

CONTACT: Paul Berland
NE IA RC&D 563-864-7112

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
May 12, 2005

Upper Iowa River Watershed Project Seeks Donations for Water Monitoring

Water monitoring in the Upper Iowa River Watershed (UIRW) is in full swing for the 2005 season and so are the fundraising efforts to support the monitoring. Water sampling and analysis costs for the 2005 season will total \$13,936. Through generous contributions from several sponsors, the UIRW Project has been able to raise \$9,780 to date this year to support the water monitoring throughout the watershed. Despite these generous contributions, the project still needs to raise \$4,156 in order to ensure the completion of the 2005 water monitoring plan.

Northeast Iowa RC&D and the UIRW Project are currently seeking donations to fund monthly water quality testing in the Upper Iowa River and its tributaries in 2005. Samples are collected from 29 sites throughout the watershed, three from the Upper Iowa River itself and 26 from tributaries of the river. The samples are sent to the University of Iowa Hygienic Laboratory where they are analyzed for nitrate + nitrite, ammonia nitrogen, *E.coli* bacteria, phosphates and atrazine. Continued water quality monitoring is crucial to the success of watershed improvement projects. Water monitoring results are used to identify water quality impairments in the UIRW and to then target watershed improvement projects to address specific resource concerns for each subwatershed.

Please fill out the pledge card below and help us protect the Upper Iowa River Watershed. You can also go to our website at www.northeastiowarc.org/uirw to print a copy of the donation form. Your tax deductible contribution to the future health of the UIRW is greatly appreciated.

Friends of the Upper Iowa River 2005 Annual Pledge Card

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Yes! I/We would like to become a Friend of Upper Iowa River with a gift of:

_____ \$25

_____ \$50

_____ \$100

_____ \$250

_____ \$500

_____ \$1000

_____ Other Amount

_____ Please check here if you wish to remain anonymous

*Please make your check payable to Northeast Iowa RC&D, Inc.
Send to: PO Box 916, Postville, IA 52162*