

News and Updates from  
Des Moines Water Works  
**JULY 2021**

# H<sub>2</sub>O LINE

**THINK DOWNSTREAM**

## Drought, quality affect water supply

**D**rought-induced low river levels combined with water-quality issues such as microcystin in surface waters could restrict the amount of water Des Moines Water Works has access to as summer progresses. Use water wisely. It's the right thing to do.

**BROWN IS THE NEW GREEN**

As central Iowa heats up, Des Moines Water Works requests all customers to Use Water Wisely. It's the Right Thing to Do.

**LEARN MORE!**

The need to cut back on water consumption remains a fluid situation that changes, sometimes daily. Follow DMWW on social media and its website, [www.dmw.com](http://www.dmw.com), for the most up-to-date water usage guidelines.

**ACT NOW!**

Drought conditions have dried up the Raccoon River causing the need for wise outdoor water usage.

@DSMH2O  
@dsmh2o  
@DesMoinesWaterWorks

**6 THINGS YOU CAN DO AT HOME TO USE WATER WISELY**

- Chill water to drink in the fridge rather than let the water run
- Run the dishwasher only when it's full
- Set your washing machine to the correct level
- Do not leave running water while brushing your teeth
- Water the garden early in the morning or late in the evening
- Regularly check hoses and faucets for leaks

## Make a difference in future of Des Moines' water

**O**ne of the most significant things Des Moines Water Works does is to ensure safe, affordable water is available for the metro area.

Des Moines Water Works is completing a Strategic Planning effort that will serve as the utility's roadmap and will be used to prioritize initiatives, resources, goals, and utility operations and projects.

Having a strong strategic plan will help Des Moines Water Works plan and make decisions that will positively impact the entire community.

Your experience with the utility is important: How we do business should represent the community we serve. Your input will help us plan how we better serve you for the next five years.

Visit [www.thinkdownstream.com](http://www.thinkdownstream.com) to complete a quick customer survey to help us plan for the future of water in Des Moines. Participate and be registered to win a Des Moines Water Works reusable water bottle. Follow our 2021 Strategic Planning effort on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram.

**Help Create our Water Road Map**

THINK DOWNSTREAM

**Des Moines Water Works**  
Water You Can Trust for Life

# Own or manage farm ground?

**O**wning and managing farmland can be a complicated process with few, if any, one-size-fits-all solutions. From communicating with renters, to understanding stewardship practices, to knowing how to write a farmland lease, non-farming landowners can face many barriers that may keep them from realizing their visions for their land.

Des Moines Water Works has partnered with Heartland Cooperative, Peoples Company and Practical Farmers of Iowa in an uncommon collaboration to host a multipart virtual boot camp designed to share the why, what, when and how of successful and intentional farmland management.

Think Downstream. Did you know that land use in our watersheds affects the quality of the river water that travels to Des Moines?

Learn from landowners, farmers and conservation professionals about successful strategies for implementing conservation and stewardship practices on rented farmland, and hear why responsible landownership is so important to building a better agriculture in Iowa and across the Midwest.

**Sessions begin July 30 and include:**

## ● Every Farm Matters Noon to 1:30 p.m. July 30

With more and more landowners owning smaller and smaller farms, it can be easy to think that your farmland doesn't matter in the grand scheme of things. During this workshop, learn why that's not true and what it means to be part of a watershed. Hear from fellow landowners about why we should all care about intentional and thoughtful farmland management that prioritizes stewardship.

## ● Rhythms of Agriculture Noon to 1:30 p.m. Aug. 6

The day-to-day business of running a farm can be mysterious to those who aren't directly involved with agriculture. During this workshop, hear from farmers and ag professionals about a year in the

decision-making life of a farmer. Learn more about what research tells us about the priorities of both farmers and landowners, and gain an understanding of the resources, experts and services that farmers use to help make decisions on the farm.



## ● Strategies & Next Steps Noon to 1:30 p.m. Aug. 13

Taking an active hand in managing farmland can be daunting for many landowners. In this workshop, learn more about how to build healthy and robust relationships with farmland tenants. Landowners and conservation professionals will highlight best practices for communicating with renters, explore approaches to farmland leasing and discuss why building equitable partnerships leads to better farm stewardship.

## ● Strategies & Next Steps for Women Landowners Noon to 2 p.m. Aug. 20

Managing farmland can be daunting, and women landowners in particular face specific and gender-driven barriers. In this workshop, learn more about how to overcome these barriers to build healthy and robust relationships with farmland tenants. Learn about best practices for communicating with renters, explore different approaches to farmland leasing and hear more about how and why to build equitable farm partnerships. This workshop is intended for women landowners. Content will overlap with Workshop 3, but will also feature content addressing gender-specific barriers to effective farm management and includes an additional 30 minutes for discussion and question-and-answer.

Register for all or part of the series here: [practicalfarmers.org/events/landowner-boot-camp/](https://practicalfarmers.org/events/landowner-boot-camp/)

# Consumer Confidence Report now available

**T**here is no alternative to water.

Our community of living beings needs water for our health and wellness and to survive. Des Moines Water Works plays a key role in providing Water You Can Trust for Life. Supplying approximately 500,000 Central Iowans with safe, affordable and abundant drinking water is Des Moines Water Works' mission.

As a regional water utility, Des Moines Water Works responsibly invests in maintenance and upgrades to critical infrastructure that supports or supplies safe drinking water to the residents of Des Moines and surrounding communities.

Des Moines Water Works' mission to provide the water needed for central Iowa to thrive has become challenging as surface water degradation continues to occur. That's why Des Moines Water Works encourages all water users to #ThinkDownstream about their actions and the effects they have on this vital natural resource.

In order to ensure drinking water is safe, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) prescribes regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. The annual 2021 Consumer Confidence Report summarizes information regarding water sources used, any detected contaminants, compliance and educational information.

View the full report:  
[www.dmww.com/up/documents/library/2021ccr.pdf](https://www.dmww.com/up/documents/library/2021ccr.pdf)  
or contact Des Moines Water Works at (515) 283-8700 to request a printed copy.