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## Iowa American Water to Award almost \$8,500 to Five Local Watershed Projects through 2017 Environmental Grant Program

*Since program began in Iowa a decade ago, over \$68,000 in grants have been awarded to projects that improve, restore or protect local watersheds*

**DAVENPORT, IA (June 22, 2017)** – Iowa American Water announced today that five local watershed initiatives will be awarded funding through the company's 2017 Environmental Grant Program. The recipients will share grant funds totaling almost \$8,500 for community projects that improve, restore or protect watersheds.

"Our Environmental Grant Program is designed to help organizations carry out projects that benefit our waterways, raise awareness about the importance of water in our lives and promote community participation," said Randy Moore, president of Iowa American Water. "We are pleased to support these worthwhile endeavors and extend our appreciation to the individuals and organizations that are making them happen."

Grant applications were evaluated by a panel of judges based on criteria such as environmental need, innovation, community engagement and sustainability.

Recipients of Iowa American Water's 2017 Environmental Grant Awards are as follows:

- **City of Davenport Parks & Recreation Department will be awarded \$2,500 for its Water Quality Improvement Project in VanderVeer Botanical Park's Lagoon.** The project will decrease the level of nitrates, nitrites and phosphates with the installation of BioHaven floating islands.
- **Scott Community College Environmental Club will be awarded \$2,000 for its Crow Creek Watershed Protection and Biodiversity Project.** The project will restore 6 acres of tallgrass prairie in the Crow Creek drainage basin. Erosion and runoff to the creek will be reduced resulting in better water quality. Biodiversity will be increased on the site as native species of grasses and forbs will be restored
- **Nahant Marsh Education Center will be awarded \$1,875 for its Sedge Meadow Restoration and Enhancement project, Phase II.** Nahant Marsh staff and volunteers will expand prairie and sedge meadow restoration efforts to include an additional 8 acres for a total of 15.5 acres. Success will be measured by reducing invasive species and increasing native plants and animals.

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- **River Action, Inc. will be awarded a \$1,200 grant for its Retain the Rain Interactive Display project.** The project will update an interactive Retain the Rain kiosk to include bio-reactors and floating wetland islands, increase kiosk visibility and usership. Kiosk will be upgraded from 250 lb. unit to a light 55 pound unit with a touchscreen display.
- **Prince of Peace Catholic School A.P. Environment Class in Clinton will be awarded \$850 for its Watershed Restoration Project.** Students have begun a labor-intensive restoration of a small marsh, invaded by Phragmites reeds. Over the next decade, the class will continue removing this invasive plant and publicize progress in restoring the watershed and encouraging other landowners' restoration efforts.

**About Iowa American Water**

Iowa American Water, a subsidiary of American Water (NYSE: AWK), is the largest investor-owned water utility in the state, providing high-quality and reliable water services to approximately 212,000 people. With a history dating back to 1886, American Water is the largest and most geographically diverse U.S. publicly-traded water and wastewater utility company. The company employs more than 6,700 dedicated professionals who provide regulated and market-based drinking water, wastewater and other related services to an estimated 15 million people in 47 states and Ontario, Canada. More information can be found by visiting [www.amwater.com](http://www.amwater.com).

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