

## Information About The Water Protection Fund (WPF) Program

Water quality protection projects protect the state's surface and groundwater resources from point and non-point sources of contamination. Authorized in Iowa Code Chapter 161C, projects are developed through a locally led process initiated by soil and water conservation districts, coordinating the resources and programs of a variety of organizations to achieve local objectives. Applications consider the importance of the resource to be protected, the nature and extent of the water quality problem, proposed solutions, landowner interest, and the overall cost effectiveness of the project.

Water quality protection projects commonly use the watershed approach to address water quality problems. It provides the most comprehensive, efficient and effective way to achieve soil and water quality protection objectives. Successful projects usually have a high level of community support and include strong public information and education programs. They also feature partnerships with federal, state and local agencies and organizations.

These projects have effectively improved water quality in watersheds above publicly owned lakes, trout streams, high use recreation areas, urban developments and aquifer recharge areas. Treatment measures commonly included in projects are:

Technical assistance	Grassland management
Structural practices (terraces, waterways, etc.)	Urban development best management practices
Pesticide and nutrient management	Wetland restoration and enhancement
Manure management	Lake protection and rehabilitation
Sinkhole protection	Agricultural drainage well closure
Streambank protection and stabilization	Water quality monitoring

Funding of projects is provided through the Resource Enhancement and Protection Program (REAP)

Please direct questions about WPF projects to:

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