



2015
ANNUAL
REPORT
January - December 2015



2015 Board of Directors

Ross Baxter
Tracy Beck
Laura Belin
Jane Clark
Catherine Cownie
Sondra Feldstein
Elizabeth Garst
Kevin Hansen
Linda Kinman
Sarah Lohmeier – *Secretary*
Cyril Mandelbaum – *Treasurer*
Lorraine May – *Vice President*
Kevin Nordmeyer
Ryan Peterson
Steve Roe
John Schmidt
Marvin Shirley
Al Sturgeon
Margi Weiss – *President*

New Board Members

In 2015, the Council welcomed five new board members: Tracy Beck, Kevin Hansen, Marvin Shirley, John Schmidt and Al Sturgeon.

Iowa Environmental Council Staff

Nathaniel Baer – *Energy Program Director*
Jamie Burch – *Development Director*
Susan Heathcote – *Water Program Director*
Katy Heggen – *Communications and Outreach Director*
Kitty Jacobson – *Office Manager*
Clare Kernek – *Water Program Attorney*
Cindy Lane – *Climate/Energy Policy Specialist*
Ann Robinson – *Agricultural Policy Specialist*
Ralph Rosenberg – *Executive Director*

New Staff

In 2015, the Council welcomed four new members to its team: Development Director Jamie Burch, Office Manager Kitty Jacobson, Water Program Attorney Clare Kernek and Agricultural Policy Specialist Ann Robinson.

Our mission:
A safe, healthy environment and sustainable future for Iowa

Founded in 1995, the Iowa Environmental Council is the largest and most comprehensive environmental coalition in the state. We are a nonprofit, nonpartisan alliance of diverse organizations and individuals working together to protect and preserve Iowa's environment. Together, we unify Iowans to advocate for clean water & land stewardship, clean energy, and a healthy climate.

By amplifying the voices of Iowans and leveraging our collective influence, we advocate for a cleaner, healthier Iowa at the legislature, rule-making agencies and when necessary, in the courts.



Through education, advocacy and coalition building, we raise awareness, generate action and create large-scale change that makes Iowa a better place to live, work and explore.



Iowa Environmental Council

521 E. Locust St., Ste. 220 • Des Moines, IA 50309

Phone: 515-244-1194 • Email: iecmal@iaenvironment.org

 [Facebook.com/IAEnvironmentalCouncil](https://www.facebook.com/IAEnvironmentalCouncil)  [@Iowa_Env](https://twitter.com/Iowa_Env)

A safe, healthy environment for Iowa's families

2015 marked the 20th anniversary of the Iowa Environmental Council, and the year did not disappoint. We started the winter strong with *Environmental Lobby Day and REAP Day* at the capitol, which brought over 250 conservation advocates together at the State Capitol to share their stories with legislators and advocate for increased support for Iowa's natural resources. In June, we celebrated the Council's 20th anniversary at the second annual, *Pro H2O – Celebrating 20 Years*. That night, we honored the Council's early leaders and had some fun while raising funds for the IEC. In the fall, the Council hosted its annual conference, *Elevate: Creating an Environment of Action*. There, approximately 200 people gathered to hear our keynote speaker, 2013 CNN Hero of the Year, Chad Pregracke, and connect and learn from one another.

We saw incredible growth in the solar and wind energy sectors, due in part to our work to advance clean energy in Iowa. Because of our impact, Nathaniel Baer, our Energy Program Director, was invited to the White House to attend a private meeting with EPA Administrator Gina McCarthy and President Obama. In our water and land stewardship program, we celebrated a significant year of firsts and played a critical role as stakeholders on essential committees working to protect Iowa's water and land. For the first time in our organization's history and only after all other options were exhausted, we took a case to court in 2015 and the district court recently ruled in favor of the Council, the law and the environment.

The Council bolstered its already strong reputation as a trusted source of credible, balanced information. We helped generate over 550 letters to policymakers, were quoted in over 75 stories in news outlets across the state, and strengthened our communications resources.

Your individual voices are the strength of our organization as we join together in a single, collective voice to protect our environment. Thank you for your time and your financial support. Progress is simply not possible without you. The work the Council does is unique. We work behind the scenes. We provide a balanced, nonpartisan approach, and it's something I'm proud to be a part of. I'm honored to take on the role of President of the Board of Directors in 2016 and look forward to continuing to work with all of you to make Iowa a safe, healthy place we are all proud to call home.



Lorraine May
2016 President of the Board of Directors



2015 DONATIONS

\$10,000 – \$20,000

The Fred and Charlotte Hubbell Foundation
Holthues Trust

\$5,000 – \$9,999

Anonymous
Growing Green Communities
Iowa Foundation for Education, Environment, and the Arts
G. David and Trudy Hurd

\$1,000 – \$4,999

The Alben F. Bates and Clara G. Bates Foundation
BNIM
Cultivating Compassion: The Dr. Richard Deming Foundation
Iowa Natural Heritage Foundation
Izaak Walton League of America
Metro Waste Authority
Wells Fargo
Laura Belin and Kieran Williams
Franklin and Tracy Codel
Catherine Cownie and Damien Lock
Katherine and Herb Eckhouse
Elizabeth Garst
Elizabeth and William Goodwin
Sara Hill
Craig Johnson
Linda Kinman
Kenneth K. Kinsey
Diane and Keith Krell
Eric and Sarah Lohmeier

Cyril and John Mandelbaum
Lorraine May
Kay and Robert Riley Jr.
Bill and Mary Kay Vogel

\$500 – \$999

Anonymous
Connie Wimer Charitable Fund
Iowa's County Conservation System
Leopold Center for Sustainable Agriculture
Practical Farmers of Iowa
Raccoon River Watershed Association
RAYGUN
Trees Forever
Mark and Susan Ackelson
Jerry and Susan Anderson
John Brennan and Regina Voss Brennan
Dana Christiansen
Jane Clark
Myron and Connie Gordin
Marla Griffith
Carol A Gronstal
Judie and David Hoffman
Robert Jester
Marilynn Keller
Kathy Morris
Doris Jean and Owen J. Newlin
David Osterberg
John Schmidt
Marvin Shirley
William and Winifred Shuttleworth
Al Sturgeon
Frederick and Emily Weitz
Thomas and Sue Wind

\$100 – \$249

Bur Oak Land Trust
Environmental Advocates
Iowa Council of Trout Unlimited
Iowa Rivers Revival
Linda Appelgate
Alice and Kendall Atkinson
Elizabeth Baird and Ken Cameron
Scott Bents
Robert Bernard
Jamie Beyer
David Butruille
Douglas and Lorna Caulkins
Alicia and David Claypool
Gordon and Jeannine Dunn
Selma Duvick
Charles and Marilyn Farr
Rachel Garst
Ed Garst
Sarah Garst
Deborah R. Gitchell
Kevin Hansen and Laura Palmer
Phillip and Janet Hascall
Robert Haug
Bill and Irlanda Helgen
Paul and Patricia Johnson
Erwin and Janet Klaas
Nicole Lozier
Karen M. Manning
Joseph and Carolyn Martin M.D.
Nancy and Tom McKlveen
Mary Richards
Stephen D Roe, CLU, ChFC
Janet and Mark Rosenbury
Janis and John Ruan III
Howard Shapiro
Jean Thomson
Steve and Cornelia Throssel
Theresa and Henry Walker
Denise Warriner

Mike Tramontina and Margi Weiss
Mark Widrechner
David and Corrine Williams
Wendy Wintersteen
Jim and Louise Zaffiro

\$100 – \$250

1000 Friends of Iowa
Allamakee County
Protectors-Education Campaign
American Institute of Architects – Iowa Chapter
Cedar Rapids Garden Club
Cedar Rapids/Linn County
Solid Waste Agency
Citizen's Climate Lobby
Conservation Corps Iowa and Minnesota
Conservation Districts of Iowa
Conservation Foundation of Dickinson County
Dallas County Environmental Health Department
Des Moines Audubon Society
Des Moines Founders Garden Club
Des Moines Water Works
Drake Environmental Law Society
East Okoboji Lakes Improvement Corporation
Environmental Law and Policy Center
First Unitarian Church
Friends of Neal Smith National Wildlife Refuge
Griggs Environmental Strategies LLC
Integrated Roadside Vegetation Management
Iowa Assoc. of Naturalists
Iowa Audubon
Iowa Conservation Education Coalition
Iowa Farmers Union
Iowa Interfaith Power and Light
Iowa Onsite Wastewater Association
Iowa Renewable Energy Association
Iowa Waste Reduction Center
Iowa Water Center
Izaak Walton League – Des Moines Chapter
Lake Macbride Conservancy
Polk County Conservation Board
Polk County Public Works – Air Quality Division
Poweshiek CARES, Inc.
Prairie Rivers of Iowa RCandD
Ralph and Sylvia G. Green Charitable Foundation
Red Rock Lake Association
Scott Community College Environmental Club
Sioux County Soil and Water Conservation District
Sisters of Charity of the Blessed Virgin Mary
Spirit Lake Protective Association
State Hygienic Laboratory at the University of Iowa
Sustainable Iowa Land Trust
Waste Commission of Scott County
Whiterock Conservancy
Windward Iowa Women, Food and Agriculture Network
Leigh and Ed Adcock
Julie Andersen
Rep. Marti Anderson
Eric Baack

Patrick Bauer
 Ross and Nichole Baxter
 Neil and Renate Bernstein
 Gabriel and Faith Blaskovich
 Elizabeth Blessington
 Joseph Bolkcom
 Robert Bourne
 Peg Bouska
 Charisse Buising
 Barbara Buss
 Kate and Kelsey Byus
 John Cacciatore and
 Robin Ahnen-Cacciatore
 Alex Cahill
 Rick and Joyce Chapman
 Ben Clark
 Roger Colton
 Mary Cowdrey
 Ray and Sandra Crabtree
 Laura Crossley
 Michael Delaney and
 Dell Radcliffe
 Renate and Dieter Dellmann
 Sharon Donovan
 Gregory Drees
 Bill Drury
 Stan and Carol Eilers
 Catherine and
 Doug Engstrom
 Mary and Bob Fanter
 Bill and Cynde Fanter
 Thomas Fey and
 Lucy Gomez Fey
 Mike and Pat Finnegan
 Allison and Jim Fleming
 Amanda Fletcher
 Joan Fumetti
 Mark Gannon
 Kate Garst
 Linda Gobberdiel
 Gretchen Graff
 Margery and John Graves
 Max Grover
 Larry Gullett
 James Gulliford
 Helen Gunderson
 Neil and Khanh Hamilton
 Scott and Michale Hansen
 Margaret and
 Raymond Harden
 Babs and Doug Hein
 Christina Henning
 Karen and Steve Herwig
 Del Holland
 Tom Holm
 Mary Holtze
 Jack and Andrea Holveck
 Nathan and Linda Hopkins
 Ted and Susan Hutchison
 Ann Johnson
 Susan Judkins Josten

Robert Klein
 Cathy Kling and
 Terence Alexander
 John and Claudia Knutson
 Kevin and Susan Kolbe
 Roger and Sarah Lande
 Rich and Kathleen Leopold
 Diane and John Liepa
 Jan and Tom Lovell
 Mark Madsen
 Ed and Victoria Malloy
 Joshua Mandelbaum
 Dan Martin
 Martha McCormick
 Sandra and George McJimsey
 R. A. and Shirley Michel
 Don and Nancy Miller
 Mary Ellen Miller
 John Miranowski
 David and Janet Moeller
 Sandy and Betty Moffett
 Pamela J. Mollenhauer
 Polly Moore
 Penney Morse
 Michael Murphy
 Connie and Robert Mutel
 Barry Nemmers
 Jon Judson and Kay Neuman
 Martha Norbeck
 Jim and Jeanne O'Halloran
 Rosemary and John Olds
 Allen Patillo
 Dorothy Paul
 Dr. Jim Pease
 Jerry Peckumn
 Ryan Peterson
 Jean Austin Peterson
 Ryan Peterson
 Joe And Kris Plank
 John Pohlman
 Chad Pregracke
 Mark Rasmussen
 Paul and Marsha Readhead
 Carole and Duke Reichardt
 Ann Y. Robinson
 Steve Roe
 Tom and Carman Rosburg
 Jonathan and
 Eva Rosenbloom
 Lisa Ross Thedens
 Dr. Douglas and
 Sharon Rossman
 Melanie Sadeghpour
 Duane Sand
 Lisa Schulte Moore and
 Peter Moore
 Jennifer Seydel and
 Mark Heining
 Charlotte Shivvers and
 Bob Baker

Jane Shuttleworth and
 Hank Miguel
 Virginia Soelberg
 Marjorie Spevak
 Kim Stroud
 Rebecca Swainey
 Ruth and Clayton Swenson
 Bonnie Thorn
 Kay Tweedy
 Orval and Donita Uden
 Margaret and
 Jon Vernon D.D.S.
 Valerie Vetter
 David and Anabeth K. Voigts
 Tim Wagner
 Don Wall
 Margaret Weiner
 Michael Welsh
 Beth Wilson
 Carey Wimer and
 Sean Cunningham
 Donna Winburn
 Patricia Winters
 Dr. Diana L. Wright
 Lois Wright Morton
 Rick and Betty Zarwell
 Mike Zimmermann

\$99 - \$50

Jonathan Andelson and
 Karin Stein
 Peg Armstrong-Gustafson
 Olivia Atcherson
 Steve Ballenger
 Kathy and Gerry Barr
 Daniel Bartlett
 Barbara Beaumont
 Kathy Beyer
 William and
 Dianne Blankenship
 Don Brazelton
 Ernest and Jane Brees
 William Brock
 Deborah Bunka
 Holly Carver and Lain Adkins
 Janis Corderman
 Sue and Stan Crull
 Neil and Marcia Dahlquist
 Pamila Deichmann
 Marie and Steve DeVries
 Brett Douglas
 Teryl Edwards
 Laura Jackson and
 Kamyar Enshayan
 Maria Filippone
 Bill and Donna Fink
 Catharine Fitzsimmons
 Harriet and Allan Fox
 Gail George
 Myra Gipson

LaVon Griffieon
 David Hance
 Joyce Hanes
 Katy and Peter Hansen
 Jo Anna Heberger
 Lisa Hein and Phil Sporrer
 Lois Heskett
 Tom Hoff
 Jan Hollebrands
 Patrice Holmlund
 Rudy and Helen Jensen
 Daryle and Linda Johnson
 Bill Kalishek
 Christine Kirpes
 Pat Knueven
 Kirk Kraft
 Clarence Kreiter
 Lyle Krewson
 Nancy Kurrle
 Don Laughlin
 Nathan Lein
 Mark Leoschke
 Jan Libbey and
 Timothy Landgraf
 William and Jane Lieb
 Norman Mandelbaum and
 Marilyn Parsons
 Jim and Karen
 Martin-Schramm
 Anne and Kim McKeown
 Ken Morse
 James Murdock
 Kevin and Beth Nordmeyer
 Herman Quirnbach
 Ruth Ratliff
 Thomas Reardon
 Mitchell and Diane Sabin
 Robert and Hutha Sayre
 Thomas and Marian Scott
 Robert Sessions
 Gary Siegwarth
 William and
 Catherine Simpkins
 Larry and Margaret Stone
 Bob and Deanne Summerfelt
 Cheryl Sypal
 Russell and Barbara Tabbert
 Jennifer Terry
 Jeff Walters
 Susan and Norm West
 David and Linda Wilgenbusch
 Chris Willfong
 Richard and Jane Worm
 Dorothy and Bill Zales

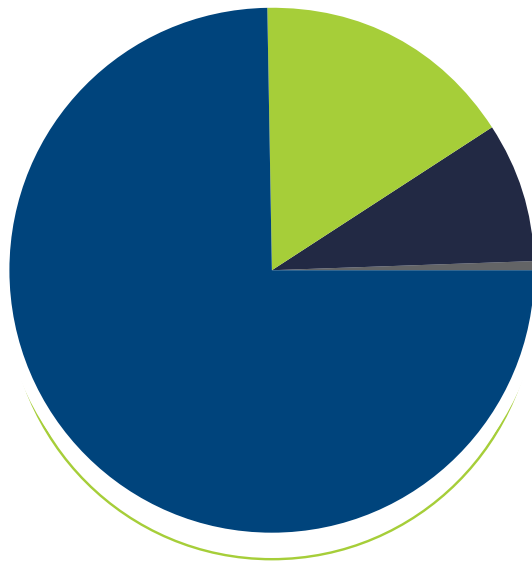




FINANCES

January 1, 2015 – December 31, 2015

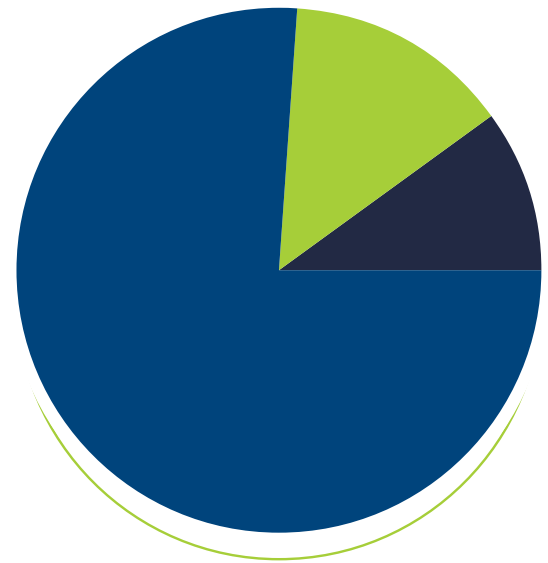
The Iowa Environmental Council is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit, non-governmental organization. Our work is supported by our members, individual and corporate gifts, and foundation grants. This support is bolstered by dedicated and passionate board members, volunteers, and staff. We did not receive any government funding in 2015. Remaining revenues at the end of 2015 are cash reserves for fiscal year 2016.



Total Revenues

- Event Income. \$ 66,509.00
- Memberships and Donations \$ 126,072.00
- Other Income (Interest, Rent, Misc.) . . . \$ 3,903.00
- Grants \$ 582,202.00

TOTAL **\$ 778,686.00**



Total Expenses

- Program Expenses. (\$ 551,675.00)
- Administrative Expenses (\$ 101,436.00)
- Fundraising and Events (\$ 71,658.00)

TOTAL **(\$ 724,769.00)**



EVENT HIGHLIGHTS



Environmental Lobby Day

Attendees: 250+

Participating organizations: 33

Over 250 conservation advocates gathered at the Capitol on Tues., Feb 17, 2015 to speak with legislators about the need to commit long-term, sustainable funding to support conservation and clean water in Iowa. The annual event was co-sponsored by the Iowa Environmental Council and the Iowa REAP Alliance.



Pro H₂O – Celebrating 20 Years

Attendees: 220

On Thurs., June 11 nearly 220 people braved stormy skies to gather at Brenton Skating Plaza in Des Moines for Pro H₂O – Celebrating 20 Years. The evening commemorated our 20th anniversary, honored early leaders, and toasted a shared vision for a clean water future and continued advocacy on behalf of Iowa's environment.



2015 Annual Conference

Attendees: 200+

Exhibitors: 26

200+ advocates, students, professionals, policymakers, community, business and industry leaders attended the Iowa Environmental Council's 2015 Annual Conference, *Elevate: Creating an Environment of Action* featuring 2013 CNN Hero of the Year Chad Pregracke, on Fri., Oct. 2, 2015 at Drake University in Des Moines.

2015 Event Sponsors

Linda Appelgate
David and Trudy Hurd
Linda Kinman
Kay and Robert Riley

The Fred and Charlotte
Hubbell Foundation
BNIM
Christiani's Catering
Growing Green Communities

Iowa Natural Heritage
Foundation
Iowa Rivers Revival
Leopold Center for
Sustainable Agriculture

Pink Print Company
Practical Farmers of Iowa
Raccoon River
Watershed Association

RAYGUN
RDG Planning and Design
Waste Commission of
Scott County
Wells Fargo

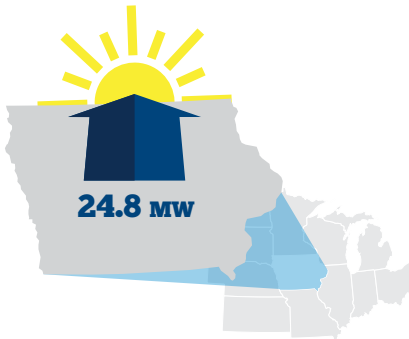


Energy Program Director Nathaniel Baer attended the announcement ceremony for the Clean Power Plan at the White House, which included a small private meeting with EPA Administrator Gina McCarthy and President Obama

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

Energy Program

Our energy program work is focused on transitioning Iowa to 100% clean energy.



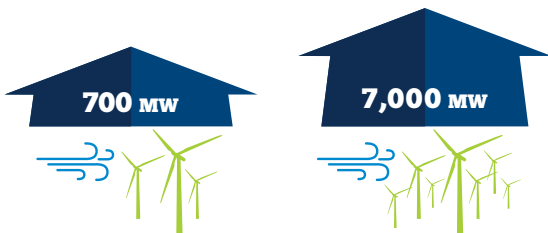
By October 2015, distributed solar grew to **24.8 megawatts** – more than Illinois, Minnesota, Wisconsin, and most other Midwestern states



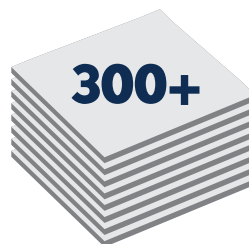
MidAmerican Energy began transitioning over **100,000 streetlights** to efficient LEDs



434 – the number of megawatts of coal plants Alliant Energy agreed to retire or convert to natural gas



700 – the number of megawatts of new wind approved in 2015, putting Iowa on track to reach a **7,000 megawatt** milestone



Drafted or helped draft **over 300 pages** of public comments and testimony in multiple dockets at the Iowa Utilities Board



PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

Water Program



- Generated significant media coverage following the record-breaking number of beach warnings in 2015 due to toxic blue-green algae blooms at Iowa state park beaches

- Water program staff served as the co-chairs of the state's legislatively appointed Watershed Planning Advisory Council. Because of our collaboration with the Iowa Corn Growers, new procedures that increase the effectiveness of WPAC were established



- We took a case to court for the first time to ensure that Iowa's water quality standards are being properly implemented. The case was filed after we filed a petition for judicial review of Iowa DNR's approval of the City of Clarion's antidegradation alternatives analysis

- Completed a watershed policy paper, "Healthy Land, Healthy Waters: A Watershed Framework for Iowa."



- Helped convince the Iowa Legislature to fund a critical addition of \$450,000 for water monitoring equipment and deployment of real-time nitrate sensors around the state

- Served on a stakeholder group working with Iowa DNR and EPA to develop a wetland plan for Iowa

Outreach

Action alerts

During the 2015 Iowa Legislative Session, the Council generated **558 letters** from advocates to policymakers in support of policies that advance clean water, healthy land and continued clean energy growth.

Op-ed/ guest columns

During 2015, the Council penned or helped write half a dozen guest columns and was quoted in more than **75 stories** in news outlets across the state.

Launched a new website

In November 2015, the Council launched a new website featuring a new design that is fresh, modern and more user-friendly.

Refreshed Progress Report

The Progress Report, the Council's quarterly newsletter for members, received a refresh in 2015. In addition to an updated design, each issue now features a central theme that relates to each article, and a member spotlight.