

ENVIRONMENTAL
ASSISTANCE
GUIDE

ABOUT THIS GUIDE

The Iowa Environmental Assistance Guide for Business and Industry is your road map to Iowa's environmental permitting and related requirements. This guide is a resource that outlines potential regulatory requirements a business needs to consider as it develops plans to locate or expand in Iowa.

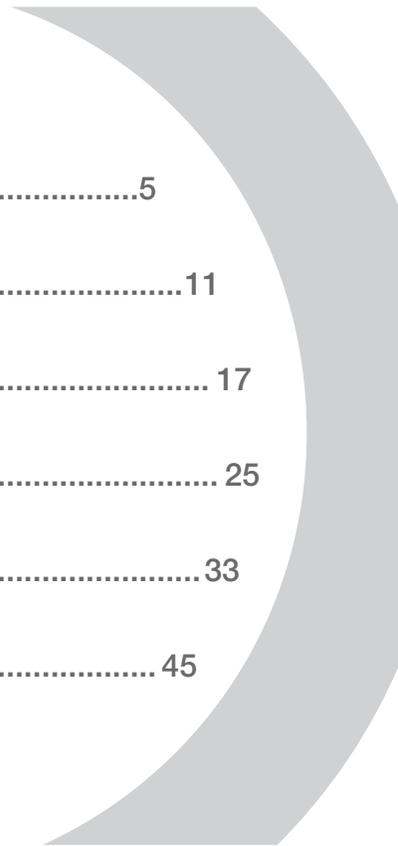
The Iowa Economic Development Authority (IEDA) is available to assist your business in identifying permitting requirements, communicating with the appropriate regulatory agencies and in establishing a strong working partnership with these agencies.

The requirements for air, water and land quality permitting are briefly outlined, so we encourage businesses to contact IEDA early in the planning process, or to communicate with the regulatory agency contact(s) listed at the end of this guide for assistance in complying with the regulations. IEDA is committed to working with businesses to support our commitment to environmental protection and economic development in Iowa.

Please contact the responsible agency referenced in each section for more information, or for additional assistance, please consult the Regulatory Assistance Network.

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AIR QUALITY

The Iowa Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) Air Quality Bureau administers the Clean Air Act in Iowa. In addition, Polk and Linn Counties also administer air programs. Below are the primary types of air quality permits.

Construction Permits

A construction permit from the IDNR is required prior to installing, constructing or operating sources that emit regulated pollutants. IDNR issues a permit for each individual emission unit. Some units are exempt from construction permitting. This could include a small natural gas heater, non-production welding and selected units emitting less than one pound per hour. Emission units that are not specifically exempt require a construction permit before the equipment is installed.

Construction permit applications are also required to include estimates of emissions for some types of greenhouse gases. Most construction permits can be obtained within 30 days. A toll-free phone line (877) AIR-IOWA is available to answer air quality permitting questions.

Frequently Asked Questions for the Construction Permitting Section of the Air Quality Bureau can be found at: www.iowadnr.gov/portals/idnr/uploads/air/insidednr/conpermit/conmodfaq.pdf?amp;tabid=1156

For some sources, New Source Performance Standards (NSPS), National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants (NESHAP) or predicted high impacts on the ambient (outside) air may make the construction permit process more complicated and lengthy. Federal health-based and industry standards are used for NESHAPs. A business engaged in a process using certain NESHAPs may be required to use maximum achievable control technology (MACT) for some processes.

Major sources of air emissions or significant changes made at these facilities are covered under the federal Prevention of Significant Deterioration (PSD) air construction permit program. Under the PSD program, a major source is one that either emits 250 or more tons of total pollutants per year or is one of 28 listed categories of business subject to a 100 tons per year threshold (tpy). A facility must apply for a PSD permit if it meets either of these two criteria, as well as meeting a significant tpy for specific pollutants. This means a business may hit a PSD trigger for one type of pollutant but not another. PSD permitting processes make permitting more complex and require that the best available control technology (BACT) be used to control the PSD pollutant.

The IDNR requires pre-application meetings for PSD projects and Greenfield Ethanol Plants and recommends them for any other project that may become complex in nature. A Complex Project Pre-Application Meeting Checklist can be found at: www.iowadnr.gov/portals/idnr/uploads/air/insidednr/conpermit/pre_app.pdf?amp;tabid=1156

The Public Health Department is the lead agency for issuing PSD permits for facilities located in Linn County with IDNR also reviewing and approving the permits.

Operating Permits

IDNR does not require operating permits for individual emission units or points, such as stacks or vents, because the construction permit remains in effect when a unit starts operating. Polk and Linn Counties do require operating permits for individual sources.

Title V Operating Permits

Title V Operating Permits are required for facilities with the potential to annually emit greater than 100 tons of any regulated pollutant or 10 tons of any individual Hazardous Air Pollutant (HAP) or 25 tons of any combination HAPs. Operating permit options within the Title V program include:

1. **Small Source Operating Permits.** These permits are for Title V sources, that through permit limits, will annually keep emissions under 50 tons for all regulated air pollutants, five tons for each individual HAP; and 12.5 tons for any combination HAPs. Recordkeeping is required. Permit reporting is not required, and no Title V fees are paid.
2. **Voluntary Operating Permits.** These permits are for Title V sources, that through permit limits, will annually keep emissions to less than 100 tons for all regulated air pollutants, 10 tons for each individual HAP; and 25 tons for any combination HAPs. Actual emissions of these pollutants must not exceed these thresholds. Limited reporting to the IDNR is required, and no Title V fees are required.
3. **Title V Operating Permits.** These permits cover each emission source at a facility and require annual reporting, recordkeeping and monitoring. Tonnage fees are paid to IDNR each year for actual emissions.

The Title V Operating Permit application must be submitted to the Air Quality Bureau's, Operating Permits Section within one year after the start of operation at a new facility. A new facility can operate under a permit application shield until the Title V permit is issued as long as a complete permit application is submitted on time. A Title V permit is valid for five years.

Contact

Iowa Department of Natural Resources – Air Permits
515.242.5100 or 877.AIR.IOWA
www.iowadnr.gov/InsideDNR/RegulatoryAir

Linn County Public Health Department
319.892.6000
www.linncleanair.org

Polk County Air Quality
515.286.3351
www.polkcountyiowa.gov/airquality

Asbestos

The IDNR protects both outdoor and indoor air from asbestos contamination. Building renovations, demolitions and training fires are potentially subject to asbestos release. Asbestos NESHAP rules often require a thorough inspection and lab analysis of suspect asbestos containing material and proper removal and disposal. The IDNR must receive notification of renovations, demolitions and training fires at facilities containing asbestos containing materials.

Contact

Iowa Department of Natural Resources

Asbestos Coordinator

515.494.8212

www.iowadnr.gov/InsideDNR/RegulatoryAir/Asbestos.aspx

Asbestos Removal

Iowa Workforce Development (IWD) regulates the removal of asbestos. A business entity engaging in the removal or encapsulation of asbestos is required to hold a permit unless removing or encapsulating asbestos at its own facilities.

To obtain a permit, the business entity must submit an application on the form provided by the IWD, Division of Labor. The non-refundable fee for processing the permit application is \$500. This permit is good for one year.

A new permit application will be issued or denied within 60 days after receiving a completed application with all appropriate attachments. A renewal will be issued or denied within 30 days after receiving a completed application with all appropriate attachments.

Several documents must be included with a license application, including the company respiratory protection program. Information on a sample respiratory protection program may be found at www.iowaworkforce.org/labor/asbestosrespiratorsampleprogram.pdf. The most common problems associated with such programs is available at www.iowaworkforce.org/labor/asbestosrespiratorsampleprogram.pdf.

Applications for asbestos permits are available online at: www.iowaworkforce.org/labor/asbestospermit.pdf

Contact

Iowa Workforce Development

Asbestos Permit

515.281.6176

www.iowaworkforce.org/labor/asbestos_permits.htm

Small Business Liaison – Air Quality

The Small Business Liaison – Air Quality provides technical referral assistance to small businesses, facilitates resolution of complaints from small businesses regarding IDNR's implementation of the Clean Air Act and provides assistance to the Air Quality Bureau in developing and coordinating outreach assistance to small businesses for implementation of air quality regulatory requirements and programs.

Contact

Iowa Department of Natural Resources

Small Business Liaison – Air Quality

515.281.4927

www.iowadnr.gov/Environment/AirQuality/SmallBusinessAssistance

Iowa Air Emissions Assistance Program

Confidential, non-regulatory technical assistance is available to small businesses from the Iowa Air Emissions Assistance Program (IAEAP) located at the Iowa Waste Reduction Center, University of Northern Iowa. The IAEAP assists small businesses in complying with new regulatory programs through education and outreach, provides training on how to complete and submit emission inventories, and provides on-site assessments for small business.

Contact

Iowa Air Emissions Assistance Program

800.422.3109 or 319.273.8905

www.iwrc.org/default/index.cfm/services/iaeap/





WATER QUALITY

The following services and programs are administered by the IDNR in an effort to maintain the state's Water Quality Standards.

Wastewater Construction Permits

IDNR Wastewater Engineering Section is responsible for reviewing and issuing wastewater construction permits. An IDNR wastewater construction permit is required for the construction, installation or modification of any wastewater disposal system or part thereof, or any extension or addition. If the proposed facility is planning to discharge to an existing wastewater treatment system, the applicant/owner must check with the system's owner to determine if the system has adequate capacity for the wastewater to be effectively treated.

Application for obtaining a construction permit includes two steps:

1. Engineering Report or Facility Plan submittal; and
2. Construction permit application submittal, including construction plans, specifications and contractual documents. Construction permit submittals should be completed in accordance with Iowa Code Chapter 11 - Iowa Wastewater Facilities Design Standards. Engineering report requirements for land application of industrial wastes must be completed in accordance with Iowa Code Chapter 21 – Iowa Wastewater Facilities Design Standards. Final disposal of sludge generated at an industrial facility is required to follow Chapter 121 of the Iowa Administrative Code.

Construction permitting process manual, land application process manual, procedures, application forms, design standards and assistance documents can be found at: www.iowadnr.gov/portals/idnr/uploads/water/wastewater/wwmanual_full.pdf

Permit Exceptions:

- A. Storm sewers or storm water disposal systems that transport only storm water;
- B. Privately owned pretreatment facility where a treatment unit(s) is owned and operated by a person or firm for partial reduction of the strength or toxicity of the waste stream prior to additional treatment and disposal by another person, corporation or municipality (Note: this exception does not apply to anaerobic lagoons. The IDNR has, however, advised and issued construction permits for all wastewater treatment lagoon facilities due to the potential for groundwater contamination); and
- C. In-plant modifications of industrial or commercial installations such as process changes, waste reductions, segregation and rerouting of waste.

Antidegradation Policy and Iowa Antidegradation Implementation Procedures: All new discharges, including increases to previously authorized discharges, must undergo antidegradation alternatives analysis review and approval by the IDNR to authorize the degradation in accordance with the Iowa Antidegradation rules. The engineering report or facility plan should be submitted after the antidegradation alternatives analysis is approved by IDNR.

Permit Timeline: Complete applications for a construction permit must be submitted to the IDNR at least 120 days in advance of the construction start date. Early coordination and communication with IDNR staff will provide timely permit assistance and help avoid delays. Please refer to the Wastewater Construction Permitting Process Manual for further information:

http://www.iowadnr.gov/portals/idnr/uploads/water/wastewater/wwmanual_full.pdf

Application Fee: An application fee of \$100 is required to be submitted with each construction permit application.

Permit Expiration: A construction permit will expire if construction is not commenced within one year of the date of issuance.

Completion Certification: Within 30 days after completion of construction, installation or modification of any wastewater disposal system, the permit holder must submit certification from a registered professional engineer that the project was completed in accordance with the approved plans and specifications.

Information Confidentiality: The IDNR recognizes that some industries may have methods or processes that may contain trade secrets. Applicants are encouraged to clearly identify and submit a separate request for confidential treatment and justification as early in the permitting process as possible. The IDNR will assess the request and make a determination if the information or any part thereof can be afforded confidential treatment.

How Do I Get Started? A licensed professional engineer contacts the IDNR on behalf of the applicant/owner. The engineer, in coordination with the applicant/owner, performs a self-assessment and completes an IDNR Work Request Form and submits it to the IDNR Wastewater Engineering Section. Forms are available at the website below.

Other Permits

A National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit is required if any pollutant will be discharged from a facility into a surface water. A state operation permit is required if pollutants will be disposed of by land application or underground injection. For additional information, please visit: www.iowadnr.gov/InsideDNR/RegulatoryWater/WastewaterConstruction/ConstructionPermits.aspx

NPDES/Operation Permits

A NPDES permit is required if any pollutant will be discharged from a facility into a river or stream. A state operation permit is required if pollutants will be disposed of by land application or underground injection. These permits are issued for five year terms and establish requirements on the types and amounts of pollutants that can be discharged to prevent pollution of surface waters and groundwater. Periodic testing is specified to demonstrate compliance with permit conditions. An application for either type of permit must be submitted to the department at least 180 days before discharge or disposal begins. There is an \$85 application fee and an annual fee that ranges from \$125 to \$3,400. Additional information can be found at: www.iowadnr.gov/InsideDNR/RegulatoryWater/NPDESWastewaterPermitting.aspx

Pretreatment

An industry proposing to discharge wastewater into a municipal sanitary sewer system must contact the city to determine if its wastewater treatment system can effectively treat the volume of wastewater and types and amounts of pollutants discharged from the industry. Significant industrial users are required to execute a Treatment Agreement, which limits the amounts of pollutants that can be discharged to prevent upsets in the treatment plant and could result in pollution of rivers and streams. A Treatment Agreement signed by both the industry and the municipality must be submitted to the IDNR at least 180 days before a new significant industrial user begins discharging. There is no application fee or annual fee associated with Treatment Agreements. Additional information can be found at:

www.iowadnr.gov/InsideDNR/RegulatoryWater/NPDESWastewaterPermitting/Pretreatment.aspx

Storm Water Permits

General Permit No. 1: Certain types of facilities listed in federal regulations must obtain coverage under General Permit No. 1 if any industrial materials stored or handled may come into contact with precipitation or runoff that subsequently runs off the site or to a water of the state. Find the permit at: www.iowadnr.gov/portals/idnr/uploads/water/stormwater/generalpermitno1.pdf

If materials and activities are protected by a storm resistant shelter and the project might qualify for a “no-exposure exemption”, complete and return a “No Exposure Certification Form” to the IDNR. The form may be found at: www.iowadnr.gov/portals/idnr/uploads/water/stormwater/noexposurecert.pdf

General Permit No. 2: Construction activities that disturb one or more acres, or which disturb less than one acre and are part of a larger common plan of development, must obtain coverage under General Permit No. 2 prior to the commencement of soil disturbing activities. A storm water pollution prevention plan must be created prior to application for the permit coverage and kept onsite and available for inspection. The permit must be maintained until all construction and building is complete and the ground stabilized. Find the permit at: www.iowadnr.gov/portals/idnr/uploads/water/stormwater/generalpermitno2.pdf

Iowa currently has no post-construction runoff control requirements.

General Permit No. 3: Facilities such as asphalt plants, concrete batch plants, quarries, sand and gravel pits and rock crushers must obtain coverage under General Permit No. 3 if precipitation runs off the site or to a water of the state.

Fees for coverage are as follows:

1 year	\$175.00
3 years	\$350.00
4 years	\$525.00
5 years	\$700.00

Find the permit at: <http://www.iowadnr.gov/portals/idnr/uploads/water/stormwater/generalpermitno3.pdf>

Contact

IDNR Water Quality Bureau has implemented the Wastewater Technical Assistance Hotline to provide technical assistance for prospective applicants.

Toll-Free Long Distance: 855.256.9287 or 855.CLN.WATR

Local Calling (515) Area: 515.725.9287

Permit Contact Information

Construction Permits

Iowa Department of Natural Resources

Wastewater Engineering Section

515.281.8995

www.iowadnr.gov/InsideDNR/RegulatoryWater/WastewaterConstruction/ConstructionPermits.aspx

NPDES/Operation Permits

Iowa Department of Natural Resources

NPDES Section

515.281.7409

www.iowadnr.gov/InsideDNR/RegulatoryWater/NPDESWastewaterPermitting.aspx

Pretreatment

Iowa Department of Natural Resources

NPDES Section

515.725.0313

www.iowadnr.gov/InsideDNR/RegulatoryWater/NPDESWastewaterPermitting/Pretreatment.aspx

Stormwater

Iowa Department of Natural Resources

Storm Water Permits

515.281.6782 or 515.281.7017

www.iowadnr.gov/InsideDNR/RegulatoryWater/StormWater.aspx





WATER SUPPLY

The IDNR Water Supply Sections, which consist of the Water Supply Engineering and Water Supply Operations, are responsible for a diverse group of drinking water programs associated with public water supplies (PWS), systems that serve 25 or more people and private wells.

Water Supply Engineering (WSE)

The primary goal of the WSE Section is to ensure that public water supplies can provide adequate quantities of safe drinking water through correct design and construction, and that they are technically, managerially and financially viable. Activities include assisting PWS with procurement of Drinking Water State Revolving Fund loans.

Water Supply Operations (WSO)

The primary goal of the WSO Section is to ensure safe drinking water and that the federal Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA) standards are met. WSO issues operation permits to public water supply systems to ensure the water is routinely tested.

Additional information regarding the Water Supply Engineering and the Water Supply Operations Sections can be found at: www.iowadnr.gov/InsideDNR/RegulatoryWater/WaterSupplyEngineering.aspx

If your business will use water from an existing water supply system such as a municipal water supply, water supply permits from the IDNR may not be needed. However, please check with the system operator to make sure it can provide a sufficient quantity of water. This is important for industries that need large quantities of water for manufacturing or processing. If your business will provide water for human consumption or for manufacturing or processing operations, several water supply-related permits might be required.

Water Allocation/Use Permit

Withdrawing or using more than 25,000 gallons of water per day from any surface or underground source requires a water use permit from the IDNR Water Supply Section. The application and permit fee should be submitted at least four months prior to the start of operations. Water use permits are normally valid for 10 years.

Additional information regarding well allocation/use permits can be found at: www.iowadnr.com/water/wse/allocation.html

Well Construction Permit

Drilling a new well or modifying an existing well requires a well construction permit. The construction permit application and fee should be submitted at least two months prior to construction. If the water will only be used for cooling or industrial processing, or if it will not be considered a public water supply, a permit can be obtained through the county sanitarian. If the water will be used for human consumption, including drinking water, and your business qualifies as a public water supply, a permit can be obtained through IDNR's Water Supply Operation Section.

Additional information regarding well construction permits can be found at: www.iowadnr.gov/InsideDNR/RegulatoryWater/DrinkingWaterCompliance.aspx

Construction and Operation Permits

Providing water for 25 or more people per day for at least 60 days of the year or having at least 15 service connections will require permits for both the construction and operation. Operation permits will contain monitoring and reporting requirements. Each permit has associated fees. Construction and operation permits are obtained through the IDNR's Water Supply Engineering and Water Supply Operation Sections.

Additional information regarding Construction and Operation Permits can be found at: www.iowadnr.gov/InsideDNR/RegulatoryWater/WaterSupplyEngineering/ConstructionPermits.aspx

Water and Waste Water Certified Operator

Public water supplies classified as non-transient, non-community public water supplies require a certified operator. Iowa's certification process for water supply system operators requires passing a written examination and meeting minimum education and on-the-job experience requirements. Certified operators must meet continuing education requirements to maintain certification and renew their certification every two years.

Additional information regarding Certified Operators can be found at: www.iowadnr.com/water/opcert.html

Contact

Iowa Department of Natural Resources
Water Supply Division
515.725.0282

www.iowadnr.gov/InsideDNR/RegulatoryWater/WaterSupplyEngineering.aspx

Floodplain Development Permit

The IDNR regulates construction on all floodplains and floodways in Iowa. Before constructing or maintaining any type of structure in any flood plain or floodway, contact the IDNR to identify if approval is required from IDNR or a local government authorized to act for the IDNR. Examples of activities that may require a floodplain permit include construction, excavation or filling activities in floodplains (this includes construction of buildings, dams, docks, channel changes and site filling) may require a floodplain development permit from the IDNR Water Resources Section. You can find a Floodplain Determination Checklist at: www.iowadnr.gov/InsideDNR/RegulatoryLand/FloodPlainManagement/FloodPlainDevPermits/DeterminationChecklist.aspx

Business operations or activities occurring within the "100 year flood plain" need a floodplain development permit from IDNR. Use the Joint IDNR – U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) Application Form (Form 36) to submit the required information. www.iowadnr.gov/InsideDNR/RegulatoryLand/FloodPlainManagement/FloodPlainDevPermits.aspx

The permit should be submitted at least three months (preferably six months) before the work will begin. The Omaha District of the Corps has jurisdiction over the Missouri River, its contiguous wetlands and Carter Lake. The remaining projects occurring in Iowa are regulated by the Corps' Rock Island District. In addition, many local governments also have floodplain permit requirements. In some cases, the IDNR has delegated its floodplain permitting powers to local governments and a state permit will not be needed.

Contact

Iowa Department of Natural Resources
Flood Plain Permits
515.281.8942
<http://floodplain.iowadnr.gov>

U.S. Army Corp of Engineers (USACE)

“Section 404 Nationwide” Permit: USACE regulates construction taking place in, around or on “navigable waterways.” The definition of “navigable waterways” infers broad jurisdiction of the USACE over water bodies which have been used, are currently used or might be used sometime in the future for interstate or foreign commerce. As a result, water bodies that have the potential to require USACE permits if construction will take place could include a wetland, river, stream, creek, run, canal, channel, ditch, lake, reservoir or embankment. In most cases, the USACE issues a “Section 404 Nationwide” Construction Permit within two to four weeks that authorizes construction activities. Use the Joint IDNR – USACE Application (Form 36) to submit the required information. www.iowadnr.gov/InsideDNR/RegulatoryLand/FloodPlainManagement/FloodPlainDevPermits.aspx

“Section 404 Individual” Permit: For a more involved or complex project, the USACE may issue a “Section 404 Individual” Permit. As a part of this process, the IDNR must certify that the proposed projects will not negatively affect Iowa’s water quality standards and will issue an IDNR Section 401 Certification. When the USACE issues a “Section 404 Nationwide” permit, the Section 401 Certification is automatically issued. If the USACE issues a “Section 404 Individual” Permit, the IDNR will approve the Section 401 Permit on a project-specific basis. Use the Joint IDNR – USACE Application (Form 36) to submit the required information.

Contact

USACE Rock Island District
309.794.5373
www2.mvr.usace.army.mil/regulatory/

USACE Omaha District
402.221.7715
www.nwo.usace.army.mil/html/od-rne/nehome.html

Navigable Waterways and Wetlands
US Army Corp of Engineers
Rock Island District
Attn: Regulatory Branch
Clock Tower Building
PO Box 2004
1500 Rock Island Drive
Rock Island, IL 61204
309.794.5376
www2.mvr.usace.army.mil/regulatory/



Wetlands

Building on or otherwise disturbing land that is wet during any part of the year may qualify the land as a wetland under federal regulations. Iowa relies on the Corps Section 404 program to protect wetlands and does not have a separate state wetland protection program. However, the IDNR does provide comments on Corps Section 404 permits. Contact an environmental professional to determine if the area is classified as a wetland and if the project could potentially impact the wetland.

If a proposed construction site has wetlands on it, contact the Corps at the earliest possible time to determine if a Corps Section 404 permit is required. A minimum of four months should be allowed for wetlands permitting. In some instances, wetland permitting may take a year or more, especially if the size or quality of the wetland is significant and the activity cannot be covered under one of the Corps' nationwide permits. Additional information on wetlands can be found at: www.iowadnr.gov/InsideDNR/RegulatoryWater/WetlandsPermitting.aspx

Contact

Iowa Department of Natural Resources
Wetlands Permitting
515.281.6615

www.iowadnr.gov/InsideDNR/RegulatoryWater/WetlandsPermitting.aspx

Sovereign Lands and Waters

The IDNR Conservation and Recreation Division oversees a number of areas protecting and enhancing Iowa's natural resources. The division is responsible for state fisheries, forests, parks and preserves wildlife and law enforcement and can assist in identifying if your project may impact state-owned lands or water or threatened or endangered species.

Sovereign Construction Permits

Any person wanting to construct facilities on, above or under state-owned lands and/or waters that are under the jurisdiction of the Natural Resources Commission is required to have a current sovereign lands construction permit from the IDNR prior to the beginning of any construction. State-owned lands and waters under the jurisdiction of the IDNR include fee-title lands, meandered streams and most natural lakes. Meandered streams include the border rivers (Big Sioux, Mississippi and Missouri) as well as portions of the Cedar, Des Moines, East Fork Des Moines, West Fork Des Moines, Iowa, Little Maquoketa, Maquoketa, Nishnabotna, Raccoon, Skunk, Turkey, Upper Iowa and the Wapsipinicon. The Sovereign Lands Construction Permit can be found at: www.iowadnr.gov/InsideDNR/RegulatoryLand/SovereignLandsPermits.aspx

Environmental Reviews for Natural Resources

Any person wishing to conduct construction activities in Iowa may send a letter to the IDNR requesting an environmental review for natural resources. Natural Resource reviews consist of a record of review for protected species (state and federal listed endangered or threatened), rare natural communities, state lands and waters in the project area, and include review by personnel representing state parks, preserves, recreation areas, fisheries and wildlife. The “Natural Resource Review” is not a required permit but can provide valuable planning information when obtained early in the planning process. For further information, please visit: www.iowadnr.gov/Environment/ThreatenedEndangered/EnvironmentalReviews.aspx

Contact

Iowa Department of Natural Resources
Sovereign Land Construction Permit
515.281.8967

www.iowadnr.gov/InsideDNR/RegulatoryLand/SovereignLandsPermits.aspx

Iowa Department of Natural Resources
Natural Resource Review Request
515.281.8967

www.iowadnr.gov/Environment/ThreatenedEndangered/EnvironmentalReviews.aspx





LAND QUALITY

The IDNR administers several land quality programs. Areas overseen include solid waste landfills and land application of industrial sludge, underground storage tanks, solid waste transfer stations, composting facilities, waste tire management, solid waste recovery and recycling.

Solid Waste

A business disposing an industrial process waste in a landfill may need a Special Waste Authorization. Contact both the local solid waste agency and the IDNR's Solid Waste Permitting Section to determine if landfill disposal is allowed for the waste. Next, submit a Request for Special Waste Authorization at least one month before disposing of the special waste, noting the landfill to which the waste will be sent. Because the landfill has the right to refuse the waste, IDNR will check with them before approving the Special Waste Authorization. There is no IDNR permitting fee for the Special Waste Authorization, but the landfill may charge an extra fee to accept the special waste. The form is available at: www.iowadnr.gov/portals/idnr/uploads/forms/5423216.pdf

Building a new sanitary disposal facility (landfill) requires working closely with the Solid Waste Permitting Section. Siting and permitting of a landfill is a lengthy process that also requires community involvement.

The Solid Waste Database tracks permit amendments, renewals and report submittals for solid waste facilities. The database also maintains basic facility information such as permit numbers, facility contacts, project locations and permit expiration dates. The database can be found at: <https://programs.iowadnr.gov/solidwaste/>

Contact

Iowa Department of Natural Resources - Land Quality Bureau
Solid Waste Planning and Permitting
515.281.6807

www.iowadnr.gov/InsideDNR/RegulatoryLand/SolidWaste/SolidWastePermitting.aspx

Hazardous Waste

In Iowa, the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) program is administered by Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 7 in Kansas City, Kansas. RCRA regulates facilities that generate, transport, treat, store or dispose of hazardous waste. Generators and transporters of hazardous waste must have EPA identification numbers and comply with regulations for the handling of hazardous waste.

Treatment, storage and disposal facilities must meet more stringent requirements and have a RCRA permit to operate. If hazardous waste will be managed in your facility, contact EPA Region 7 to obtain an identification number. It will take one week to obtain an EPA identification number. If your facility will be considered a treatment, storage or disposal facility under the RCRA regulations, a RCRA permit must be obtained from EPA prior to handling hazardous waste. This RCRA permit application should be submitted to EPA six months before construction starts at the facility.

Contact

Environmental Protection Agency, Region 7
Hazardous Waste/Resource Conservation and Recovery Act
800.223.0425 or 913.551.7003
www.epa.gov/region7/waste/index.htm

Land Recycling Program and Non-Petroleum Cleanup

The IDNR offers two options for new property owners to clean up a site that has non-petroleum contamination. The first option available through the Contaminated Sites Section of IDNR is a voluntary cleanup program called the Land Recycling Program (LRP).

Risk-based criteria consistent with the future land use are used for determining cleanup requirements. Upon completing cleanup, the IDNR issues a binding No Further Action certificate that may be recorded with the property deed. Enrolling in the LRP requires completing an application form and submitting an application fee of \$750. The site owner agrees to reimburse the IDNR for oversight of the assessment and cleanup up to a maximum of \$7,500. If groundwater contamination is present at the site, groundwater compliance demonstration requires a minimum of two years monitoring beyond the completion of cleanup. If only soil contamination is present, investigation and cleanup under the LRP can be completed in a matter of months.

A second alternative for non-petroleum cleanup is available through the IDNR's Contaminated Sites Section. Under this option, you are not required to pay an application fee or to reimburse IDNR for oversight. The investigation and demonstration compliance requirements under this approach are not as stringent as the LRP requirements. As such, a Completion Letter from IDNR is issued, but this is not as binding as a No Further Action certificate. The Completion Letter may not be recorded with the property deed. In addition, if regulations become more stringent in the future, IDNR may require additional cleanup.

Contact

Iowa Department of Natural Resources - Land Quality Bureau
Land Recycling Program/Contaminated Sites
515.281.5918 or 515.281.8895
www.iowadnr.gov/InsideDNR/RegulatoryLand/ContaminatedSites/LandRecyclingProgramLRP.aspx

Contaminated Sites

The Contaminated Sites Section of IDNR deals with a range of situations that involve contamination related to the release of hazardous materials or hazardous waste products to the environment that are not covered under another state or federal regulatory program. In general, this is related to soil or groundwater contamination.

Two state regulatory programs are administered to address sites that are contaminated by hazardous materials or wastes. These programs focus on assessing the severity of such problems and on identifying and carrying out the appropriate remedial measures to assure the protection of public health and environment. The voluntary Land Recycling Program (LRP, located in Iowa Code Chapter 137 of the IDNR rules) allows for the consideration of the intended use of the property in establishing a remedy and



it provides for limited liability protection from further regulatory action relative to the problem(s) addressed. In a more traditional, regulatory context, Iowa Code Chapter 133 of the IDNR rules may be used to require the evaluation and possibly the cleanup of contaminated sites. Many of the sites addressed by both of these programs originate because of the planned transfer of commercial real estate with some history of handling any chemicals of concern.

The Contaminated Sites Section also administers the federal Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA) or Superfund program under a cooperative agreement with the federal EPA. While some of the screening process of CERCLA is used on many sites, the more serious enforcement features are generally reserved for relatively few sites involving large disposals, serious threats to human health or the absence of a willing, financially viable responsible party. EPA Region 7 also administers this program in Iowa.

The section is also involved in the CERCLA Brownfields Program through cooperative agreements with the EPA. This program is more advisory and assistance-related with an eye toward the redevelopment of properties stigmatized by real or perceived environmental contamination concerns.

Contact

Iowa Department of Natural Resources
Contaminated Site Section
515.281.7040

www.iowadnr.gov/InsideDNR/RegulatoryLand/ContaminatedSites.aspx

Underground Storage Tanks

IDNR regulates the installation, operation, maintenance, inspection and permanent closure of underground storage tanks (UST). They also administer the certification programs for UST Professionals – those who install, test, inspect and remove UST systems, and Certified Groundwater Professionals – those who work in assessment and cleanup of petroleum releases at UST sites. Regulation of UST systems is necessary to ensure protection of Iowa's groundwater from petroleum contamination and other hazardous substances, as well as to protect public health and safety. An Iowa UST professional license is required in order to perform any work on a regulated UST system.

The IDNR's UST regulations reflect the federal regulations but also require secondary containment for systems installed after November 28, 2007, biennial third party compliance inspections, and UST operator training, which became effective December 31, 2011. All regulated UST sites in Iowa must have a trained and designated Class A and Class B operator by this date in order to dispense petroleum. Petroleum marketers with staffed facilities must also have trained Class C operators during all hours of operation.

If you buy property with contamination from a Leaking Underground Storage Tank (LUST), you may be eligible for reimbursement of the costs from the Iowa UST Fund. Iowa uses Risk-Based Corrective Action (RBCA) rules that allow site-specific cleanup criteria based on the potential health risks created by contamination at the site. A RBCA analysis on a LUST site must be performed using specific software and guidelines established by IDNR, and depending on the outcome of the evaluation, additional corrective

actions or remediation may be required. An Iowa Certified Groundwater Professional is required to perform this work.

Contact

Iowa Department of Natural Resources Land Quality Bureau

Underground Storage Tanks

515.281.8865

www.iowadnr.gov/InsideDNR/RegulatoryLand/UndergroundStorageTanks.aspx

Aboveground Storage Tanks

Installing aboveground storage tanks (ASTs) requires contacting the local fire department and the Iowa Department of Public Safety (IDPS) State Fire Marshal Division to obtain approval for the installation. ASTs over 1,100 gallons must be registered with the Iowa State Fire Marshal within one month of installation.

Storing oils (including animal and vegetable oils), fuels, solvents, and other similar materials that are not water-soluble at a facility requires evaluating whether federal Oil Pollution Prevention regulations (40 CFR 112) apply. If your facility has a total aboveground storage capacity greater than 1,320 gallons or total underground storage capacity greater than 42,000 gallons, a Spill Prevention, Control and Countermeasure (SPCC) Plan must be prepared, kept onsite and available for review by EPA.

A joint storage tank application under the IDNR and IDPS' State Fire Marshal Division covers, in one application, all the storage tanks in Iowa containing regulated substances, primarily petroleum products. These consist of Underground Storage Tanks (UST), Leaking Underground Storage Tanks (LUST) and Aboveground Storage Tanks (AST). Find more information at: www.iowadnr.gov/InsideDNR/RegulatoryLand/UndergroundStorageTanks.aspx. UST are the underground storage of regulated substances, primarily petroleum products. LUST indicates the report or cleanup of a release of petroleum product. AST are primarily the aboveground storage of combustible or flammable products. The database provides information about the UST site location, the site owners, tanks, Risk-Based Corrective Action (RBCA), site classification and remediation. View the current status of underground storage tank and leaking underground storage tank sites at: <http://programs.iowadnr.gov/tanks/>

Contact

Iowa Department of Natural Resources

Underground Storage Tanks (UST), Leaking Underground Storage Tanks (LUST) and Above Ground Storage Tanks (AST)

515.281.8011

www.iowadnr.gov/InsideDNR/RegulatoryLand/UndergroundStorageTanks.aspx

Flammable and Combustible Liquids

Transportation, storage, handling and use of flammable or combustible liquids such as gasoline, diesel fuel or alcohol-blended fuel (such as ethanol or methanol) are regulated by the IDPS' State Fire Marshal Division. Requirements include minimum specifications for storage tanks, piping and dispensers, containment requirements to prevent spills and leaks and to mitigate their effects when they occur, and minimum separation distances between tanks and between tanks and dispensers and nearby structures including residences.

Construction plans must be submitted to the State Fire Marshal Division for any facility producing, storing or dispensing flammable liquids, including refineries, bulk storage facilities and motor fuel dispensing operations. Approval of plans is required prior to construction of a facility or installation of additional tanks or dispensers to an existing facility.

Any AST used to store a flammable or combustible liquid and has a capacity equal or greater than 1,101 gallons must be registered with the State Fire Marshal.

Installation plans must also be submitted for stationary installations of liquid propane containers if any individual tank has a capacity of over 2,000 gallons, or the installation has an aggregate capacity for propane storage in excess of 4,000 gallons. www.dps.state.ia.us/fm/inspection/flammable/PDFs/AST_Plan_Packet.pdf

Contact

Iowa Department of Public Safety
State Fire Marshal Division
Flammable Liquids Section
515.725.6145

www.dps.state.ia.us/fm/flammable/index.shtml





PROGRAMS AND RESOURCES

There are several technical and financial resources available to assist you in meeting your economic development objectives. Please see the following program information.

Brownfield Redevelopment Targeted Assessments

A brownfield is an abandoned, idled or underutilized property where expansion or redevelopment is complicated by real or perceived environmental contamination. EPA Region 7 Targeted Brownfields Assessment Program (TBA) is administered by the IDNR. Communities participating in the TBA program receive a written report detailing the findings of the environmental assessment of the site planned for redevelopment and an environmental comfort letter may be issued indicating the status of the property with regard to federal agency interest. TBA resources are limited and available only to communities.

Contact

Iowa Department of Natural Resources
Brownfield Redevelopment Program
515.281.8489

www.iowadnr.gov/InsideDNR/RegulatoryLand/ContaminatedSites/Brownfields.aspx

Brownfield and Grayfield Redevelopment Tax Credit Program

The IEDA provides financial assistance to eligible brownfield and grayfield projects. The Brownfield/Grayfield Redevelopment Tax Credit Program provides up to a 15 percent tax credit for qualifying costs in the redevelopment of a grayfield property and up to a 30 percent tax credit for qualifying costs in the redevelopment of a brownfield property, with a maximum credit of \$500,000 per project and a cap of \$5 million per fiscal year.

The Brownfield Redevelopment Program provides annual competitive funding of up to 25 percent of qualified project costs, although the Iowa Legislature has not funded the program since 2009, so check for current availability.

Contact

Iowa Economic Development Authority
Brownfield and Grayfield Redevelopment Tax Credit Program
515.725.3126

www.iowaeconomicdevelopment.com/business/brownfields.aspx

Business License Information Center (BLIC)

The Business License Information Center is a convenient website providing information on licensing, certification, registration or permits which may be required for operating a new or expanding business in Iowa, or if the occupation to be practiced is professionally licensed.

Contact

Iowa Economic Development Authority
Business License Information Center
800.532.1216

www.iowa.gov/business/default.aspx

Derelict Building Grant Program

The Derelict Building Grant Program offers small Iowa communities and rural counties financial assistance to address neglected structures in order to improve the appearance of streets and revitalize local economies. An assortment of assistance opportunities and funding options are offered.

Contact

Iowa Department of Natural Resources Land Quality Bureau

Financial and Business Assistance Section

515.281.5918

www.iowadnr.gov/Environment/LandStewardship/WasteManagement/BusinessIndustry/DerelictBuildingProgram.aspx

Energy Conservation in Construction

Implementing energy efficiency results in energy savings and decreases the environmental impact of construction and of buildings and facilities once a business is in operation. The State Energy Code which is adopted by the State Building Code Commissioner as part of the State of Iowa Building Code, establishes minimum requirements for energy conservation in new construction in Iowa. The Iowa Department of Public Safety Building Code Bureau administers the State Energy Code for construction projects subject to the State Building Code, while local building departments are responsible for building code enforcement, including the State Energy Code in jurisdictions that have adopted and enforced local building codes. Certain construction projects also require preparing a life cycle cost analysis to identify optimum energy efficiency features to be included in the construction or an energy review by a registered architect or licensed professional engineer to assure energy code compliance.

Contact

Iowa Department of Public Safety

Building Code Bureau

515.725.0418

www.dps.state.ia.us/fm/building/index.shtml

Household Hazardous Materials (HHM) Program

Regional Collection Centers: Regional Collection Centers (RCC) are permanent collection facilities designed to assist the public and conditionally exempt small quantity generators (CESQG) businesses with proper management and disposal of HHMs. RCCs accept specific types of hazardous waste for disposal either through local outlets or through contracted service and also provide a material exchange (Swap Shop) and educate citizens about proper purchasing and management techniques for HHMs.

Contact

Iowa Department of Natural Resources Land Quality Bureau

Financial and Business Assistance Section

515.281.5918

www.iowadnr.gov/Environment/HouseholdHazardousMaterials/HHMsBusinesses.aspx

Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship

The Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship (IDALS) – Division of Soil Conservation is responsible for state leadership in the protection and management of soil, water and mineral resources, assisting soil and water conservation districts to meet their agricultural and environmental protection needs.

IDALS - WATER QUALITY

Watershed Protection

The Watershed Protection Program was enacted in 1999 to provide technical and financial assistance for the development and implementation of local watershed initiatives. Watershed protection projects reduce soil erosion, protect or enhance water quality, provide flood control, and protect other natural resources. The watershed approach continues to be the most comprehensive, efficient and effective method of resource management.

1. Water Protection Fund (WPF)
2. Watershed Protection Fund (WSPF)

Contact

Iowa Department of Agriculture & Land Stewardship - Division of Soil Conservation
Watershed Protection Program
515.281.6145
www.iowaagriculture.gov/waterResources/projectApplicationRequest.asp

Nutrient Reduction Wetlands

Financial incentives are provided to private landowners to restore wetlands that intercept tile drainage from agricultural watersheds in North Central Iowa as part of the Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP). CREP wetlands are strategically located and designed to remove nitrate from tile-drainage water from cropland areas. Removal of nitrate from these waters helps protect drinking water supplies and reduce hypoxia in the Gulf of Mexico.

Contact

Iowa Department of Agriculture & Land Stewardship - Division of Soil Conservation
Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program
515.281.7032
www.iowaagriculture.gov/waterResources/CREP.asp

Livestock Water Quality Low-Interest Loans

The State Revolving Loan Fund (SRF) is a new source of low-cost financing, available specifically to assist and encourage landowners to address non-point source pollution of Iowa streams and lakes. SRF offers low-interest loans through participating lenders to Iowa livestock producers for projects to prevent, minimize or eliminate non-point source pollution of Iowa's rivers and streams from animal feeding operations. Loans to implement practices for animal feeding operations can only be made to operations that are under 1,000 animal units and are not required to have an NPDES permit.

Contact

Iowa Department of Agriculture & Land Stewardship - Division of Soil Conservation
State Revolving Loan Fund
515.281.6148
www.iowaagriculture.gov/FieldServices/waterQualityLoanFund.asp

Agricultural Drainage Well Closure

Agricultural drainage wells (ADWs) were constructed in north central Iowa beginning in the early 1900s to provide outlets for surface runoff and tile drainage water from cropland areas. Because these wells discharge water directly to groundwater aquifers, they are potential routes for movement of contaminants to underground drinking water supplies. The Agricultural Drainage Well Water Quality Assistance Fund provides financial assistance to protect groundwater aquifers by closing ADWs and providing alternative drainage outlets to surface streams.

Contact

Iowa Department of Agriculture & Land Stewardship - Division of Soil Conservation
Ag Drainage Well Closure Program
515.242.6130
www.iowaagriculture.gov/waterResources/agDrainageWellClosure.asp

Watershed Improvement Review Board

Watershed Improvement Review Board (WIRB) awards grants to improve water quality and flood prevention. Eligible applicants are local watershed improvement committees, soil and water conservation districts, counties, county conservation boards, public water supply utilities and cities. The Iowa Legislature makes annual appropriations to the Watershed Improvement Fund. These funds are administered by the WIRB.

Contact

Iowa Department of Agriculture & Land Stewardship - Division of Soil Conservation
Watershed Improvement Review Board
515.281.3599
www.iowaagriculture.gov/IWIRB.asp

IDEALS - CONSERVATION

Soil Conservation Financial Assistance

Rich topsoil is the foundation of Iowa's agricultural identity and economy. Investing in the conservation of this resource is vital to maintain productivity and protect water quality. Conservation practices are a part of the planned system approach to land use and protection. Conservation practices slow the flow of water off the landscape, which prevents soil erosion and keeps sediment and nutrients out of rivers, lakes and streams. Permanent cover of grasses and trees holds soil in place and builds a healthy soil structure, which allows greater infiltration of rain where it falls.

1. State Cost-Share www.iowaagriculture.gov/FieldServices/financialAssistance.asp
2. District Initiatives www.iowaagriculture.gov/FieldServices/districtInitiatives.asp
3. No Interest Loans www.iowaagriculture.gov/FieldServices/noInterestLoans.asp
4. State Revolving Loan Fund (SRF) www.iowaagriculture.gov/FieldServices/waterQualityLoanFund.asp

Contact

Iowa Department of Agriculture & Land Stewardship - Division of Soil Conservation
Field Services Bureau
515.281.5258
www.iowaagriculture.gov/fieldServices.asp

Urban Conservation Financial Assistance Programs

Urban landscapes generate runoff with almost every rainfall event. Conservation measures capture and infiltrate stormwater and reduce a property's contribution to water quality degradation, flashy stream flows and flooding. Several financial assistance programs are available to assist with implementation of urban conservation best management practices.

1. Stormwater Best Management Practices Loans www.iowaagriculture.gov/FieldServices/stormwaterBMPLoans.asp
2. Water Quality Protection Practices www.iowaagriculture.gov/FieldServices/waterQualityProtectionPractices.asp
3. Local Initiatives www.iowaagriculture.gov/FieldServices/pdf/Local_Initiatives.pdf

Contact

Iowa Department of Agriculture & Land Stewardship - Division of Soil Conservation
Urban Conservation Program
515.281.5833
www.iowaagriculture.gov/FieldServices/urbanConservation.asp

IDALS - LAND QUALITY

Coal Regulatory

Since 1977, the IDALS – Division of Soil Conservation has permitted, bonded, inspected and enforced coal mining regulations in Iowa. Permits issued were required to provide an assessment of pre-mining conditions, an operation plan for the mining phase and a reclamation plan for restoration of the site and achievement of the intended post-mining land use. Currently, there are no permitted coal mines in Iowa. Previously, permitted sites were located in Mahaska, Marion, Monroe and Lucas Counties.

Contact

Iowa Department of Agriculture & Land Stewardship - Division of Soil Conservation
Mines & Minerals
515.281.4246
www.iowaagriculture.gov/MinesAndMinerals/coalRegulatory.asp

Abandoned Mine Land Reclamation

Iowa has more than 12,000 acres of abandoned coal sites that were mined prior to 1977 and are eligible to be reclaimed under Title IV of the Federal Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act (Public Law 95-87). The IDALS – Division of Soil Conservation receives funding annually to reclaim eligible sites selected from this inventory. Criteria for ranking sites are based on environmental problems as well as potential hazards to public health and safety.

Contact

Iowa Department of Agriculture & Land Stewardship - Division of Soil Conservation
AML Program
515.281.4246
www.iowaagriculture.gov/MinesAndMinerals/abandonedMinedLandReclamation.asp

Minerals Licensing

There are more than 1,000 registered mineral sites in Iowa, utilized by some 200 mine operators. Minerals extracted at these sites include: limestone, sand and gravel, gypsum and clay. The Division of Soil Conservation licenses each mine operator and bonds and registers each mining site. One inspector monitors all sites across the state to assure compliance with Iowa Code Chapter 208 and adopted regulations and to assure that the reclamation bond posted is adequate to complete required reclamation in the event of default by the operator. Inspections are also conducted in response to citizen inquiries or complaints.

Contact

Iowa Department of Agriculture & Land Stewardship - Division of Soil Conservation
Mines & Minerals
515.242.5003
www.iowaagriculture.gov/MinesAndMinerals/minerals.asp

Iowa Department of Natural Resources

Business Assistance Coordinator

Business assistance is available from the IDNR to assist with identifying environmental compliance requirements and connecting you with resources to implement source reduction, recycling, and other sustainable business practices.

Contact

Iowa Department of Natural Resources
Business Assistance Coordinator
515.281.7276

www.iowadnr.gov/InsideDNR/AboutDNR/BusinessRegulatoryAssistance.aspx

Field Offices

Six field offices located throughout the state assist lowans with understanding environmental protection programs. Field offices conduct routine inspections of permitted facilities and help individuals and businesses understand when to apply for a permit and how to meet permit requirements.

Field Office Contact Information

Field Office #1
909 W. Main, Suite #4
Manchester, IA 52057
563.927.2640
www.iowadnr.gov/InsideDNR/DNRStaffOffices/EnvironmentalFieldOffices/FieldOffice1Manchester.aspx

Field Office #2
2300 15th Street SW
Mason City, IA 50401
641.424.4073
www.iowadnr.gov/InsideDNR/DNRStaffOffices/EnvironmentalFieldOffices/FieldOffice2MasonCity.aspx

Field Office #3
1900 N. Grand Ave., Suite E17
Spencer, IA 51301
712.262.4177
www.iowadnr.gov/InsideDNR/DNRStaffOffices/EnvironmentalFieldOffices/FieldOffice3Spencer.aspx

Field Office #4
1401 Sunnyside Lane
Atlantic, IA 50022
712.243.1934
www.iowadnr.gov/InsideDNR/DNRStaffOffices/EnvironmentalFieldOffices/FieldOffice4Atlantic.aspx

Field Office #5
401 SW 7th, Suite 1
Des Moines, IA 50309
515.725.0268
www.iowadnr.gov/InsideDNR/DNRStaffOffices/EnvironmentalFieldOffices/FieldOffice5DesMoines.aspx

Field Office #6
1023 W. Madison Street
Washington, IA 52353
319.653.2135
www.iowadnr.gov/InsideDNR/DNRStaffOffices/EnvironmentalFieldOffices/FieldOffice6Washington.aspx

Iowa Economic Development Authority – Energy Team

The Energy Team of the IEDA advances energy efficiency and renewable energy in Iowa and serves as Iowa's State Energy Office. Working with business and industry, community leaders, government, and public agencies, the Energy Team sets the strategic direction for Iowa's clean energy future. Information on funding and incentives, current energy programs and technical assistance is available.

Contact

Iowa Economic Development Authority
Energy Team
515.725.0418
www.iowaeconomicdevelopment.com

Iowa Energy Center

The Iowa Energy Center at Iowa State University is involved in research and demonstration projects focused on alternative energy systems using renewable resources and assessing technology related to energy efficiency and energy production systems. The center also supports research in the form of competitive grants, provides scholarships and through a low-cost financial program, encourages construction of renewable energy production facilities in Iowa.

Contact

Iowa Energy Center
515.294.8819
<http://energy.iastate.edu/>

Iowa Geology and Hydrology

Technical assistance and extensive databases for geology, wells, and water quality are available from Iowa Geological Survey. Assistance such as geohydrologic consultation for water supply development, mineral extraction and a wide range of assessment for watershed enhancement activities is available.

Contact

Iowa Department of Natural Resources
Geological Survey
319.335.1575
www.iowadnr.gov/Environment/Geology/AbouttheIGWS.aspx

Iowa Waste Exchange (IWE)

The Iowa Waste Exchange (IWE) provides confidential, non-regulatory assistance to Iowa institutions and businesses. With a non-regulatory network of representatives around the state, the IWE works to match up businesses, schools, hospitals, communities and individuals that have waste recycling and/or disposal needs with resources to help meet those needs.

Contact

Iowa Department of Natural Resources Land Quality Bureau
Financial and Business Assistance Section
515.281.5918

www.iowadnr.gov/Environment/LandStewardship/WasteManagement/BusinessIndustry/FABA/IowaWasteExchangeIWE.aspx

Iowa Waste Reduction Center (IWRC)

Small businesses are eligible for a confidential and non-regulatory on-site visit by an IWRC waste reduction professional. During the visit, an IWRC staff member tours the facility and learns about the company's operations and current waste management practices. Within four weeks after the visit, the staff member prepares a report that reviews the relevant regulations and identifies pollution prevention opportunities.

Contact

Iowa Waste Reduction Center
319.273.6589

www.iwrc.org/default/

Pollution Prevention Services (P2 Services)

Pollution Prevention Services offers confidential, non-regulatory environmental technical assistance at no cost to Iowa business and industry, institutions and governmental agencies using pollution prevention or source reduction strategies. An assortment of assistance opportunities and services are offered to assist clients including opportunity assessments, nationally recognized P2 Intern Program, Environmental Management Systems assistance and workshops and educational training.

Contact

Iowa Department of Natural Resources Land Quality Bureau
Financial and Business Assistance Section
515.281.5353

www.iowap2services.com

Recycling Property Tax Exemption

Industrial machinery, equipment, computers and their replacement parts are exempt from property tax when used primarily in the recycling or reprocessing of paper, cardboard, waste wood, plastic waste precuts or in the abatement of air and water pollution control. To qualify for the property tax exemption, first apply for certification from the IDNR. After the IDNR certification is received, file for the tax exemption from your local property tax assessment authority no later than February 1 (If you are a public utility, file your certification with the Iowa Department of Revenue).

Contact

Iowa Department of Natural Resources
Wallace Building
502 E. 9th Street
Des Moines, Iowa 50309

Recycling Sales Tax Exemption

Industrial machinery, equipment, computers and replacement parts are sales tax exempt if used directly and primarily in the recycling or reprocessing of waste products. The sale or rental of air or water pollution control equipment is taxable unless the equipment is used directly and primarily by a manufacturer in processing. Iowa's recycling sales tax exemption does not require certification by IDNR (Noise pollution equipment may not be exempted).

To qualify for recycling sales tax exemption the business purchasing or renting qualifying equipment must complete the Iowa Sales Tax Exemption Certificate (found online at www.iowa.gov/tax/forms/31014.pdf) and submit the completed form to the seller when completing the sales transaction.

Contact

Iowa Department of Revenue
Hoover State Office Building
1305 E. Walnut
Des Moines IA 50319
515.281.3114 or 800.367.3388

Solid Waste Alternatives Financial Assistance Programs (SWAP)

The Solid Waste Alternatives Program (SWAP) seeks to reduce the amount of solid waste generated and deposited in Iowa landfills. Financial assistance is available through a competitive, quarterly process for a variety of projects including source reduction, recycling and education. A 50 percent cost share is required through cash and in-kind match.

Contact

Iowa Department of Natural Resources Land Quality Bureau
Financial and Business Assistance Section
515.281.5918

www.iowadnr.gov/Environment/LandStewardship/WasteManagement/BusinessIndustry/FABA/SWAP.aspx





ASSISTANCE
NETWORK

Iowa Business and Regulatory Assistance Network

The Iowa Business and Regulatory Assistance Network can ensure access and responsiveness by Iowa state government to requests for assistance from citizens, local units of government, small business and industry. Guided by the Iowa Economic Development Authority (IEDA), Business Assistance coordinators are designated in agencies across state government to work as a cohesive network to coordinate communication and service.

For confidential, non-regulatory assistance, please contact the Iowa Economic Development Authority. You may also directly contact the business coordinator at the specific agency of interest.

Contact

Iowa Economic Development Authority
800.532.1216

www.iowaeconomicdevelopment.com/business/environmental_issues.aspx

Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship (IDALS)

The Division of Consumer Protection and Industry Services administers agricultural market development and regulatory programs which include: Ag Diversification and Market Development, Agricultural Market Development, Animal Industry Bureau, Commercial Feed and Fertilizer Bureau, Dairy Products Control, Entomology and Plant Science, Grain Warehouse Bureau, Horticulture and Farmers' Market Bureau, Horse and Dog Breeding Program, Iowa Farmer's Market Nutrition Program, Iowa Laboratory Facility, Meat and Inspection Bureau, Pesticide Bureau and Weights and Measures Bureau.

The Soil Conservation Division is responsible for managing oil, water and mineral resources and assisting soil and water conservation districts and private landowners to meet their agricultural and environmental protection needs. Division programs include: Field Services Bureau, Mines and Minerals Bureau, and Water Resource Bureau.

Contact

Regulatory Assistance Coordinator, Margaret Thomson at 515.281.5322 or
Margaret.Thomson@iowaagriculture.gov

www.iowaagriculture.gov/

Division of Banking, Professional Licensing Bureau (PLB)

PLB coordinates administrative support for seven professional licensing boards regulating: Accountants (CPA and LPA), Architects, Engineers and Land Surveyors, Interior Designers, Landscape Architects, Real Estate (Broker, Salesperson, and Firm) and Real Estate Appraisers. For assistance or contact information for each licensing board, please visit www.state.ia.us/government/com/prof/home.html.

Division of Credit Unions, Commerce Department

The Division of Credit Unions provides the supervision and regulation of Iowa state-chartered credit unions.

Contact

Regulatory Assistance Coordinator, Rebecca Behrens at 515.281.6515 or rebecca.behrens@iowa.gov
www.iacudiv.state.ia.us/

Iowa Department of Cultural Affairs (IDCA), State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO)

SHPO consults with federal and state agencies on how their “undertakings” (e.g. actions receiving federal support such as funding, permitting or other assistance) may affect historic properties. The National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) requires federal agencies to review actions which may affect a property listed on the National Register of Historic Places, or which may affect a property eligible for this listing. A property may be a building, historic district, archeological site, cultural landscape or traditional cultural properties. SHPO provides technical assistance on how best to mitigate effects from an undertaking to preserve the historic integrity of the property.

Contact

Regulatory Assistance Coordinator, Dan Higginbottom at 515.281.8744 or Daniel.Higginbottom@iowa.gov
www.culturalaffairs.org/programs/business-assistance-team/index.htm

Iowa Department of Human Services, Child Support Recovery Unit (CSRU)

CSRU assists Iowa employers by providing 24/7 online access to make child support payments, report hired or rehired employees and to report employee terminations. For assistance, employers may call 877.274.2580, visit <https://secureapp.dhs.state.ia.us/epay/> or email csrue@dhs.state.ia.us.

Iowa Department of Inspections and Appeals (IDIA)

The IDIA inspects, licenses, and/or certifies health care providers and suppliers, restaurants and grocery stores, social and charitable gaming operations, hotels and motels, and barber and beauty shops. For assistance, call 515.281.6863, visit www.state.ia.us/government/dia/index.html or email webmaster@dia.iowa.gov.

Iowa Insurance Division (IID)

Supervises insurance business transacted in Iowa, grants permission to companies wishing to sell insurance and serves as the administrator of the securities act.

Contact

Regulatory Assistance Coordinator, Jim Armstrong at 515.281.5705 or Jim.Armstrong@iid.iowa.gov
www.iid.state.ia.us/regulatory/

Iowa Department of Natural Resources (IDNR)

Administers environmental protection programs for air, water, land quality, maintains state parks and forests, and manages Iowa's natural resources.

Contact

Regulatory Assistance Coordinator, Christine Spackman at 515.281.7276 or christine.spackman@dnr.iowa.gov
www.iowadnr.com/other/bizreg.html

Iowa Department of Public Health (IDPH)

The Iowa Department of Public Health is a catalyst for promoting and protecting the health of Iowans. It strives to improve the quality of life for all Iowans by fulfilling the fundamental obligations of population-based services by: preventing epidemics and the spread of disease; protecting against environmental hazards; preventing injuries; promoting and encouraging healthy behaviors and mental health; preparing for and responding to public health emergencies and assisting communities in recovery; and assuring the quality and accessibility of health services.

Contact

Regulatory Assistance Coordinator, Barb Nervig at 515.281.4344 or bnervig@idph.state.ia.us
www.idph.state.ia.us

Iowa Department of Public Safety (IDPS)

This department licenses, certifies, or registers electricians and electrical contractors, private investigative and private security businesses, commercial explosive operations, fire extinguishing system contractors, alarm system contractors and installers, and above ground petroleum storage tanks, as well as overseeing weapons permitting in Iowa.

The State Fire Marshal establishes and enforces fire safety requirements for various specific occupancies as well as for storage, use, and handling of explosives and of flammable and combustible liquids. The Building Code Commissioner adopts the State Building Code, statewide accessibility requirements for persons with disabilities, energy conservation requirements for construction, and requirements for minimum plumbing facilities in restaurants, pubs, lounges, and places of public assembly.

Contact

Regulatory Assistance Coordinator, Roxann Ryan at 515.725.6328 or
regassist@dps.state.ia.us

www.dps.state.ia.us/regassist/index.shtml

Iowa Department of Revenue (IDR)

This department administers Iowa's tax laws, including sales and use, motor fuel, cigarette and tobacco, individual and corporation income, and inheritance taxes. IDR issues business tax permits and provides Iowa tax publications and forms. IDR also provides information on tax laws, administrative rules, and tax policy and assists local governments in making property tax assessments fair and in compliance with the law.

Contact

Iowa Department of Revenue tax specialists at 515.281.3114 or 800.367.3388.

Available: 8 a.m. - 4:15 p.m. CST.

idr@iowa.gov

Regulatory Assistance Coordinator, Victoria Daniels at victoria.daniels@iowa.gov

www.iowa.gov/tax/links/lowaBAN.html

Iowa Department of Transportation (IDOT)

This department regulates and authorizes access locations to primary highways, utility occupancy of highway right of way, and use of highway right of way by others.

Contact

Regulatory Assistance Coordinator, Karen Smith at 515.237.3239 or Karen.Smith@DOT.iowa.gov

www.dot.state.ia.us/bus_reg_assist.htm

Iowa Secretary of State (ISOS)

This part of state government processes certificate of incorporation (to transact business as a corporation in Iowa), registration as a foreign corporation (a corporation organized under the laws of a state other than Iowa) and reserving the exclusive right of a corporate name in Iowa. For assistance please call 515.281.5204, visit www.sos.iowa.gov or email sos@sos.iowa.gov.

Iowa Utilities Board (IUB)

The IUB administers regulatory approvals needed for generating certificate, natural gas pipeline permit, electric line franchise, or flexible rate tariff.

IUB also handles complaints against utility service providers, call 877.565.4450 (toll-free) or email customer@iub.iowa.gov

Contact

Regulatory Assistance Coordinator, Joan Conrad at 515.281.4874 or email at Joan.Conrad@iub.iowa.gov
www.state.ia.us/government/com/util/links/business_regulatory.html

Iowa Workforce Development (IWD)

This department administers services including Workforce Development Centers, Workers Compensation, and Unemployment Insurance. The Division of Labor Services at IWD administers programs including occupational safety and health, construction contractor registration, child labor, wage payment and minimum wage, asbestos abatement, and elevator, escalator, boiler, pressure vessel, and amusement ride safety.

Contact

Regulatory Assistance Coordinator, Kathleen Uehling at 515.281.5915 or kathleen.uehling@iwd.state.ia.us

Office of Citizens Aide/Ombudsman

The Office of Citizens' Aide/Ombudsman serves as an independent and impartial agency to which citizens can air their grievances about government. By facilitating communications between citizens and government and making recommendations to improve administrative practices and procedures, the Ombudsman promotes responsiveness and quality in government.

Contact

Regulatory Assistance Coordinator, Kristie Hirschman at 515.281.3592 or kristie.hirschman@legis.state.ia.us
www.legis.state.ia.us/ombudsman/



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