

DERELICT BUILDING GRANT PROGRAM



REVITALIZING COMMUNITIES

THE DERELICT BUILDING GRANT PROGRAM

Many rural Iowa communities struggle with abandoned or vacant (derelict) commercial buildings. These structures pose an environmental and economic detriment to their communities. In Iowa, abandoned structures deteriorate at a rate that can affect the lowans' health and safety due to lack of maintenance and responsible ownership. Many of these buildings present health hazards like asbestos, compromised structural integrity and hazardous chemicals. They also impair local growth by diminishing property values and increasing maintenance costs for rural communities.

REDUCING COSTS

The DNR Derelict Building Grant Program emphasizes landfill diversion through the reuse and recycling of building items.

Applicants wishing to remove buildings must keep at least 30 percent of the structure waste, by weight, from the local landfill. Diverting building materials

from the landfill benefits the town by reducing project disposal costs. The program also helps improve street appearance and lessens financial and environmental impacts. This approach has benefited 122 rural communities across the state by saving them a combined \$1.5 million in landfill disposal fees.

IMPROVING ENVIRONMENT & REBUILDING COMMUNITIES

Rural communities can remove the environmental, health and safety concerns these buildings pose by remediating hazards, deconstructing, renovating, or a combination of all three activities. Since its inception, the program has awarded more than \$2 million to rural communities across Iowa.

After six grant rounds that brought in 207 applications requesting more than \$7.6 million in funding, the program has selected 122 projects for funding. There is an annual funding round with applications usually due in early spring.

For application information, visit:

www.iowadnr.gov/Environmental-Protection/Land-Quality/Waste-Planning-Recycling/Derelict-Building-Program

PARTNERING FOR SUCCESS

The City of Granville took ownership of a former school building in 2014, intending to deconstruct the mostly brick building and replace it with a new fire and emergency services station. The project generated scrap iron, concrete, brick and lumber, with 97 percent of that waste kept out of the landfill. That saved the city more than \$33,000 in landfill disposal costs. With the building deconstructed, the city constructed a new fire and emergency services station that allows the city to house more service vehicles and better serve the town and surrounding communities.



FOR MORE INFORMATION

Visit our website at www.iowadnr.gov/faba

Click the "Derelict Building Grant Program" link on the left menu