a young age</li> <li>• Developing a fundraising program</li> <li>• Full funding for REAP</li> <li>• IWILL</li> <li>• Technical assistance with fundraising-revenue acquisition</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Target administrators in school systems to address conservation education</li> <li>• Consider an extra appropriation for Conservation Ed. (special request)</li> <li>• Fund IWILL</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Getting community more involved: change rules on who has to be on Historic Preservation Commission</li> <li>• Find ways to engage new people with historic preservation</li> <li>• Do we need as many groups/could we consolidate – make better use of interested volunteers.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• REAP fully funded at \$20 million</li> <li>• Pie chart stays the same</li> <li>• \$500,000 as a minimum for education</li> <li>• Public education</li> <li>• Expect leadership from state executives to support the decision of the legislature and the will of the people.</li> </ul>

**Region 3: Spencer** (Buena Vista, Clay, Dickinson, Emmet, Lyon, O'Brien, Osceola, Palo Alto, Sioux)

**Attendance:** 48

**Chair:** Lee Schoenewe

**Approved Motions:**

- 1) This REAP Assembly recommends that the 2016 REAP Congress supports fully funding the Natural Resources and Outdoor Recreation Trust Fund through the passage of a 3/8th of a percent increase of Iowa's statewide sales tax. Vote: Unanimous.
- 2) This REAP Assembly recommends that the 2016 REAP Congress supports fully funding REAP. Vote: Unanimous.
- 3) Keep the REAP formula the same and use the energy to increase conservation education funding in the Iowa Water and Land Legacy (IWILL) formula. Vote: Unanimous.

**Small Group Responses:**

Outdoor Recreation	Conservation Education	Historic Preservation	Natural Resources Conservation
<b>Unmet Needs</b>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Money</li> <li>• Local, county and state participation</li> <li>• Space</li> <li>• Education on programs and projects</li> <li>• Revitalize local committees (marketing)</li> <li>• Health and wellness</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Train the trainer</li> <li>• STEM ready materials</li> <li>• Promotion of educational opportunities</li> <li>• Link educators with professionals</li> <li>• Educate all levels, PK through HS/College through adults</li> <li>• Funding – can it be more than \$350,000</li> <li>• Advertise successes</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Funding – more and stable</li> <li>• Promotion</li> <li>• Technology for records/information</li> <li>• Cemetery – prairie remnants</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• More funding</li> </ul>
<b>Roadblocks for increased participation</b>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lack of knowledge</li> <li>• Disconnect</li> <li>• More multi-use areas</li> <li>• Equestrian</li> <li>• Demographics</li> <li>• Understanding of cost and scope of projects</li> <li>• Creature comforts (internet, electronics)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Funding formula</li> <li>• Time to implement</li> <li>• Get word out to broader audience about opportunities</li> <li>• Advertise to different interest groups</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Funding</li> <li>• Increased costs to accomplish</li> <li>• Project champion</li> <li>• Expertise</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increase Public awareness</li> <li>• Increase local government understanding</li> </ul>
<b>Strategies to overcome roadblocks</b>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Public awareness</li> <li>• Media outlets</li> <li>• Lobby for more money</li> <li>• Explain programs to grass roots (marketing programs)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Advertise to different interest groups (newspaper, radio, social media, apps, twitter, Instagram)</li> <li>• IWILL funding</li> <li>• Expand the connection from professionals in the field to educators/students/general public</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Promotion and funding</li> <li>• Simplify grant process</li> <li>• Timing for money</li> <li>• Allocated funding to county and regional historical groups</li> <li>• State groups – REAP</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pass Natural Resources Trust Fund (IWILL) – 63% already initiated</li> </ul>

## Region 4: Correctionville (Cherokee, Ida, Monona, Plymouth, Woodbury)

**Attendance:** 27

**Chair:** Jason Yocky

**Approved Motions:**

- 1) This REAP Assembly recommends that the 2016 REAP Congress supports fully funding the Natural Resources and Outdoor Recreation Trust Fund through the passage of a 3/8th of a percent increase of Iowa's statewide sales tax. Vote: Unanimous.
- 2) This REAP Assembly recommends that the 2016 REAP Congress supports fully funding REAP. Vote: Unanimous.
- 3) This REAP Assembly recommends that the 2016 REAP Congress supports keeping the REAP formula intact. Vote: Passed.

**Small Group Responses:**

Outdoor Recreation	Conservation Education	Historic Preservation	Natural Resources Conservation
<b>Unmet Needs</b>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Land acquisition as whole river trails</li> <li>• Infrastructure needs</li> <li>• Accessibility (ADA)</li> <li>• Protection of delicate habitats, natural resources and native species</li> <li>• Conservation education</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Funding for natural playscapes</li> <li>• Educator funding for schools – curriculum that is STEM ready</li> <li>• Supplement transp. funding</li> <li>• Connecting educators to local resources</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Education regarding Native American archeological sites and learning centers</li> <li>• Livestock raising in Ida County</li> <li>• Historic transportation education: stagecoaches, railroads, roads – getting Iowa of mud. Airplanes in NW Iowa</li> <li>• Military actions in NW Iowa</li> <li>• Ethnic groups/religious minorities</li> <li>• History of industries in towns.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Funding:</li> <li>• Flexibility with the scope for funding</li> <li>• Lack of public relations and exposure</li> <li>• Expanded possibilities to idle land</li> <li>• Education</li> </ul>
<b>Roadblocks for increased participation</b>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fully funding or not being funded</li> <li>• Short staffed: facilities suffer, maintenance suffer</li> <li>• Need more education with legis/local leaders/general public.</li> <li>• Conserv./rec seems to be expendable</li> <li>• Lack of lobbying power</li> <li>• Awareness of needs for recreation</li> <li>• Competition with other programs (i.e. school, civic, etc.)</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ignorance and disinterest</li> <li>• Money is always a problem</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Land prices</li> <li>• Commodity prices</li> <li>• Uncertainty of funding</li> </ul>
<b>Strategies to overcome roadblocks</b>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Awareness/education of the media, constituents and general public.</li> <li>• Initiated by REAP recipients, followed by all interested.</li> <li>• Newsletters, signs talk to civic groups, emails, county foundations</li> <li>• Talk to legislators and local leaders. Don't hesitate. Write, email, call, and show up at town halls.</li> <li>• Emphasize economic impact of recreation</li> <li>• Signage</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improved outreach on CEP (who, what, when, why)</li> <li>• Fund IWILL to get additional money without opening up REAP formula</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Programs in County Historic Societies:</li> <li>• Weddings</li> <li>• Collecting old items for the Stagecoach Inn</li> <li>• Preserving and rebuilding important buildings and structures</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Being pro-active on farming practices</li> <li>• Stable funding source</li> </ul>

**Region 5: Fort Dodge** (Calhoun, Hamilton, Humboldt, Pocahontas, Webster, Wright)

**Attendance:** 41

**Chair:** Robert Lynch

**Approved Motions:**

- 1) This REAP Assembly recommends that the 2016 REAP Congress supports fully funding the Natural Resources and Outdoor Recreation Trust Fund through the passage of a 3/8th of a percent increase of Iowa’s statewide sales tax. Vote: Unanimous.
- 2) This REAP Assembly recommends that the 2016 REAP Congress supports fully funding REAP. Vote: Unanimous.
- 3) This REAP Assembly recommends that the 2016 REAP Congress supports keeping the REAP formula intact. Vote: Unanimous.

**Small Group Responses:**

Outdoor Recreation	Conservation Education	Historic Preservation	Natural Resources Conservation
<b>Unmet Needs</b>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Not enough projects/programs for kids education</li> <li>• More trails – beginners, connectors, etc.</li> <li>• More public lands and access to outdoor recreation opportunities</li> <li>• Land management programs to protect public lands</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Regional limitations</li> <li>• Connection information/signage</li> <li>• Unable to reach individual counties</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Wilson Brewer Park:                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Log cabins</li> <li>• Designating as historic district</li> <li>• Funding for rehab</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Hamilton County Fairgrounds                             <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Designation as historic district</li> <li>b. Many unique buildings</li> </ol> </li> <li>• Farm advertising signs</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Funding</li> <li>• Balancing production and conservation</li> <li>• Capacity building in local offices</li> <li>• Funding for specific projects (soil erosion, wetland protection, etc.)</li> <li>• Management</li> <li>• Water quality funding and monitoring</li> <li>• Education and outreach on water</li> </ul>
<b>Roadblocks for increased participation</b>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lack of public awareness</li> <li>• Too many electronic gadgets</li> <li>• Not enough funding</li> <li>• Competition of people’s time (all ages)</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Need guidance for nominations</li> <li>• Education about funding opportunities</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Funding</li> <li>• Mindset on conservation</li> <li>• Current laws</li> <li>• Lack of education</li> </ul>
<b>Strategies to overcome roadblocks</b>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increase funding – legislature and IWILL</li> <li>• Increase awareness /promotions – use social media, use youth groups to increase green initiatives</li> <li>• Increase local groups with outdoor interests</li> <li>• Educating legislators and county supervisors on outdoor recreation efforts and needs</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Counties band together (i.e. traveling displays)</li> <li>• “Borrow” funding from Soil and Water for public education                             <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Small percent</li> <li>b. Cover education on water quality</li> <li>c. Inform public benefits for everyone</li> </ol> </li> <li>• Inform public of the need</li> <li>• Ask for funding, make the need known</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Need for information about National Register Workshop</li> <li>• Grants writing workshop</li> <li>• Better working relationship with REAP/HRDP</li> <li>• Better website</li> <li>• Locals generate contact then state generate adequate response</li> <li>• Establish Historic Preservation Commission</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• IWILL – Raise sales tax (Iowa Legislature)</li> <li>• Need more education for everyone</li> <li>• More research and funding for research (regent universities and IA Legislature)</li> </ul>

**Region 6: Marshalltown** (Hardin, Marshall, Poweshiek, Tama)

**Attendance:** 30

**Chair:** Mark Vavroch

**Approved Motions:**

- 1) This REAP Assembly recommends that the 2016 REAP Congress supports fully funding the Natural Resources and Outdoor Recreation Trust Fund through the passage of a 3/8th of a percent increase of Iowa's statewide sales tax. Vote: Unanimous.
- 2) This REAP Assembly recommends that the 2016 REAP Congress supports fully funding REAP. Vote: Unanimous.
- 3) This REAP Assembly recommends that the 2016 REAP Congress supports keeping the REAP formula intact. Vote: Unanimous.

**Small Group Responses:**

Outdoor Recreation	Natural Resources Conservation
<b>Unmet Needs</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Campground and cabins</li> <li>• Biking and hiking trails</li> <li>• Wildlife areas</li> <li>• Environmental education</li> <li>• Public access for everyone</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Watershed Projects (lake protection)</li> <li>• Habitat and hunting opportunities</li> <li>• Education of landowners of good farming techniques</li> </ul>
<b>Roadblocks for increased participation</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Campground and cabins</li> <li>• Biking and hiking trails</li> <li>• Wildlife areas</li> <li>• Environmental education</li> <li>• Public access for everyone</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Funding and education (landowners and everyone)</li> <li>• We can be our own worst enemy</li> </ul>
<b>Strategies to overcome roadblocks</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Education</li> <li>• Funding</li> <li>• Marketing</li> <li>• Social Media</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Field Days – Coordination on education – set curriculum</li> <li>• Acceptance of nature planting through education</li> <li>• Infiltration practices</li> </ul>

**Region 7: Cedar Falls** (Black Hawk, Bremer, Buchanan, Butler, Chickasaw, Grundy)

**Attendance:** 84

**Chair:** Roger White

**Approved Motions:**

- 1) This REAP Assembly recommends that the 2016 REAP Congress supports fully funding REAP. Vote: Unanimous.
- 2) This REAP Assembly recommends that the 2016 REAP Congress supports fully funding the Natural Resources and Outdoor Recreation Trust Fund through the passage of a 3/8th of a percent increase of Iowa's statewide sales tax. Vote: Unanimous.
- 3) This REAP Assembly recommends that the 2016 REAP Congress supports keeping the REAP formula intact, but increase the REAP CEP portion to \$600,000. Vote: Passed.



**Small Group Responses:**

Outdoor Recreation	Conservation Education	Historic Preservation	Natural Resources Conservation
<b>Unmet Needs</b>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Not enough money in the pool</li> <li>• Increasing land values</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Stronger partnerships with STEM at UNI (statewide headquarters) to show conservation role in STEM</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 5% is too low</li> <li>• Education about funding to cities/counties/Historic Preservation Commission</li> <li>• Contractors that understand historic preservation</li> <li>• Education provided to individual homeowners/private businesses that they are eligible for these funds</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Habitat</li> <li>• Soil</li> <li>• Water</li> <li>• Funding for practices</li> <li>• Funding for expert staff</li> <li>• Education about practices – urban and community and rural workshops</li> <li>• State funding</li> <li>• Better (urban and rural) land management practices and windbreaks</li> <li>• Pollinator program support</li> </ul>
<b>Roadblocks for increased participation</b>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Public access – specific to activity, i.e. kayaks</li> <li>• ADA</li> <li>• Restrooms</li> <li>• Disconnection from outdoors</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Raise funds to current real world dollars and index it. What is that worth? \$600,000?</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Available money</li> <li>• Space for development (tear down old, build new)</li> <li>• Volunteers</li> <li>• Not enough contractors who know about historic preservation standards</li> <li>• City/county staff that aren't sympathetic to historic preservation</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Private ownership</li> <li>• Lack of funding</li> <li>• Public apathy</li> <li>• Lack of education</li> <li>• Urban sprawl</li> <li>• Legislative hesitation</li> </ul>
<b>Strategies to overcome roadblocks</b>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Expand education opportunities</li> <li>• More mentors</li> <li>• All ages of community</li> <li>• Maintaining trails and facilities – additional signage</li> <li>• Connecting resources</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Leverage next generation science standards: medicine, energy, environment, to reintroduce Conservation Education into classroom.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Invite state staff to provide workshops about historic preservation</li> <li>• Getting young people involved – service projects</li> <li>• Finding use/re-use strategy that is sustainable.</li> <li>• Get this education in high school classes to teach younger generation – spark imagination of young people who should initiate.</li> <li>• Who should do this?: Historic Preservation Commissions, interested locals to encourage starting historic preservation commission</li> <li>• History teachers</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Partnerships</li> <li>• IWILL</li> <li>• Fund REAP at \$20 Million (or more)</li> <li>• Contact legislators</li> <li>• Community outreach education</li> <li>• Alternative funding strategies to leverage REAP dollars</li> <li>• Vote informatively</li> </ul>

**Region 8: Maquoketa (Cedar, Clinton, Delaware, Dubuque, Jackson)**

**Attendance:** 34

**Chair:** Ann Burns

**Approved Motions:**

- 1) This REAP Assembly recommends that the 2016 REAP Congress supports fully funding the Natural Resources and Outdoor Recreation Trust Fund through the passage of a 3/8th of a percent increase of Iowa's statewide sales tax. Vote: Unanimous.

- 2) This REAP Assembly recommends that the 2016 REAP Congress supports fully funding REAP. Vote: Unanimous.
- 3) This REAP Assembly recommends that the 2016 REAP Congress supports keeping the REAP formula intact. Vote: Unanimous.
- 4) The Department of Natural resource conducts an economic impact study on REAP. Vote: Unanimous.

Outdoor Recreation	Conservation Education	Historic Preservation	Natural Resources Conservation
<b>Unmet Needs</b>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Expansion of trails (hiking, biking and water)</li> <li>• Environmentally sensitive areas and areas contiguous to existing public land</li> <li>• Repair, maintenance, improvements, expansion (staff to help maintain and sustain)</li> <li>• Access</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Field trips – schools should be able to get REAP CEP funds</li> <li>• High adventure trip experiences – multi-day outdoor trips</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• City owned property not eligible for tax credits</li> <li>• Would like HRDP to shepherd cities through the process to incentivize historic preservation in city/county government.</li> <li>• Modern preservation costs are hard to cover with limited funding</li> <li>• Simplification of application process and reporting process</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pollinator habitat – STRIPS Program at ISU – Prairie habitat in field buffers with pollinator habitat</li> <li>• Water Quality in Iowa in general</li> <li>• Wetland development – true wetland development. Biofilters – not boxes</li> <li>• Invasive species control – everywhere</li> </ul>
<b>Roadblocks for increased participation</b>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Access – Proximity</li> <li>• Running water, electricity</li> <li>• Funding</li> <li>• People not knowing where to go: marketing, one stop shop (website with paid staff to maintain, booklet/brochure)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Transportation</li> <li>• \$350,000 less value now than 26 years ago</li> <li>• Better and more training for part-time interpreters (city, county and state)</li> <li>• Parks to People get extra points on grant applications</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• General awareness of what it means to be part of Nation Register and historic preservation. What is available and rules.</li> <li>• Red tape</li> <li>• Lack of knowledge of what preservation is</li> <li>• Volunteer based organizations (strength and weakness)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Price of corn</li> <li>• Political</li> <li>• Lack of data – what are nitrate levels, now and historical. No common standard, no sharing between DNR and IDALS, etc. No one knows what data means.</li> <li>• General funding for water quality and water quality monitoring</li> <li>• Trained county sanitarians out testing but don't test anything but drinking water wells.</li> <li>• Lack of education on problems</li> <li>• Lack of education</li> <li>• Funding and staffing to collect info and data – all levels are short on people and funding</li> </ul>
<b>Strategies to overcome roadblocks</b>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Economic development entities partnerships</li> <li>• Paid staff and/or service contracts for wastewater/water, maintenance, regional planning</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• State could be a leader in incorporating history and heritage resources into school curriculum</li> <li>• Working with network of organizations that deal with history on a daily basis</li> <li>• Significant donations that can help sustain</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Education – People just don't understand               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Help make decisions based on real data</li> <li>b. Broader understanding of programs available</li> <li>c. Help people understand it is happening</li> <li>d. If we don't change...</li> <li>e. Even as simple as trash and impact on water</li> </ol> </li> <li>• Full funding of REAP and other related programs</li> </ul>

		organizations/collections (Jackson County Farm example) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Know who does certain things in your county (contractors, for example)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Consistent and reliable long range funding</li> <li>• Pass IWILL</li> <li>• Stakeholders (hunters, trail users, volunteers, bird watchers, entomologists) – good examples of how they are involved</li> <li>• NRCS, DNR – work together marketing and outreach to non-profits, other public agencies, legislators and voters</li> </ul>
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**Region 9: Davenport** (Muscatine, Scott)

**Attendance:** 26

**Chair:** Larry Makoben

**Approved Motions:**

- 1) This REAP Assembly recommends that the 2016 REAP Congress supports fully funding the Natural Resources and Outdoor Recreation Trust Fund through the passage of a 3/8th of a percent increase of Iowa’s statewide sales tax. Vote: Unanimous.
- 2) This REAP Assembly recommends that the 2016 REAP Congress supports fully funding REAP. Vote: Unanimous.
- 3) This REAP Assembly recommends that the 2016 REAP Congress supports keeping the REAP formula intact. Vote: Unanimous.
- 4) This REAP Assembly recommends that the 2016 REAP Congress supports the preservation of agricultural lands. Vote: Unanimous.

**Small Group Responses:**

Outdoor Recreation	Conservation Education	Historic Preservation	Natural Resources Conservation
<b>Unmet Needs</b>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop new Deep Lakes Park in Muscatine County</li> <li>• Campgrounds and additional cabins at Scott County parks</li> <li>• Enhancements to Lost Grove Lake (trails, restrooms)</li> <li>• Connectivity of trail systems</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Urban conservation education</li> <li>• Minority populations</li> <li>• How to get people involved? Especially urban population</li> <li>• Young Ag. Students</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Need more funds into pie piece to fund more projects – overall and percentage to HRDP</li> <li>• Additional publicity to increase awareness of program</li> <li>• Better outreach to neighborhood organizations to increase awareness and assist applicants</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Roadside native plantings</li> <li>• Promote conservation and preservation of agricultural land</li> <li>• Promote IWILL</li> <li>• Inadequate funding for conservation</li> </ul>
<b>Roadblocks for increased participation</b>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Adequate funding for projects</li> <li>• Construction, maintenance and infrastructure costs</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• People – Interest of people</li> <li>• Money</li> <li>• Awareness and accessibility to places</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No category for neighborhood improvements – focus only on building, not neighborhood/environment</li> <li>• Need assistance to write grant applications</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Political roadblocks</li> <li>• Lack of government oversight (zoning) to protect natural resources. Need “smart growth.”</li> <li>• Budgets</li> </ul>
<b>Strategies to overcome roadblocks</b>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Stable funding</li> <li>• Fund IWILL (3/8)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Early exposure – get youth out to places</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• More technical assistance prior to grant application –</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Effective education and lobbying</li> </ul>

cent sales tax for Natural Resource Trust Fund)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Money – bus</li> <li>• Creative ways to educate – boat tours – recreate and educate. County Conservation Boards and non-profits working with partners – what are the needs?</li> </ul>	scope and grant writing <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• More partnerships with local and state organizations</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Political leadership</li> <li>• Lack of education/connection to natural environment</li> </ul>
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**Region 10: Oxford** (Benton, Iowa, Johnson, Jones, Linn, Washington)

**Attendance:** 61

**Chair:** Matt Purdy

**Approved Motions:**

- 1) This REAP Assembly recommends that the 2016 REAP Congress supports fully funding the Natural Resources and Outdoor Recreation Trust Fund with the original formula through the passage of a 3/8th of a percent increase of Iowa’s statewide sales tax. **Vote: Unanimous.**
- 2) This REAP Assembly recommends that the 2016 REAP Congress supports fully funding REAP. **Vote: Unanimous.**
- 3) This REAP Assembly recommends that the 2016 REAP Congress supports keeping the REAP formula intact. **Vote: Unanimous.**
- 4) Increased emphasis on trails and connectivity in REAP grants. **Vote: Passed.**
- 5) Integrate cultural and recreation in grant funding. **Vote: Unanimous.**
- 6) REAP projects should encourage public, private, NGO and government partnerships; projects for underserved populations and alternative forms of recreation. **Vote: Unanimous.**

**Small Group Responses:**

Outdoor Recreation	Conservation Education	Historic Preservation	Natural Resources Conservation
<b>Unmet Needs</b>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Connect bicycle routes</li> <li>• Alternative trails (single track)</li> <li>• Trailheads with facilities (restrooms)</li> <li>• Access to drinking water</li> <li>• Creating water features – drainage and retain on site</li> <li>• Removing dangerous features along river systems, such as dams. Convert to recreation help health of stream, aquatic species habitat</li> <li>• Restoration of wooden trail bridges</li> <li>• Unpaved trails – great for runners</li> <li>• Multi-jurisdictional/regional planning for trails</li> <li>• Importance of things like repair stations</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Funds targeting transportation for, multi-generational groups, service projects, pre-K, K-16 grades, extended week-long experiences)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Education/recovery of some lesser known resources (Napoleon town in Johnson County)</li> <li>• Non-contributing resources in historic districts that can’t get historic preservation funds – get worse instead of improving.</li> <li>• Connecting historic and natural resources interpretation on trails, for example</li> <li>• Identification of historical resources</li> <li>• Coordination with owners of historical resources</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Need to be fully funded</li> <li>• Improve roadside vegetation, rename roadside to prairie? Encourage no mowing.</li> <li>• Opportunities for corridors (roadsides, streams, habitat, trails)</li> <li>• Education for elected officials, possibly “example projects” in each county. Target people for understanding of REAP</li> <li>• Identify remaining natural areas in state</li> <li>• Education on invasive species</li> <li>• Not enough money for Soil and Water Conservation Districts</li> </ul>
<b>Roadblocks for increased participation</b>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Trail connectivity</li> <li>• Proximity of outdoor rec to at risk,</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Funding</li> <li>• Transportation</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Not enough money</li> <li>• Lack of education of</li> </ul>	

<p>low income</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Enforceable signage, educational signage</li> <li>• Engaging tourism, travel agency (ex. High Trestle)</li> <li>• Variety in new recreation opportunities: cyclo-cross, whitewater, kayaking, mountain biking, paddle boarding</li> <li>• Increase knowledge of biking safety, for both riders and drivers</li> <li>• Cost – can be expensive</li> <li>• Water Quality</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Availability</li> <li>• Curriculum (professional development)</li> </ul>	<p>what historic preservation is</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Not all about building</li> <li>• Fear of paperwork/red tape</li> </ul>	
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**Strategies to overcome roadblocks**

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Educate both bikers and drivers</li> <li>• Educate public on value of outdoor recreation</li> <li>• Public and private partnerships. Both government and non-profit, etc.</li> <li>• Acceptance of diverse recreational opportunities</li> <li>• Continued advocacy for fully funding REAP and IWILL</li> <li>• Engage youth in these activities</li> <li>• Look at other states’ opportunities and bring those back to Iowa</li> <li>• Working with communities to capitalize on outdoor recreation opportunities</li> <li>• Who to initiate these strategies: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Communities</li> <li>b. Organizations – more collaborations</li> <li>c. Social media is powerful – use it!</li> <li>d. Youth summer programs – schools, CCB, etc.</li> <li>e. Education – project based learning</li> <li>f. Community development groups, Chamber of Commerce – work with each other – big town helping small town</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Working together</li> <li>• Training</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Funding – elections matter</li> <li>• Money set aside for targeted projects</li> <li>• Facilitating getting info and help navigating the historic preservation requirements</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Disconnect between people and legislators</li> <li>• Work toward educating legislators</li> <li>• Get folks to understand communication with legislators is key</li> <li>• Elect people favorable to REAP/Conservation issues</li> <li>• Need to find out how legislators vote. Who grades them? (League of Conservation Voters, Sierra Club, League of Women Voters)</li> <li>• Strategic plan to connect conservation groups to evaluate officials, invite officials to meetings</li> </ul>
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**Region 11: Bondurant** (Boone, Dallas, Jasper, Marion, Polk, Story, Warren)

**Attendance:** 42

**Chair:** Joe McGovern

**Approved Motions:**

- 1) This REAP Assembly recommends that the 2016 REAP Congress supports fully funding the Natural Resources and Outdoor Recreation Trust Fund with the original formula through the passage of a 3/8th of a percent increase of Iowa’s statewide sales tax. Vote: Unanimous.
- 2) This REAP Assembly recommends that the 2016 REAP Congress supports fully funding REAP. Vote: Unanimous.

- 3) This REAP Assembly recommends that the 2016 REAP Congress supports keeping the REAP formula intact. Vote: Unanimous.
- 4) REAP Congress partner with community foundations to leverage funds. Vote: Unanimous.
- 5) Resolution to thank the support and partnership of the state agencies that administer REAP. Vote: Unanimous.

**Small Group Responses:**

Outdoor Recreation	Conservation Education	Historic Preservation	Natural Resources Conservation
<b>Unmet Needs</b>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Trails</li> <li>• Lakes</li> <li>• Greenways – Conservation, Flood protection, recreation</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Missing other avenues: phone apps, web applications, TV commercials, etc. Can be hard to evaluate.</li> <li>• More PR to general public/local media</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Not enough survey/identification of resources               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. things being destroyed that should be saved</li> </ol> </li> <li>• Per county allocation for HP education</li> <li>• Need more education – separate category</li> <li>• Acknowledgement of natural resources as historical/cultural resources</li> <li>• Funding of pioneer cemetery identification/preservation</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cost for equipment (such as strip tillers)</li> <li>• Watershed improvements</li> <li>• Buffers around watersheds</li> <li>• Education and outreach around conservation practices: cover crops and tillage</li> <li>• Funding watershed assessments</li> <li>• Funding: Fully fund REAP and IWILL</li> <li>• Technical Assistance</li> <li>• Targeting, Assessments of what we’ve got (species, plants, etc.)</li> <li>• Preserving wildlife corridors</li> </ul>
<b>Roadblocks for increased participation</b>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Awareness</li> <li>• Clearing House for grants</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• More money/fully fund REAP</li> <li>• Evaluation is important but hard</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Not enough money</li> <li>• Private ownership and lack of education/continued interest for private owners</li> <li>• Lack of ordinances in some communities</li> <li>• Not enough education about historic preservation for local leaders</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Funding</li> <li>• Staff capacity</li> <li>• Build conservation into core curriculum (urban and rural)</li> <li>• Legislators need to hear about fully funding REAP and Iowa’s Water and Land Legacy</li> <li>• Ag Education – conservation embedded</li> </ul>
<b>Strategies to overcome roadblocks</b>			
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• REAP CEP process has improved,</li> <li>• Process also has instant feedback</li> <li>• Call-in option for evaluation meetings is positive</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Communicating model ordinances</li> <li>• More historic surveys to identify resources               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Done proactively, not reactively</li> <li>b. City/County comprehensive plans</li> <li>c. Local initiation, but that can be complicated</li> </ol> </li> </ul>	

**Region 12: Carroll** (Audubon, Carroll, Crawford, Greene, Guthrie, Sac)

**Attendance:** 18

**Chair:** Jim Frederick

**Small Group Responses:**

Outdoor Recreation	Conservation Education	Historic Preservation	Natural Resources Conservation
<b>Unmet Needs</b>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Knowledge to know what to put in the grant application</li> <li>• REAP grant workshops</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• More staff. Both temporary staff and full time. Each state park have own interpreter.</li> <li>• Simplify CEP Grant process</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• More education on grant writing, availability, types of grants, computer technology</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Riparian corridors – develop and protect migratory pathways</li> <li>• Enforce roadway mowing laws/policies (frequency of mowing, protection of native habitats/seedlings)</li> <li>• Educate landowners (FSA/NRCS)</li> </ul>
<b>Roadblocks for increased participation</b>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Being able to make regional connections</li> <li>• Public awareness</li> <li>• Money</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Match</li> <li>• Explanation of match requirements. In-kind v. cash (somewhat confusing)</li> </ul>	
<b>Strategies to overcome roadblocks</b>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Understand what REAP is about with help from the Iowa League of Cities</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Marketing to audiences               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Attracting attendees to programs</li> <li>b. Train educators by professional marketers</li> <li>c. Market statewide environmental educational programs</li> <li>d. Big public image campaign – Statewide professional campaign (billboards, utilize social media, TV commercials, see Colorado Tourism commercials)</li> <li>e. Public perception</li> </ol> </li> <li>• Led by DNR with support from Iowa Association of County Conservation Boards, Non-government organizations, 501c3</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Eliminate match requirement</li> <li>• More funding</li> <li>• Assistance with website development for properties, training for web site development</li> <li>• Development of heritage tourism program to reach out to the state and nation more</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lack of funding: Fully fund REAP, fund IWILL</li> <li>• Educate children to inform parents</li> <li>• Legislature lobbied through grassroots efforts</li> <li>• Educational standards at state and county levels</li> </ul>

**Region 13: Clarinda** (Fremont, Mill, Montgomery, Page)

**Attendance:** 23

**Chair:** Barbara Johnson

**Approved Motions:**

- 1) This REAP Assembly recommends that the 2016 REAP Congress supports fully funding the Natural Resources and Outdoor Recreation Trust Fund with the original formula through the passage of a 3/8th of a percent increase of Iowa's statewide sales tax. Vote: Unanimous.
- 2) This REAP Assembly recommends that the 2016 REAP Congress supports fully funding REAP. Vote: Unanimous.
- 3) This REAP Assembly recommends that the 2016 REAP Congress supports keeping the REAP formula intact. Vote: Unanimous.
- 4) REAP should assist with stream buffer initiative, including saturated buffer. Iowans should see buffers along all waterways. Vote: Passed.

**Small Group Responses:**

Outdoor Recreation	Conservation Education	Historic Preservation	Natural Resources Conservation
<b>Unmet Needs</b>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Communication of Resources                             <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. People don't know what is there (local and tourist alike)</li> <li>b. People don't know what funds are available</li> </ol> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Change admin. grant payment structure</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lack of funding</li> <li>• Lack of volunteer help</li> <li>• Lack of identification/awareness of what resources are here</li> <li>• More advertising/PR: press releases to newspapers/radio stations=free advertising, historical societies to classrooms, free library programs, networking</li> <li>• Help with how-to exhibit</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Funding; narrow focus on existing programs</li> </ul>
<b>Roadblocks for increased participation</b>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Modern facilities                             <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Upgrade electric</li> <li>b. Restrooms</li> <li>c. Water</li> </ol> </li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Getting younger generation interested</li> <li>• Getting students out to sites to turn about history (not enough time, funding)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Production agriculture</li> </ul>
<b>Strategies to overcome roadblocks</b>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Water Recreation                             <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Pond/lake rehab</li> <li>b. Docks/slips</li> <li>c. Water trails</li> </ol> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• See more money from grants getting to schools</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Networking with other counties in region</li> <li>• More training loser to this region</li> <li>• Getting involved with National History Day (starts with social studies/history teachers)</li> <li>• Combing environmental/historical education (Mont. Co. Oregon Trail, Day in country school</li> <li>• Developing a working volunteer board</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Legislative support, lobbying, educating</li> <li>• Need expanded and new programs for landowners and farmers</li> <li>• New buffer programs for streams</li> <li>• Programs for land that is currently sustainable and keeping it that way (i.e. no need for crop history to enroll in program)</li> </ul>



**Region 14: Afton** (Adair, Adams, Clarke, Decatur, Madison, Ringgold, Taylor, Union)

**Attendance:** 19

**Chair:** John Tapken

**Approved Motions:**

- 1) This REAP Assembly recommends that the 2016 REAP Congress supports fully funding the Natural Resources and Outdoor Recreation Trust Fund with the original formula through the passage of a 3/8th of a percent increase of Iowa’s statewide sales tax. Vote: Unanimous.
- 2) This REAP Assembly recommends that the 2016 REAP Congress supports fully funding REAP. Vote: Unanimous.
- 3) This REAP Assembly recommends that the 2016 REAP Congress supports keeping the REAP formula intact. Vote: Unanimous.

**Small Group Responses:**

Outdoor Recreation	Conservation Education	Historic Preservation	Natural Resources Conservation
<b>Unmet Needs</b>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Green Valley to McKinley Park Trail</li> <li>• Cabins at Three Mile Lake</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Establishing exhibits</li> <li>• Maintaining exhibits</li> <li>• Interpretive signage</li> <li>• Teacher training</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Private ownership access to funding</li> <li>• Finding uses for historic properties</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Streambank stabilization</li> <li>• Natural resources staff</li> </ul>
<b>Roadblocks for increased participation</b>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Great projects aren’t funded because of competition for limited resources</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Absentee owners</li> <li>• Money</li> <li>• Timelines – getting to these properties before they are beyond help</li> <li>• Getting individuals interested in serving and with a passion for historic preservation on commissions/ volunteer organizations</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Participation</li> <li>• Lack of knowledgeable mentors/advisors</li> <li>• Fear of government/programs...fear of giving up control</li> <li>• Knowledge of available resources (staff/funding) and availability of staff</li> </ul>
<b>Strategies to overcome roadblocks</b>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Additional funding</li> <li>• Fully fund REAP @ \$20 Million in 2016</li> <li>• Fully fund Natural Resources and Outdoor Recreation Trust Fund (3/8% increase in Iowa’s Sales Tax).</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Establishing exhibits</li> <li>• Maintaining exhibits</li> <li>• Interpretive signage</li> <li>• Teacher training</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Working with State Historic Preservation Commission</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Eagerly looking for collaborations with public agencies, NGOs, partnerships</li> </ul>

**Region 15: Ottumwa** (Davis, Jefferson, Keokuk, Mahaska, Van Buren, Wapello)

**Attendance:** 18

**Chair:** Gene Rathje

**Approved Motions:**

- 1) This REAP Assembly recommends that the 2016 REAP Congress supports fully funding the Natural Resources and Outdoor Recreation Trust Fund with the original formula through the passage of a 3/8th of a percent increase of Iowa's statewide sales tax. Vote: Passed.
- 2) This REAP Assembly recommends that the 2016 REAP Congress supports fully funding REAP. Vote: Passed.
- 3) This REAP Assembly recommends that the 2016 REAP Congress supports keeping the REAP formula intact. Vote: Passed.
- 4) Fund REAP with a stable source, such as the General Fund. Vote: Passed.

**Small Group Responses:**

Outdoor Recreation	Conservation Education	Natural Resources Conservation
<b>Unmet Needs</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Funding for inter-trail connection actively</li> <li>• Public/Private land access</li> <li>• More opportunity for environmental education in schools</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Displays developed to share – traveling displays/conservation trailer</li> <li>• Money for bus transportation to outside areas</li> <li>• Fund workshops for teachers on conservation topics</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lack of public land – partner with private landowners</li> <li>• Conservation easements</li> <li>• Resources to help smaller counties 0 rotating funds for larger projects</li> <li>• Conservation education</li> <li>• Lake reclamation</li> </ul>
<b>Roadblocks for increased participation</b>		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Funding</li> <li>• Time limitations</li> <li>• Resources</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Money</li> <li>• Public awareness</li> <li>• Legislative will</li> <li>• Executive will</li> <li>• Timing</li> <li>• Whose job is it? – System awareness</li> </ul>
<b>Strategies to overcome roadblocks</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• More education and communication</li> <li>• Outreach to landowners on land management/best practices</li> <li>• More sharing of educational resources</li> <li>• Naturalists in more counties</li> <li>• More education on eligibility and how to apply for grant programs</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lobby legislators</li> <li>• Develop plan to present with input from county conservation board directors</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Raising public awareness</li> <li>• Find a better way to educate the public. Who should do it? In the education system, county conservation programs in schools</li> <li>• Lack of funding for REAP and conservation education in schools</li> <li>• Full time naturalist in each state park</li> <li>• Getting kids out to the parks – no funding now. County conservation boards should do this</li> </ul>

**Region 16: Burlington** (Des Moines, Henry, Lee, Louisa)

**Attendance:** 21

**Chair:** Al Ourth

**Approved Motions:**

- 1) This REAP Assembly recommends that the 2016 REAP Congress supports fully funding the Natural Resources and Outdoor Recreation Trust Fund with the original formula through the passage of a 3/8th of a percent increase of Iowa’s statewide sales tax. Vote: Passed.
- 2) This REAP Assembly recommends that the 2016 REAP Congress supports fully funding REAP. Vote: Passed.
- 3) This REAP Assembly recommends that the 2016 REAP Congress supports keeping the REAP formula intact. Vote: Passed.

**Recommendation:** Form a REAP Promotional Committee to produce educational and marketing material.

**Small Group Responses:**

Outdoor Recreation	Conservation Education	Historic Preservation	Natural Resources Conservation
<b>Unmet Needs</b>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Funding for trail infrastructure</li> <li>• More native plants and habitat in cities</li> <li>• Shooting ranges</li> <li>• Park development and infrastructure</li> <li>• New parks and corridors</li> <li>• Creating corridors</li> <li>• Increased boat access</li> <li>• Amenities at boat accesses</li> <li>• Water trails</li> <li>• Land acquisition</li> <li>• More places to fish</li> <li>• Increased walk-ins (hunting, fishing)</li> <li>• Creating parks which improve water quality</li> <li>• Slowdown runoff, etc.</li> <li>• Pollinator habitat</li> <li>• Historic ties</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Money</li> <li>• Places to educate</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Leopold Homes- need to purchase. \$1.2 million to purchase/operate</li> <li>• Need to educate about identification of historical resources. People may be intimidated by paperwork, process, requirements</li> <li>• Recognition of what REAP would fund</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Conservation projects – lots of need. Funding should be public/private</li> <li>• Lawsuits – promote unity to solve problems. What do other states do?</li> <li>• Promote good farming practices and enforce</li> <li>• Roadside mowing – promote prairie habitat, no minimum mowing</li> <li>• Wetlands/Riparian Buffer Zones –target areas, CRP acres</li> <li>• Out of state leases</li> </ul>
<b>Roadblocks for increased participation</b>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lack of funding</li> <li>• Not easily accessed</li> <li>• Disconnected recreation areas</li> <li>• Maintenance and development of existing parks</li> <li>• Education</li> <li>• Electronics – disconnect with outdoors</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Educate adults, the public</li> <li>• Educate youth leaders</li> <li>• Need a hook, focal point</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Education</li> <li>• Owners who don’t care about the historical resources they own or are afraid of limitations that National Register might cause</li> <li>• Economic development – tear down and build something new</li> <li>• Need for education about economic development opportunities of historic</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ease of signup for promoting conservation. Doing a good job</li> <li>• Legislators to promote conservation</li> <li>• Partners in investments in farms – not connected to land</li> </ul>

		property • Lack of money	
<b>Strategies to overcome roadblocks</b>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fund public agencies</li> <li>• Education – conservation education SHOULD be part of Common Core</li> <li>• Fund IWILL and REAP – original pie formula</li> <li>• Get more elected officials involved</li> <li>• Increase in volunteerism</li> <li>• Economic Development (proven) through natural areas</li> <li>• Alternate transportation routes</li> <li>• Who should work to overcome the roadblocks: County Conservation, DNR, Citizens of Iowa, Elected Officials, Anyone who drinks water</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Regionalize grant?</li> <li>• Widen guidelines for education grants</li> <li>• Make Conservation Ed. Part of Common Core. How the land organism works.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Historical Society and training needed – money</li> <li>• Funds could come from the state level</li> <li>• What role des the SHSI have to train, provide guidance for local historical societies? Could model after State Library?</li> <li>• Local historical society current members need to know how to train the next generation.</li> <li>• Take history to where people are “Bus-eum.” History trailer model.</li> <li>• Be part of existing events.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Education of groups (landowners: younger and older generations)</li> <li>• More recognition for good conservation practices</li> <li>• Promote urban conservation of fertilizer/chemicals.</li> </ul>

**Region 17: Council Bluffs** (Cass, Harrison, Pottawattamie, Shelby)

**Attendance:** 13

**Chair:** Scott Nelson

**Approved Motions:**

- 1) This REAP Assembly recommends that the 2016 REAP Congress supports fully funding the Natural Resources and Outdoor Recreation Trust Fund with the original formula through the passage of a 3/8th of a percent increase of Iowa’s statewide sales tax. Vote: Unanimous.
- 2) This REAP Assembly recommends that the 2016 REAP Congress supports fully funding REAP. Vote: Passed.
- 3) This REAP Assembly recommends that the 2016 REAP Congress supports keeping the REAP formula intact. Vote: Unanimous.
- 4) REAP programs should cooperate with federal programs. There should be open partnerships among different levels of government. Vote: Passed.
- 5) Soil and Water Conservation Districts and County Conservation Boards should be eligible for REAP CEP funds to identify streams. Vote: Passed.

**Small Group Responses:**

Outdoor Recreation	Conservation Education	Historic Preservation	Natural Resources Conservation
<b>Unmet Needs</b>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Funding</li> <li>• Access to public lands due to lack of availability</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Need more environmental educators               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Cost share for new EE positions</li> <li>b. Startup costs, training costs</li> <li>c. Use Springbrook more</li> </ol> </li> <li>• Watershed education               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Land uses and protection</li> <li>b. Water quality on local level</li> <li>c. Fund stream identification signs on highways to educate</li> </ol> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lack of awareness</li> <li>• Reluctance to apply (Council Bluffs area)</li> <li>• Disjointed organizations</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• More recreational opportunities</li> <li>• Poor water quality               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Need to tell the story better</li> <li>b. Things improving but need to do more</li> <li>c. NE Iowa has success stories</li> <li>d. Cover crops help</li> </ol> </li> </ul>

			e. Plant more STRIPS
<b>Roadblocks for increased participation</b>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lack of mentoring/recruitment</li> <li>• Transportation to the area</li> <li>• Lack of knowledge: what to do to fish and hunt, where to go to do it</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Funding</li> <li>• Time in schools – competition for time with common core</li> <li>• Field trips restricted for several reasons: cost share needed with schools</li> <li>• Partnerships needed with non-school interests</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Territoriality about owned resources (historical assets, documents)</li> <li>• Matching fund requirement</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Federal policy encouraging removal of conservation practices</li> <li>• Funding for conservation practices</li> <li>• Program flexibility</li> </ul>
<b>Strategies to overcome roadblocks</b>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• CEP (with early IWILL education)</li> <li>• Outdoor classes/classrooms</li> <li>• All recreation agencies need to participate: CCBs, 4-H, City Park and Rec, etc.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• AEA participation – among multiple schools</li> <li>• CCB participation with schools and public</li> <li>• Tie in with outdoor recreation programming</li> <li>• Initiate with a local interest committee led by Naturalist</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Allow 100% grant funding</li> <li>• Increased outreach</li> </ul>	

**Region 18: Chariton** (Appanoose, Lucas, Monroe, Wayne)

**Attendance:** 15

**Chair:** James Nelson

**Approved Motions:**

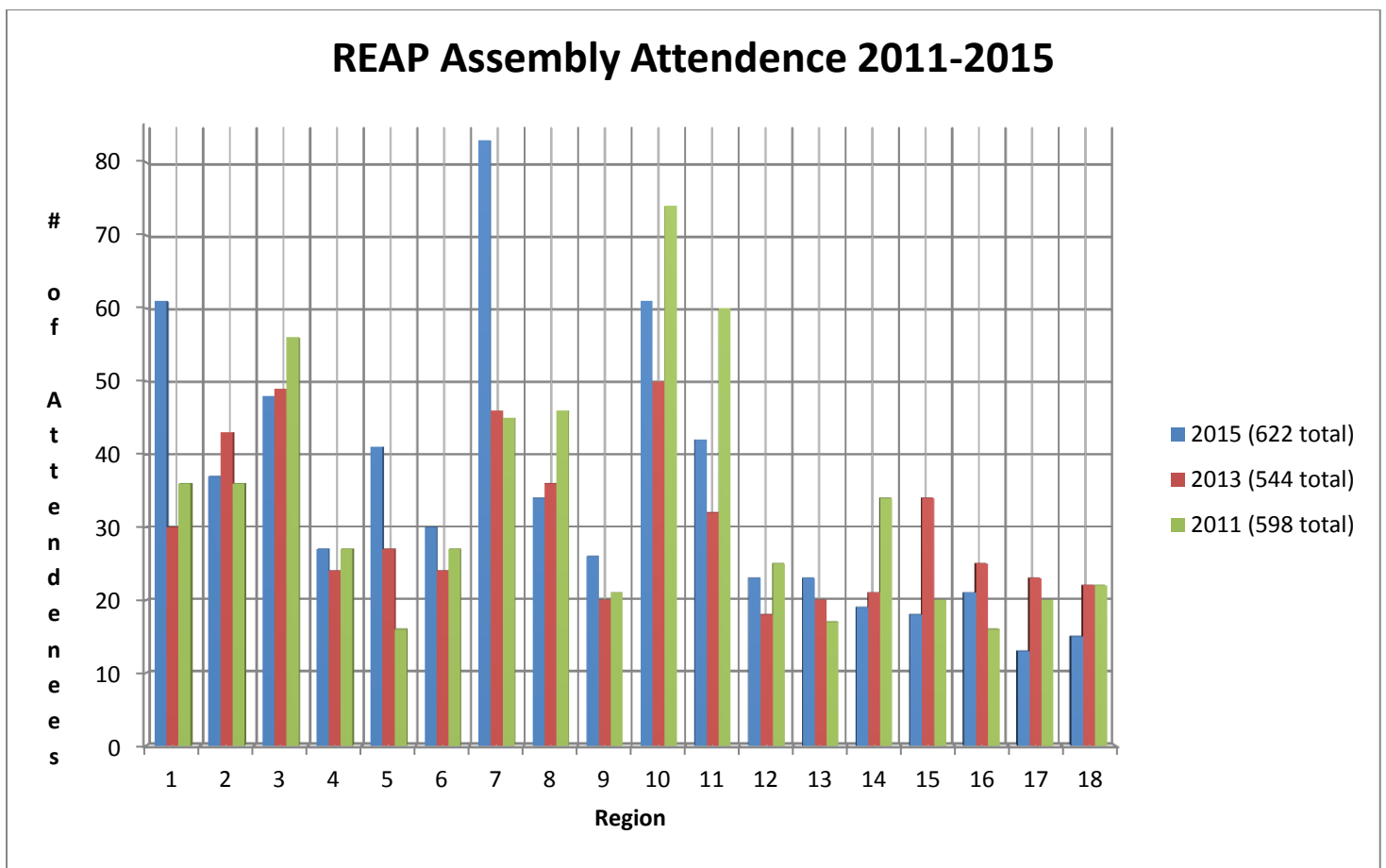
- 1) This REAP Assembly recommends that the 2016 REAP Congress supports fully funding the Natural Resources and Outdoor Recreation Trust Fund with the original formula through the passage of a 3/8th of a percent increase of Iowa’s statewide sales tax. Vote: Unanimous.
- 2) This REAP Assembly recommends that the 2016 REAP Congress supports fully funding REAP. Vote: Unanimous.
- 3) This REAP Assembly recommends that the 2016 REAP Congress supports keeping the REAP formula intact. Vote: Unanimous.

**Small Group Responses:**

Outdoor Recreation	Conservation Education	Historic Preservation	Natural Resources Conservation
<b>Unmet Needs</b>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Beach House Demo</li> <li>• Recreational trail connections and expansion</li> <li>• Cinder path upkeep</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Naturalist – part-time to full time</li> <li>• Partner with schools</li> <li>• Nature Centers (Education Centers)</li> <li>• Educational equipment</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Signage/identification of historic resources</li> <li>• Lots of buildings/resources – not enough money</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• More funds and full funding of REAP</li> <li>• Not enough public land</li> </ul>
<b>Roadblocks for increased participation</b>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Finances (of course)</li> <li>• Coordination between involved parties</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Funding</li> <li>• Competition of time and funding</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lack of funding</li> <li>• Lack of understanding that historic preservation is economic development</li> <li>• Lack of education how to preserve historic resources</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Public interest and advocates</li> <li>• More interest than money available</li> </ul>

		and why to do it	
<b>Strategies to overcome roadblocks</b>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Grants</li> <li>• Creativity – find ways to engage the public</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fully fund REAP</li> <li>• IWILL</li> <li>• Community support for naturalist and education centers</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Educate communities about programs like Certified Local Government (CLG) through NPS</li> <li>• Marketing – marketing Iowa Culture App               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Cities/Countries/local grass roots should initiate</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Education of the legislature – don't hear enough from REAP supporters</li> <li>• Provide resources to legislators like the funding breakout – so they can see where the money is going</li> <li>• More marketing of REAP projects so people can see all the great work.</li> </ul>

**Recent REAP Assembly Attendance:**



- **35% of Attendees in 2015 were attending a REAP Assembly for the first time.**