

## **GREENETWORK – October/November 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](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](mailto:jeff.geerts@iowa.gov). You are also encouraged to forward this update to others and to reprint GreeNetwork material.

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**Keep Iowa Beautiful Byers Environmental Scholarships**  
**Iowa Renewable Fuels Infrastructure Program – accepted quarterly**  
**Iowa Energy Center Conference and Events Grants**

## Iowa Energy Center Technology Demonstration and Education Grants

### Updates:

#### **Greening America's Capitals – Des Moines Selected (source: EPA)**

<http://epa.gov/dced/greencapitals.htm>

The federal Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has announced Des Moines will receive assistance to incorporate green infrastructure elements into a proposed streetscape plan for a one-mile segment of 6th Avenue. The 6th Avenue corridor, which serves as the northern gateway to the city's downtown, is a Main Street Iowa Urban Neighborhood District with direct access to the Des Moines River. The Greening America's Capitals project will create design options to revitalize this commercial street, such as wider sidewalks, narrower traffic lanes, better lighting, and improved bus stop shelters, as well as street trees, permeable pavement, and rain gardens to minimize stormwater runoff. The city plans to use the 6th Avenue project to guide designs for other planned streetscape improvements throughout the city.

#### **Iowa Solar Energy Cooperative**

<http://www.iowasolarcoop.com/index.html>

The Iowa Renewable Energy Association (I-Renew) and Iowa Solar/Small Wind Energy Trade Association (ISETA) have joined forces to launch the Iowa Solar Energy Cooperative. The goal of the cooperative is to install 300 residential and commercial solar rooftops by the end of 2012. The cooperative can assist members with assessing their site for solar, system sizing, return on investment analysis, the bidding process and financing alternatives.

#### **Net Zero Homes Planned for Charles City**

A developer and team of design professionals with an emphasis on sustainable design practices is working on a model project to redevelop nearly seven acres of a previous school site in Charles City, Iowa. The project includes 30 homes and a neighborhood park in the first phase with all homes generating as much energy as they use in a year through a combination of extremely energy efficient design and construction, use of a shared geothermal system and individual solar energy systems installed on each home. The development will also serve as a model for managing stormwater through infiltration based practices that reduce stormwater runoff and improve water quality. Construction on the homes priced at \$150,000 or less will begin next year. The Iowa Economic Development Authority, through its Community Development Block Grant disaster assistance program, is assisting in development of project infrastructure as well as providing down payment assistance to home buyers. For more information, contact Mark LaCroix at [mlacroix@kclengineering.com](mailto:mlacroix@kclengineering.com).

### Resources and Models:

#### **Stormwater Best Practices Presentations Available**

<http://www.iowastormwater.org/>

The Iowa Economic Development Authority and the Iowa Stormwater Education Program recently teamed up to promote sustainable stormwater management best practices workshops across Iowa. Five training workshops were offered to municipal officials and elected officials followed by three training workshops presented to design professionals such as engineers, landscape architects, architects, planners and contractors. The training presentations are now available online at <http://www.iowastormwater.org/>.

#### **Iowa's Living Roadways Projects**

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

The purpose of the Iowa's Living Roadways Projects™ Program is to assist communities of 10,000 people or less and counties in implementing transportation enhancement projects. Applications are due December 1, 2012. Communities that have participated in [Community Visioning](#) receive first priority for this funding, but Visioning is not a prerequisite to apply. Examples of the types of projects funded are:

- community entryway beautification

- landscaping of recreational trails
- highway roadside plantings
- roadside rest areas
- prairie and savanna establishment
- butterfly gardens
- outdoor classrooms

### **National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) releases funding guidelines for Our Town**

<http://arts.gov/national/ourtown/index.php>

The NEA has released guidelines and application materials for **Our Town**, the agency's primary creative placemaking grants program. Pending availability of funding, grants will range from \$25,000 to \$200,000. Our Town will invest in creative and innovative projects in which communities, together with their arts and design organizations and artists, seek to:

- Improve their quality of life;
- Encourage greater creative activity;
- Foster stronger community identity and a sense of place; and
- Revitalize economic development.

The application deadline is **January 14, 2013**. Webinars to learn more about this funding opportunity will be held on **November 6 and 13, 2012** at 3:00 pm EST at arts.gov.

### **National Centers for Planning**

<http://www.planning.org/research/>

The American Planning Association's National Centers for Planning are dedicated to helping create communities of lasting value. The centers included are Planning and Community Health, Hazards Planning and Green Communities.

### **New Fast Charging Standard Released for Electric Vehicles**

[http://www1.eere.energy.gov/cleancities/news\\_detail.html?news\\_id=18711](http://www1.eere.energy.gov/cleancities/news_detail.html?news_id=18711)

A newly published technical standard could cut charging time for plug-in hybrid (PHEV) and electric vehicles (EV) from eight hours to as short as 20 minutes. SAE International, a global industry association, announced on October 15 that its long-awaited voluntary standard, which was developed in a consensus with industry experts and Energy Department national laboratories, was approved and published.

The standard represents the future of charging technology and Smart Grid interaction, according to SAE International. The standard will help reduce the amount of time a consumer spends at public charging stations and enable consumers to travel greater distances in their PHEVs and EVs before needing to charge. Ford Motor Company, which participated in developing the standard, issued a statement praising the standard because it augments and is compatible with the existing electric vehicle charging standard employed by all automakers in the United States.

### **Upcoming Workshops, Trainings and Events:**

#### **Rainscaping Loess Soils PlusClass Series**

Various Programs September 2012 – April 2013

[http://www.iwcc.edu/continuing\\_education/files/greencatalog.pdf](http://www.iwcc.edu/continuing_education/files/greencatalog.pdf)

#### **Energy Efficiency Rehab Training**

November 9, 2012 – Des Moines, IA

<http://icosc.com/index.php>

### **Understanding and Managing VFDs in the Water & Wastewater Treatment Industry**

November 13, 2012 – Des Moines, IA

[http://www.iamu.org/calendar/view\\_event.asp?CalendarID=561](http://www.iamu.org/calendar/view_event.asp?CalendarID=561)

### **Loess Soils Properties / Conservation Site Planning and Analysis**

November 14, 2012 – Council Bluffs, IA

[http://www.iwcc.edu/continuing\\_education/files/greencatalog.pdf](http://www.iwcc.edu/continuing_education/files/greencatalog.pdf)

### **Low Impact Development / Native Landscaping & Turf**

November 28, 2012 – Council Bluffs, IA

[http://www.iwcc.edu/continuing\\_education/files/greencatalog.pdf](http://www.iwcc.edu/continuing_education/files/greencatalog.pdf)

### **Understanding Soils and General Permit #2 Topsoil Requirements**

November 28, 2012 – Ankeny, IA

December 5, 2012 – Iowa City, IA

[http://www.iowastormwater.org/images/stories/2012\\_training\\_conference/Training/lunchnlearn/gp2\\_understanding\\_soils/usgp2\\_flyer\\_updated.pdf](http://www.iowastormwater.org/images/stories/2012_training_conference/Training/lunchnlearn/gp2_understanding_soils/usgp2_flyer_updated.pdf)

### **2nd Generation Permeable Pavement Systems**

November 28, 2012 - North Liberty Community Center

[http://www.iowastormwater.org/images/stories/2012\\_training\\_conference/Training/lunchnlearn/perm\\_pave/registration%20form%20-%20lunch%20and%20learn.pdf](http://www.iowastormwater.org/images/stories/2012_training_conference/Training/lunchnlearn/perm_pave/registration%20form%20-%20lunch%20and%20learn.pdf)

### **Rainscaping Iowa Training: Permeable Pavers**

November 29, 2012 – Marion, IA

[http://www.iowastormwater.org/images/stories/2012\\_training\\_conference/Training/perm\\_pave/nov29\\_pp\\_design\\_install/ri%20perm%20paveritin.pdf](http://www.iowastormwater.org/images/stories/2012_training_conference/Training/perm_pave/nov29_pp_design_install/ri%20perm%20paveritin.pdf)

### **New Partners for Smart Growth**

February 7-9, 2013 – Kansas City, MO

<http://www.newpartners.org/>

### **American Planning Association National Conference**

April 13-17, 2013 – Chicago, IL

<http://www.planning.org/conference/>

## **Funding and Assistance Opportunities:**

### **Community Development Block Grant Water/Sewer Fund – due November 14, 2012**

<http://iowaeconomicdevelopment.com/community/community/default.aspx>

### **EPA Brownfields Assessment Grants – due November 19, 2012**

<http://www07.grants.gov/search/search.do?&mode=VIEW&oppld=199937>

### **EPA Brownfields Revolving Loan Fund Grants – due November 19, 2012**

<http://www07.grants.gov/search/search.do?&mode=VIEW&oppld=199949>

### **EPA Brownfields Cleanup Grants – due November 19, 2012**

<http://www07.grants.gov/search/search.do?&mode=VIEW&oppld=199953>

### **EPA Brownfields Area-Wide Planning Grant – due November 30, 2012**

<http://www.epa.gov/oswer/docs/grants/epa-oswer-oblr-12-06.pdf>

### **Iowa's Living Roadways Projects – due December 1, 2012**

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

**Community Development Block Grant Housing Fund – due December 12, 2012**

<http://iowaeconomicdevelopment.com/community/community/default.aspx>

**Solid Waste Alternatives Program – due January 3, 2013**

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

**Our Town – due January 14, 2013**

<http://arts.gov/national/ourtown/index.php>

**Community Development Block Grant Community Facilities/Services – due January 16, 2013**

<http://iowaeconomicdevelopment.com/community/community/default.aspx>

**Downtown Revitalization Fund – due January 30, 2013 (application at [www.iowagrants.gov](http://www.iowagrants.gov))**

<http://iowaeconomicdevelopment.com/community/call-for-projects.aspx>

**Keep Iowa Beautiful Byers Environmental Scholarships – due February 8, 2013**

[www.KeepIowaBeautiful.com](http://www.KeepIowaBeautiful.com)

**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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