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Water and Land Stewardship 2019 Legislative Priorities

Support environmental protection programs, planning, regulatory oversight & accountability.

- Support funding for state agencies and other entities necessary to ensure protection of our environment and public health, including: the Iowa Department of Natural Resources (IDNR), soil and water conservation efforts of the Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship (IDALs), and entities that collect and provide public data about Iowa's water quality.
- Support dedicated funding for local watershed planning and coordination efforts and on the ground services to implement conservation practices and projects.
- Support required water quality monitoring at the watershed level and publicly shared data.
- Support strengthening the Nutrient Reduction Strategy to include timelines/benchmarks toward achieving goals.

Invest in clean water.

- Support funding the Natural Resources and Outdoor Recreation Trust Fund pursuant to the existing formula and including monitoring, measurement, and accountability provisions.
- Support full funding at \$20 million for the Resource Enhancement and Protection Program.
- Support other sources of water quality funding consistent with our goals (e.g., nitrogen tax).

Mitigate agricultural pollution.

- Support policies that empower drainage districts to be an active part of the solution to cleaning up Iowa's water.
- Support mandatory vegetative buffers along public waters/public drainage systems.
- Support policies that reduce pollution from industrial-scale livestock production and strongly oppose any efforts to further weaken standards or public health protections for Iowans.
- Support pesticide buffer zones around Iowa schools to reduce exposure from pesticide spray drift.