



## Resource Enhancement and Protection (REAP) Committee

### **Johnson County REAP Committee Agenda Thursday, August 4, 2022 at 5:00 p.m.**

Second Floor Boardroom, 913 S. Dubuque St., Iowa City, Iowa 52240

Participate in person or by joining the Zoom meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84388010803?pwd=ewdruutsbkdkqitmbqv1vc9yogc0zz09>

Meeting ID: 843 8801 0803

Passcode: 4468

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### **Agenda**

*Members of the public are welcome to participate in this meeting in person or electronically by video call. Video call participants will link into the location at the top of this agenda. For those unable to join, public comments related to items on the meeting agenda may be emailed to [jwenger@johnsoncountyiowa.gov](mailto:jwenger@johnsoncountyiowa.gov) or relayed via telephone at (319) 356-6000 for distribution to Committee members.*

1. **Call to order:** 5:00 p.m.
2. **Public comment.** None.
3. **Approve August 19, 2021 Johnson County REAP Committee meeting minutes.** Moved by Proud, second by Dahm to approve.
4. Present REAP grant applications for review and comment by the Committee:
  - a. City of Coralville application for \$100,000 for Coralville Forest Restoration Project – Dovetail and Colony Open Space Areas, presented by Sherri Proud
  - b. City of Iowa City application for \$200,000 for Hickory Hill Park Ecological Restoration Phase III
5. Discuss and approve *2021-2025 Johnson County Resource Enhancement and Protection Plan*
  - a. Per Iowa Code Chapter 455A.20, the Committee is required to submit a five-year plan, including one-year expenditure plan, to the Iowa DNR
6. Next meeting date and time: Thursday, August 3, 2023 at 4:00 p.m.
7. Adjourn

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## Resource Enhancement and Protection (REAP) Committee

### **2022 Review of REAP Grant Applications Thursday, August 4, 2022 – 5:00 p.m.**

**Members Present:** Peg Fraser, Chairperson  
Terry Dahms, Vice Chairperson  
Sherri Proud, City of Coralville  
Tyler Baird, City of Iowa City  
Angela McConville, City of North Liberty  
Louise From, University Heights Mayor  
Brad Freidhof, Johnson County Conservation  
Bill Waldie, Johnson County Conservation Board  
Timothy Brown, Solon Community School District Board of Directors  
Linda Schreiber, Johnson County Master Gardeners/Project GREEN

**Project:** Timber stand improvement project for invasive species control at Dovetail Recreation Area and Colony Open Space

**Presented by:** Sherri Proud, Director of Parks and Recreation, City of Coralville

**Amount of request:** \$100,000

**Project description:** The Coralville Forest Restoration Project seeks to address non-native invasive species in targeted areas of Coralville forests in the Dovetail Recreation Area and in the Colony Open Space Area and to manage stands in a way that encourages native tree populations. The project will be in two phases. Phase I is the request for this grant and it will focus on removal of understory growth by manually removing and treating invasive species such as honeysuckle, oriental bittersweet, multiflora rose, burning bush, white mulberry and barberry. After removal, the areas will be managed through mowing, conversion of some of the areas to prairie, and by evaluation of the returning native species in the forested areas. Phase II will be the subject of a future grant and will address larger, overstory non-native trees.

**Review and Comment:**

Terry Dahms stated he has experience working with Bur Oak Land Trust locally and has experienced firsthand that oriental bittersweet can be so thick and dense that you literally have to crawl through it. So if we want to get out and enjoy natural areas such as these, it is imperative that this invasive species be controlled. This is a very worthwhile project. Oriental bittersweet can bring trees down, therefore we need to get invasives under control, there are other invasives in addition to bittersweet. It does not take long for oriental bittersweet to take over. I am in favor of this project, and hope this project gets approved.

Brad Freidhof states that as a Coralville resident, this is exactly the type of project he wants to see REAP funds spent on. Resources, enhancements. There are a lot of nice oaks in this area, therefore we need to fight the invasives in order to give the good trees a chance to thrive. It is important to take care of these types of ecological sites. I am excited about this project

Linda Schreiber states that this is a great project, it is wonderful to have natural areas within city limits. She is very concerned about invasives. Some local landscapers are still selling invasives such as burning bush, we need to educate the community about not planting invasive species.

Peg Fraser is glad you shared that you want to teach young people how to care for these areas, an excellent educational opportunity.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_  
Peg Fraser, Johnson County REAP Committee Chair

Date: August 4, 2022



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Brad Freidhof, Johnson County Conservation  
Bill Waldie, Johnson County Conservation Board  
Timothy Brown, Solon Community School District Board of Directors  
Linda Schreiber, Johnson County Master Gardeners/Project GREEN

**Project:** Hickory Hill Park Ecological Restoration Phase III

**Presented by:** Tyler Baird, Superintendent of Parks & Forestry, City of Iowa City

**Amount of request:** \$200,000

**Project description:** Hickory Hill Park is a 185-acre City park established in 1967. This project will be phase III of ecological restoration and build from previous restoration accomplished through REAP funding, capital projects, and many years of volunteer efforts. The project will consist of improvements to woodland and savanna habitat on 53.5 acres and improvement of three stream crossings for better recreation, emergency, and maintenance access.

#### **Review and Comment:**

Dahms. A very good project. This is phase III, which tells me Iowa City has been successfully working at this project for a long time, taking care of this area, and this project is well planned. Hickory Hill is very popular and a nice resource that is located near the city center. If it's not maintained, it's not usable. Friends of Hickory Hill is a valuable partner, it is so important to get local volunteers involved, for buy in and to help cut the cost with volunteering.

Sherri Proud stated that we need access. She fully supports that part of this grant is for stream crossings, because sometimes we struggle to get funding for the basic amenities to help us get access to our land. It is exciting to hear that they are making progress on this project.

Peg Fraser says Hickory Hill is an absolute gem in Iowa City, it is so important to have the opportunity to leave an urban area and, in short order, be in the woods. A great project.

Brad Freidhof gives thanks to Tyler. They are doing a great job in Iowa City, doing great work in prairie restoration, streambank restoration, etc. This project is just a follow-up with other great management in our community. Great job and great project.

Linda Schreiber gives compliments on this great project. She asks if these two entities can put on their community's websites a message discouraging property owners and discourage from planting invasives.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_  
Peg Fraser, Johnson County REAP Committee Chair

Date: August 4, 2022