

GREENETWORK – June 2012

GreeNetwork is a free electronic newsletter sent every 4-6 weeks by Iowa Economic Development Authority Community Development Division staff to 3,000+ recipients. Past issues are available at http://www.iowaeconomicdevelopment.com/community/green_initiatives.aspx.

Thanks for your interest in sustainable community practices and happenings. The following information will assist you in promoting attitudes and practices in your community that are socially, environmentally, and economically sound. Please send GreeNetwork content suggestions to jeff.geerts@iowa.gov. You are also encouraged to forward this update to others and to reprint GreeNetwork material.

To sign up to receive GreeNetwork please visit <http://www.iowaeconomicdevelopment.com/> and click on "Login" located in the upper right-hand corner of the screen.

Updates:

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Iowa's Living Roadways Projects – due July 13, 2012
2012 Healthy Communities Grant Program – due August 14, 2012
Iowa Renewable Fuels Infrastructure Program – accepted quarterly
Iowa Energy Center Conference and Events Grants
Iowa Energy Center Technology Demonstration and Education Grants

Updates:

Energy Corps AmeriCorps Program Partnership Opportunities
www.energycorps.org

The National Center for Appropriate Technology (NCAT) is currently seeking non-profit organizations, schools and public agencies in Iowa to host Energy Corps AmeriCorps members for the 2012-2013 program year. The Energy Corps addresses unmet community energy needs by promoting sustainable energy consumption and education, fostering community sustainability and helping to mitigate the effects of global climate change. The program provides organizations and

agencies involved in sustainable energy projects with highly qualified individuals for a one-year term of AmeriCorps service. For more information about the Energy Corps program visit www.energycorps.org or contact Holly Hill at 406-494-4572 or hollyh@ncat.org.

Solar and Geothermal Tax Credits Signed into Law

<http://coolice.legis.iowa.gov/Cool-ICE/default.asp?Category=billinfo&Service=Billbook&frame=1&GA=84&hbill=SF2342>

In May 2012, Governor Branstad signed Senate File 2342 into law designating \$1.5 million in state tax credits for solar electric, solar hot water, and geothermal energy systems. Iowans are now eligible for solar tax credits up to \$3,000 per project for homeowners and \$15,000 for businesses. **Senate File 2342** also provides a tax credit up to 20% of a federal tax credit for geothermal heat pumps, and a ten-year property tax exemption for any increased valuation due to geothermal heating or cooling systems.

Sustainable Redevelopment in Downtown Davenport

<http://webapps.icma.org/pm/9405/public/pmplus3.cfm?author=Pam%20Miner&title=Sustainable%20Redevelopment%20in%20Downtown%20Davenport&subtitle>

An article in International City/County Management Association's PM Magazine profiled the city of Davenport's sustainability efforts, including the renovation of the historic, city-owned ballpark and renovation of the art deco theatre district. Davenport's River Vision Plan, created with the input of more than 1,000 city residents, has guided the reinvigoration of the city's riverfront areas. For more information, please visit website above.

Perry Receives Multi-Purpose Pilot Grant

http://cfpub.epa.gov/bf_factsheets/gfs/index.cfm?xpg_id=7905&display_type=HTML

EPA has selected the City of Perry for a brownfields multi-purpose pilot grant. Hazardous substances grant funds will be used to assess and clean up the 101-acre abandoned railroad property. Cleanup grant funds will be used to manage the overall planning and coordination of the project, clean up the site, and prepare a project completion report, which will summarize the cleanup activities performed at the site. The site is expected to be redeveloped as a park and trailhead and possibly as a site for renewable energy generation.

Dubuque Awarded \$9.4 Million for Watershed Project

<http://www.cityofdubuque.org/CivicAlerts.aspx?AID=1518>

The City of Dubuque was recently awarded \$9.4 million to convert 40 alleys and two parking lots to pervious pavement. The funding comes from the State Revolving Fund (SRF), a joint program of the Iowa Department of Natural Resources and the Iowa Finance Authority and is part of SRF's new Water Resource Restoration effort, in which watershed protection projects are supported through interest rate reductions on Clean Water SRF wastewater loans.

Resources and Models:

Putting Transit to Work in Main Street America

<http://www.reconnectingamerica.org/assets/PDFs/201205ruralfinal.pdf>

Putting Transit to Work in Main Street America: How Smaller Cities and Rural Places Are Using Transit and Mobility Investments to Strengthen Their Economies and Communities is a new report from [Reconnecting America](http://www.reconnectingamerica.org). In this report, the researchers have explored how smaller cities, towns, and rural places are integrating transit into their communities. This report is intended to help local planners, elected leaders, and policymakers understand the strategies, partnerships, resources, and plans being enacted in comparable communities across the country. (source: www.reconnectingamerica.org, June 27, 2012)

Essential Smart Growth Fixes for Rural Planning, Zoning, and Development Codes

http://www.epa.gov/dced/pdf/rural_essential_fixes_508_030612.pdf

This new report from the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) offers ten essential fixes to help rural communities amend their codes, ordinances, and development requirements to promote more environmentally and economically sustainable growth. For more information, please visit website above.

Upcoming Workshops, Trainings and Events:

Iowa Downtown Summit

August 21-22, 2012 – Keokuk, IA

<http://www.iowaeconomicdevelopment.com/register/> (information available in mid June)

7th Annual Land Bank Conference

October 14-16, 2012 – Kalamazoo, MI

<http://www.communityprogress.net/national-2012-conferences-pages-119.php?id=260>

Funding and Assistance Opportunities:

Solid Waste Alternatives Program – due July 1, 2012

<http://www.iowadnr.gov/Environment/LandStewardship/WasteManagement/SWAP.aspx>

Iowa's Living Roadways Projects – due July 13, 2012

<http://www.treesforever.org/Content/Affiliate-Resources/Programs/Iowas-Living-Roadways-Projects.aspx>

2012 Healthy Communities Grant Program – due August 14, 2012

<http://www.wellmark.com/foundation/>

Iowa Renewable Fuels Infrastructure Program – accepted quarterly

<http://www.iowaagriculture.gov/agMarketing/IRFIP.asp>

Iowa Energy Center Conference and Events Grants

<http://www.energy.iastate.edu/Funding/index.htm>

Iowa Energy Center Technology Demonstration and Education Grants

<http://www.energy.iastate.edu/Funding/index.htm>

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