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Staff/Beaver Creek Water Quality Project Kicks Off with Informational Public Meeting

An effort aimed at improving water quality in two sub-watersheds of the Upper Iowa River will hold an informative public meeting on Thursday, April 14th to introduce the project. The Staff/Beaver Creek Water Quality Project recently began promoting water quality improvement projects in the Staff Creek and Beaver Creek Watersheds in Howard County. Under the direction of the Staff/Beaver Creek Project Coordinator, Royce Bowman, the project will seek to reduce soil erosion and improve water quality by promoting soil conservation and wetland restoration practices. Specifically the project will target practices that most effectively promote soil conservation and reduce nitrate inputs into the streams and ultimately the Upper Iowa River. Water monitoring results have shown that the Staff and Beaver Creek Watersheds have historically had some of the highest nitrate levels in the Upper Iowa River Watershed. Bowman will work with watershed landowners to implement best management practices for soil conservation and nutrient management, as well as to develop conservation plans and manage field drainage. The informative meeting is open for all to attend and will take place at 7:00 p.m. on Thursday, April 14th at the Lime Springs Community Center. For more information on the meeting or to inquire about the program, contact Royce Bowman at 563-547-3040.

The Staff /Beaver Water Quality Project is supported in part or in total by the Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship, Division of Soil Conservation, through Water Protection Fund (WPF), Watershed Protection Fund (WSPF) and by the Iowa Department of Natural Resources through a grant from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency under the Federal Non-Point Source Management Program (Section 319 of the Clean Water Act). Technical assistance is provided by the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Natural Resources Conservation Service. All programs and services are offered on a nondiscriminatory basis, without regard to race, color, national origin, religion, sex, age, marital status, or handicap. Project sponsors and Cooperators include: DSC / IDALS, IADNR, USDA / NRCS, Howard SWCD, UIRWA, RC&D Postville, FSA, UIR Pheasants Forever, Lime Springs Fish & Game Club, IOWATER, and Riceville FFA.