



IOWA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

EcoNewsWire

Environmental Services

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
June 7, 2018

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Water Summary Update: Warm May sets Iowa records

MEDIA CONTACT: Tim Hall, 515-725-8298, Tim.Hall@dnr.iowa.gov.

DES MOINES — The coldest Iowa April on record was followed by the third warmest May, according to the latest Water Summary Update.

Temperatures across the state ranged from 4 degrees above normal across the northern two-thirds to 8 to 10 degrees above normal in the southern third. Statewide average temperature was 7 degrees above normal, at 67 degrees.

May rainfall was about normal for most of the state. However, northern Iowa was wetter than normal, while southern Iowa continued its pattern of being drier than normal.

"The area of moderate drought in southern Iowa is persistent, and shows up in the lower streamflow, lower groundwater, as well as in the Drought Monitor. Soil moisture is also low in that part of the state. June is our wettest month, and if we get normal rainfall for the month, conditions should improve," said Tim Hall, Hydrology Resources Coordinator for the Iowa DNR.

Iowa had an average of 4.67 inches of rainfall in May; statewide precipitation typically averages around 4.5 inches.

For a thorough review of Iowa's water resource trends, go to www.iowadnr.gov/watersummaryupdate.

The report is prepared by technical staff from Iowa DNR, the Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship, IIHR—Hydroscience and Engineering, and the U.S. Geological Survey, in collaboration with Iowa Homeland Security and Emergency Management Department.

Air, water and land quality contracts dominate June EPC agenda

MEDIA CONTACT: Jerah Sheets at 515-313-8909 or Jerah.Sheets@dnr.iowa.gov.

DES MOINES—Many contracts, including three for air and water quality monitoring, are up for the Environmental Protection Commission to approve at its June 19 meeting in Des Moines.

A request to move forward with online air quality permit applications is up for commissioners' approval. If approved, both permit applicants and DNR staff will save significant time and money using a more accurate and efficient e-Application system.

In other action, DNR is asking the EPC to approve:

- Three contracts designed to reduce waste going to landfills
- A license for software used to track air emissions
- A plan to disburse state revolving funds for clean water and drinking water projects
- Cooperative agreements with Polk and Linn counties for air quality programs.

Commissioners will meet at 10 a.m. in Room 116 of the State Capitol, 1007 E Grand Avenue. The meeting is open to the public and public comment is scheduled after the monthly reports. Participants who want to speak must submit their request to Jerah Sheets at 515-313-8909 or Jerah.Sheets@dnr.iowa.gov before the meeting begins.

The complete agenda follows:Approval of Agenda

- Approval of the Minutes
- Monthly Reports
- Public Participation
- Acting Director's Remarks
- Contract with University of Iowa on behalf of the State Hygienic Laboratory for 2019 SHL Services in support of the DNR Air Quality Bureau
- Contract with University of Iowa on behalf of the State Hygienic Laboratory
- Contract with University of Iowa on behalf of the State Hygienic Laboratory
- Derelict Building Grant Program – Grant Recommendations
- Contract Amendment # 2 to Contract 15ESDLQBLGOLD with Gresham, Smith and Partners
- Contract with Windsor Solutions, Inc.
- University of Northern Iowa, Iowa Waste Reduction Center – Iowa Waste Exchange Program technical assistance, database management and training
- Clean Water and Drinking Water State Revolving Loan Fund -- FY 2019 Intended Use Plans

- 28E Agreement for Administration of the Iowa Comprehensive Petroleum Underground Storage Tank Fund Board
- Contract with enfoTech & Consulting, Inc.
- Notice of Termination: Asbestos Notification Fee – Chapter 30
- 2019 Contract with Linn County Air Quality Division: Air Pollution Control in Linn County
- 2019 Contract with Polk County Air Quality Division: Air Pollution Control in Polk County
- 2019 Contract University of Northern Iowa – Iowa Air Emissions Assistance Program (IAEAP): Small Business Assistance Program
- Protect Rathbun Lake: Watershed Partnerships
- Contract with the Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship (IDALS)
- General Discussion--Educational Opportunity and Meeting Location Change in Derby, Iowa for Aug. 21

The next meetings will be held:

- July 17 – EPC Business Meeting – Des Moines
- Aug. 21 – EPC Business Meeting – Scheduled for Des Moines but may change to Derby, Iowa

The complete [agenda and item briefs](#) are available on the DNR website.

Commissioners include: Ralph Lents, Menlo, chair; Joe Riding, Altoona, vice chair; Rebecca Guinn, Bettendorf, Secretary; Mary Boote, Des Moines; Nancy Couser, Nevada; Howard Hill, Cambridge; Harold Hommes, Windsor Heights; and Bob Sinclair, Sigourney. Bruce Trautman is the acting director of the DNR.

Air Quality permits under review

MEDIA CONTACT: Sarah Piziali, DNR, at 515-725-9549 or Sarah.Piziali@dnr.iowa.gov for construction permits.

DES MOINES – The DNR Air Quality Bureau has the following draft permits up for review. The permits help protect Iowans' health and the air where we live. DNR's permitting staff review the applications to ensure facilities comply with state and federal air quality standards. The public has the right and is encouraged to comment on draft permits. DNR considers [public comments](#) before finalizing the permits. Submit comments in writing to the assigned permit writer before 4:30 p.m. on the last day of the public comment period.

Construction Permits

DNR engineers review and issue construction permits to facilities before they build new or modified sources of air pollution. The public may review the following air quality construction permits available online at www.iowadnr.gov/airpermitsearch.

Marion County

Pella Corporation, 102 Main St., Pella

Project 18-079, Modification of permits for existing wood treatment system and paint line. Public comment period ends July 7.

Webster County

Cargill, Incorporated, 1950 Harvest Ave., Fort Dodge

Project 18-117, Modification of permit for existing distillation unit. Public comment period ends July 7.