



## IOWA IS A MODEL FOR THE NATION

**\$96.6 MILLION** "Disaster Resilience Grant" awarded by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development in January 2016.



For diverse partners and stakeholders to work together in **9 WATERSHEDS** across the state.

**THE IOWA WATERSHED APPROACH** is a vision for Iowa's future that **VOLUNTARILY ENGAGES STAKEHOLDERS** throughout the watershed to achieve common goals, while moving toward a more resilient state. It is a replicable model for other communities where the landscape has lost its natural resilience to floods.

Watersheds throughout Iowa are working through their **WATERSHED MANAGEMENT AUTHORITIES** to create long-term plans to reduce flooding, improve water quality, and increase community resilience to natural disasters. In Iowa, local political entities like counties, soil and water conservation districts (SWCDs) and cities can voluntarily enter into formal partnership to form Watershed Management Authorities (WMAs). These WMAs can work together to set priorities and raise funds to implement projects that advance their flood reduction & water quality goals.

The Iowa Watershed Approach provides funding for local watersheds to write **LONG-TERM PLANS TO REDUCE FLOODING** and improve water quality. It is also helping watersheds hire coordinators to work with local producers, landowners and communities to **PUT PRACTICES ON THE GROUND IN THE NEXT 5 YEARS**. These immediate projects are focused in target sub-watersheds, with the goal of measurably reducing flow and flooding. Cost-share is available to landowners in target subwatersheds who want to put in practices that help measurably hold back water and reduce flow. The practices prioritized in target subwatersheds include detention structures, ponds, and on-road structures.

Dozens of partners throughout the state are working with **LOCAL LEADERSHIP** to provide expertise and assistance. The Iowa Flood Center is helping to coordinate the approach, working with Iowa Economic Development Authority, the state universities, Homeland Security & Emergency Management, Iowa Department of Agriculture & Land Stewardship, Iowa Department of Natural Resources, and hundreds of cities, counties, SWCDs, WMAs and countless local organizations and individuals.