

Des Moines Water Works 2021 Legislative Priorities

Create public-private partnerships to protect source water.

- Secure state funds for a public-private partnership to expand the successful, local saturated buffer project model into interested adjacent counties.

Strengthen the Iowa Nutrient Reduction Strategy (INRS).

- Allocate funds to encourage public-private partnerships that support a cover crop scale-up in the Raccoon River Watershed, for example, the Urban Ag Seeding Partnership.
- Adequately fund Watershed Management Coalitions and Authorities to include permanent full-time watershed coordinators.
- Modernize Manure Management Plans (MMPs) by creating a digitized geospatial system.

Allow drainage district boards to make local level decisions about water quality.

- Drainage systems should be contemplated in a way that incorporates water quality practices as a component of the overall project.
- Acknowledge that not all drainage systems are alike and allow local decisions to be made about how to incorporate water quality practices as a component of the overall project to address local needs.