



Des Moines/Raccoon River Watershed: May-June 2013

Recruitment Deadline: April 30, 2013 (please inquire about availability after this date)

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This is the second year Iowa Rivers Revival is facilitating the Master River Stewards Program. The eight week course will focus on riverine systems, including skills to paddle and navigate rivers, restore aquatic habitat, improve water quality, and understand policies related to floodplains, river protection and restoration.

The Master River Steward program will build on a network of river experts in various partner agencies and organizations. It will help adult learners collaborate to protect and improve Iowa’s rivers, so that current and future generations can enjoy these resources. Visit IRR’s website to view an outline of last year’s program: <http://iowarivers.org/education/river-stewards/>

Feedback from 2012 pilot participants:

- *“Great class, thoroughly enjoyed each and every session.”*
- *“Great leadership. Great resources/readings. Great speakers. Great group.”*
- *“Really enjoyed class. Had zero expectations coming in. Was surprised by the amount of river experience/Project AWARE tie in. Really enjoyed meeting such passionate people. Each week gave me something to think about and discuss with co-workers.”*
- *“This was a fantastic program. I came in with no expectations, but left every night excited to share what I learned with others... Thanks so much for putting this together. I will become active in the stewardship of rivers at a far greater level due to this program.”*

Registration Cost: Participants will pay a fee of \$50 which will include program materials. Participants will be expected to attend each session and there will be “homework” assignments following each class – materials will be provided.

Sponsorships: There are opportunities for organizations and groups to sponsor aspects of the program, such as general program support, participant registration costs (reducing the costs for individuals you recommend or others interested in participating), a meal for one of the evening programs or program materials and supplies. [Sponsorship details.](#)

Funding for this program has been provided by Metro Waste Authority, Des Moines Water Works, DNR IOWATER, and the Polk County Conservation Board.

Program Details:

<u>Week</u>	<u>Topic</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>TENATIVE Location</u>
1	Introduction to MRSP/Watersheds and Landscapes	Tues, May 14	5:30 - 9:30 p.m.	DM Metro Waste Conf. Ctr
2	River Form and Function	Tues, May 21	5:30 - 9:30 p.m.	Neal Smith NWR
3	Navigating Iowa Rivers/River habitat and wildlife	Sat, June 1	10 a.m. - 4 p.m.	Big Creek SP & DM River
4	River Chemistry and Monitoring	Tues, June 4	5:30 - 9:30 p.m.	Jester Park Lodge & Saylorville Lake
5	Water policies/water treatment	Tues, June 11	5:30 - 9:30 p.m.	TBD: local farm location
6	Stream & Riparian Area restoration/river wildlife cont.	Tues, June 18	5:30 - 9:30 p.m.	Raccoon R (Walnut Woods State Park)
7	Project Planning and review	Sat, June 22	10 a.m. - 4 p.m.	DM Metro Waste Conf. Ctr.
8	Post training follow-up, project sharing, and evaluation	TBD	5:30 - 9:30 p.m.	TBD



Iowa Rivers Revival (IRR) is a statewide leader in river education and advocacy – committed to protecting some of our most precious natural resources – our rivers and streams. Since 2007, IRR has been working to engage individuals, organizations, communities and our government leaders in river awareness, responsibility and enjoyment in an effort to improve and enhance the condition of Iowa’s waterways – ensuring a quality, safe and lasting resource for future generations.

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