

# Five Watersheds Selected For Grants

This week, the Watershed Improvement Review Board awarded five projects, totaling \$796,500, grants that will improve water quality or reduce flooding in Iowa. These funds will be matched by \$1.77 million from the local communities, for a total of \$2.56 million going to improve Iowa's water.

Since the Legislature created this board and program in 2005, \$27 million has been provided in grants to local communities to improve Iowa's water quality or reduce flooding.

The approved projects have already completed watershed assessments that identified critical water resource areas and will focus on implementing specific water quality or flood reduction improvements. The projects will address runoff and drainage, sedimentation, urban stormwater, flooding, and a number of other issues that impact the state's waterways.

The funds were available to local watershed improvement committees, soil and water conservation districts, public water supply utilities, county conservation boards, cities, and counties. For this round, individual projects could request up to \$200,000 in funding.

The five approved grants are as follows:

- Bloody Run Creek Watershed, City of Marquette in Clayton County; project length is one year; grant amount is \$200,000.
- Lost Island Lake Watershed, Palo Alto County Conservation Board; project length is one and a half years; grant amount is \$180,000.
- Rathbun Lake Watershed, Rathbun Land and Water Alliance in Appanoose, Clarke, Decatur, Lucas, Monroe and Wayne counties; project length is four years; grant amount is \$200,000.
- White Oak Lake Watershed, Mahaska County Conservation Board; project length is three years; grant amount is \$100,000.
- Williamson Pond Watershed, Lucas County Soil and Water Conservation District; project length is 26 months; grant amount is \$116,500.