



Out of the Gate . . .

Polk County's Water and Land Legacy has become a reality. Thanks to the many volunteers across the county who gave countless hours to help all understand the many benefits of investing in our water, land, habitat, parks, and trails. Rarely does any effort receive the level of support we have all enjoyed for this initiative – 72%. The residents of Polk County have demonstrated unmatched commitment to natural resources in Iowa. Let us all be grateful!

It is now time to launch this effort – to put real projects on the ground. We do not have the capacity in place to issue all the bonds at once – that would be overwhelming to accomplish. Polk County Conservation Board has put together an initial set of projects that they will request the Board of Supervisors issue bonds to fund.

Inside this pamphlet you will see the initial proposed projects. These projects have been selected to go early in this overall effort because they already have in place:

- Thorough planning efforts – these projects are poised to launch within the first 1-2 years
- Identified partners and resources to leverage beyond the bonds
- Opportunities to increase revenues and efficiencies
- Ability to meet design and permitting requirements

We recognize that the initial set of projects does not reflect the overall target percentage goals associated with each bond category which are Lake, River and Stream Improvements; Land, Water and Habitat Protection Projects; Trail Improvements; and Park Improvements (more details found within this pamphlet). The water protection, habitat, and land acquisition projects require more partners, greater planning (in part due to the partners and often the need to locate willing sellers) and they have a much longer permitting timeline. Therefore, those projects will simply take longer to implement – but as we execute these initial projects, work will continue on behalf of those projects as well – increasing the number of water and habitat protection/improvement projects included in the next round of projects.



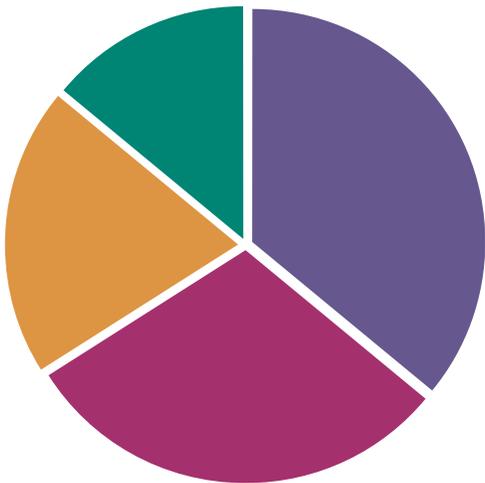
UPDATED 1/03/13 Proposed Initial Projects	Est. Project Cost	PCWLL Target	Grant/Coop Funding	Year 1 - 2013				Year 2 - 2014				Year 3 - 2015			
				1st Qtr	2nd Qtr	3rd Qtr	4th Qtr	1st Qtr	2nd Qtr	3rd Qtr	4th Qtr	1st Qtr	2nd Qtr	3rd Qtr	4th Qtr
Lake, River and Stream Improvement Projects															
Camp Creek Stabilization - Thomas Mitchell	\$475,000														
Camp Creek Crossing - Thomas Mitchell	\$100,000														
Ft Des Moines Silt Dikes & Ditch Checks	\$140,000		\$100,000												
Ft Des Moines Pond Shoreline Stabilization	\$25,000														
Paw Creek Stabilization - Jester Park	\$60,000														
Easter Lake Siltation Dikes & Dredging	\$1,200,000		TBD												
Four Mile Creek Greenbelt Bank Stabilization	\$150,000														
Sub-total	\$2,150,000	\$10,000,000													
Land, Water and Habitat Protection Projects															
Chichaqua Bottoms Property Acquisitions	\$5,200,000		\$900,000												
Raccoon River Properties Easement/ Acquisitions	\$450,000														
Park Buffer Areas & In-Holdings	\$590,000														
Sub-total	\$6,240,000	\$18,000,000													
Trail Improvement Projects															
Gay Lea Wilson Trail Connection (DSM to Ankeny)	\$285,000		\$890,000												
Chichaqua Valley Trail (South) Connection Phase 1	\$1,400,000														
Chichaqua Valley Trail (North) Connection Phase 2	\$1,400,000		\$750,000												
Easter Lake Trail Phase 1 - West end & Ewing Park	\$1,380,000		\$300,000												
Easter Lake Trail Phase 2 - Southside	\$1,380,000		\$200,000												
Easter Lake Trail Phase 3 - East & Dam & Bridges	\$60,000		\$500,000												
Trail Systemwide Resurfacing & Bridge Impr (CVT)	\$900,000														
Sub-total	\$6,805,000	\$7,000,000													
Park Improvement Projects															
Thomas Mitchell Pond Accessible Trail & Pier(s)	\$180,000														
Fort Des Moines Outdoor Classroom	\$180,000		\$360,000												
Browns Wood Trailhead Parking & Trails	\$210,000		\$100,000												
Jester Park Cabins	\$410,000														
Chichaqua Bottoms Hwy 65 Wildlife Overlook	\$75,000		\$25,000												
Jester Park Entrance Relocation	\$720,000														
Jester Park Maintenance Facility Relocation	\$325,000														
Jester Park Conservation Center	\$3,900,000		\$500,000												
Yellow Banks Dam Repair and Site Improvement	\$200,000														
Ft Des Moines Pond Access Road, Parking & Pier	\$200,000														
Fort Des Moines Toilet Replacement (Shelter 1)	\$75,000														
Thomas Mitchell Sewer Lagoon Replacement	\$75,000														
Jester Park Clubhouse Expansion	\$1,300,000		TBD												
Chichaqua Bottoms Marsh Pump/Well Replacement	\$90,000														
Vault Toilets Additions - 6 (replace porta-johns)	\$162,000														
Park Roads and Parking Lots	\$600,000														
Minor Projects (< \$50,000) (furnaces, septic, roofs)	\$300,000														
Equestrian Center Lighting and Improvements	\$30,000														
Jester Park Equestrian Campground (#6)	\$160,000														
Jester Park Two Dam Pond Accessible Trail	\$30,000		\$30,000												
Chichaqua Bottoms Greenbelt Master Plan	\$30,000		TBD												
Jester Park Golfcourse-North Restroom-Vault Flush	\$60,000														
Thomas Mitchell Campground Expansion	\$300,000														
Jester Park Campground #2 Electric Upgrade	\$150,000														
Sub-total	\$9,762,000	\$15,000,000													
Total	\$24,957,000	\$50,000,000													

Shading Key

-  Partnership or Grant Supported Projects
-  Acquisitions - subject to negotiations
-  Projects - subject to staffing capabilities
-  AE/P - Arch/ Eng Design & Permitting
-  Project Implementation

Polk County Water and Land Legacy Project Funding Strategy

Bond Referendum Funding Areas



Land, Water and Habitat Protection (\$18 million)

Park Improvements (\$15 million)

Lake, River and Stream Improvements (\$10 million)

Trails Improvements (\$7 million)

Land, Water and Habitat Protection

These projects protect sensitive natural areas and plant and animal communities, provide buffer areas for rivers and streams, prevent further habitat fragmentation of important areas and improve access to natural landscapes by the public. Additionally, these projects help address the needs for increased public open space in response to the projected growth within the County. Projects will be guided by park master plans and the Iowa Wildlife Action Plan with input from advisory councils, conservation agencies and wildlife organizations.

Lake, River and Stream Protection

These projects protect critical functions related to water and soil resources. Projects will include bank and grade stabilizations, sediment basins, ditch checks, impoundments, and dredging. Watershed improvement plans and individual park plans will guide projects in consultation with natural resource conservation agencies including the Iowa DNR, Natural Resources and Conservation Service and the Polk County Soil and Water Conservation District.

Park Improvements

These projects add or improve existing park facilities to enhance the recreation and education opportunities of current and future park users. Projects promote encouraging families to get outdoors, improve the public's health and support environmental education for adults and children. Projects will be guided by park master plans and be responsive to recent surveys highlighting the public's desire for outdoor recreation and education.

Trail Improvements

These projects involve completing the regional trail connections between communities and those trail projects associated with parks. The projects are guided by the Central Iowa Trails Plan and park master plans in consultation with regional trails organizations.