

**Iowa-Funded Conservation Programs and Initiatives
Which
Reduce Nutrient Transport to Water Resources
State Fiscal Year 2011**

IMPLEMENTATION AND WATERSHED PROTECTION

- Implement the Iowa Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP) constructing highly targeted nitrogen-removal wetlands for cropland drainage. State and federal funding for FY11 totals \$20.6 million. The program currently has 72 wetlands restored or under development totaling 715 acres of wetland pools, which treat the drainage from 86,100 watershed acres and remove 40 to 90 percent of nitrate, for an estimated 53,600 tons of nitrate removed over design life.
- Implement the Iowa Watershed Protection Program currently supporting 50 watershed protection projects, which primarily reduce nutrients and sediment to water resources. Continue watershed targeting and assessment of nutrient load reductions from the watershed projects. FY11 funding is \$4.3 million state, \$3.0 million §319 Clean Water Act funds, and \$2.4 million landowner match funds for a total of \$9.7 million.
- Implement the Iowa Jobs initiative for watershed protection projects, conservation practice flood damage repair and reclamation, which will significantly reduce nutrients and sediment to water resources. FY11 funding is \$5.5 million state funds and estimated landowner match of \$1.83 million, for a total of \$7.33 million.
- Implement the competitive grant award program to local sponsors through the Watershed Improvement Review Board. Much of the funding is used to reduce nutrients and sediment to water resources. FY11 funding is \$2 million state funds and \$4.4 million of estimated local match funds, for a total of \$6.4 million.
- Implement the Iowa Financial Incentive Program for cost-sharing implementation of soil and water conservation practices on private working lands to reduce erosion, sedimentation, and nutrient transport to water resources. FY11 state funding is \$11.9 million, which with landowner match funds of \$11.9 million is estimated to total \$23.8 million in conservation practices.
- Implement the District Initiatives program, which for FY11 provides \$1.35 million state funds to leverage federal conservation programs and increase Iowa landowner participation in federal conservation programs.
- Implement the Local Water Protection Program, which for FY11 provides \$14 million, comprised of \$8 million to implement animal waste management practices and \$6 million

for general nonpoint source practices. The program assists landowners with the installation of practices to protect and improve water quality.

- Implement the Resource Enhancement and Protection program which for FY11 provides \$1.3 million for watershed and water quality protection projects, \$1.3 million for cost-sharing management practices for water quality enhancement, and with \$1.1 million landowner match totals \$3.7 million.
- Implement the Watershed Development and Planning Assistance Grant program to assist local watershed project sponsors in the assessment, targeting, and planning of water quality and watershed protection projects. FY11 state funding is \$0.12 million with local match of \$0.04 million for a total of \$0.16 million.
- Provide state personnel support and funding to Iowa's 100 Soil and Water Conservation Districts (SWCDs), which assist implementation of federal, state, and local conservation programs that reduce nutrients and sediment. Federal programs delivered through SWCDs include the Environmental Quality Incentives Program, Wetland Reserve Program, Conservation Security Program, Conservation Reserve Program, Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program, Watershed Protection and Flood Prevention, Conservation Technical Assistance, and Resource Conservation and Development.

RESEARCH AND TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT

- Continue the Wetlands, Nutrients and Water Management research initiative with Iowa State University to develop new technologies and improve the targeting and efficiency of water quality management practices. Continue water quality monitoring of research sites evaluating various management practices and monitoring of CREP nitrogen removal wetland field sites. FY11 state funding is \$0.44 million.
- Develop new technology through the EPA Targeted Watershed Grant "Integrated Drainage-Wetland Systems for Reducing Nitrate Loads from Des Moines Lobe Watersheds" with Iowa State University. FY11 federal and state funding is \$0.2 million.
- Continue development of the Iowa Wetland Landscape Systems Initiative for reducing nitrogen and phosphorus to water resources across 6 million acres of croplands targeted for nitrate reduction to water resources. For FY11, implement six (6) initial pilot projects to serve both as demonstrations and as study sites to confirm nutrient reductions and other benefits. Funding for FY11 is \$4.0 million state funds, \$2.0 million for nitrogen removal wetland restoration through Iowa CREP, \$0.4 million + low-interest loan from the state revolving fund for water and wastewater, and \$5.3 million landowner match which totals \$11.7+ million.
- Continue Integrated Farm and Livestock Management program funding of research and demonstrations through Iowa State University on impacts of nutrient management,

harvest of crop biomass for bio-energy, and cover crops on water quality of drainage and surface runoff. FY11 state funding is \$0.1 million.

- Invest fees paid by farmers on the sale of agricultural chemicals toward developing new technologies and improved practices for reducing nutrients from cropped landscapes to water resources. FY11 funding is \$0.62 million.
- Conduct cover crop farm demonstrations and nitrogen management assessments for corn following cover crops. FY11 funding is \$0.1 million.

EDUCATION AND OUTREACH

- Support Web sites, publications, and educational/outreach initiatives sponsored by the Cooperative Extension Service of Iowa State University addressing nutrient management in cropped landscapes, detailing topics such as nitrogen and phosphorus fertility recommendations, real-time soil temperatures Web site to determine acceptability of fall nitrogen fertilization for water quality improvement, livestock waste management systems and land application, phosphorus index for water quality improvement, etc.
- Conduct Iowa Learning Farms demonstrations, education, and outreach through Iowa State University to improve water quality through crop residue and tillage management. FY11 funding is \$0.45 million.
- Conduct outreach and education concerning Gulf hypoxia and nutrient reductions to farm organizations, Iowa drainage districts, and watershed management groups.

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