



## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

River Restoration Meetings to be Held August 6th

July 21, 2015



(Oakland, IA) – Iowa Rivers Revival is collaborating with Golden Hills RC&D to host educational presentations in Emerson and Walnut about river restoration on Thursday, August 6th. Landowners, farmers, conservationists, educators, and the public are invited to attend one of the two free meetings:

- 1:00-3:00pm at the Emerson Community Building – 701 Morton Ave. Emerson, IA 51533
- 6:00-8:00pm at the Walnut Welcome Center – 607 Highland Street Walnut, IA 51577

These meetings will build on the river restoration meetings held throughout Southwest Iowa in June, but will also include technical experts who can answer questions about implementing river restoration practices. Speakers will include:

- John Thomas, Project Director with the Hungry Canyons Alliance, will discuss the history of Western Iowa stream stability and local river restoration projects;
- Roz Lehman, Executive Director of Iowa Rivers Revival, will discuss Iowa Rivers Revival's programs and policy efforts;
- Claire Rhuby with the Iowa Department of Natural Resources will discuss river restoration projects in Iowa;
- Karen Smith with the Iowa Department of Natural Resources will discuss the permitting process for streambank stabilization and river restoration projects.

The Iowa Corn growers Association is co-sponsoring the meetings. A lite meal will be provided, so RSVP's are requested by Friday, July 31. To RSVP, contact Lance Brisbois at 712-482-3029 or [lance@goldenhillsrkd.org](mailto:lance@goldenhillsrkd.org).

River restoration has many benefits. It helps farmers reduce streambank erosion, which increases profitability and sustainability. It can also help with the nutrient reduction, particularly sediment and phosphorous loading, which is a top priority for farmers. River restoration benefits taxpayers by reducing infrastructure costs associated with streams eroding into roads and bridges. Aquatic and riparian wildlife habitat can also improve with river restoration. River recreation, fishing, and hunting, which contribute hundreds of millions of dollars to Iowa's economy, also benefit from river restoration. These benefits in turn help improve public health and quality of life.



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Iowa Rivers Revival is a nonprofit organization dedicated to river education and advocacy. They are committed to protecting some of our most precious natural resources – our rivers and streams. IRR is working to engage individuals, organizations, communities and government leaders in river awareness, responsibility, and enjoyment in an effort to improve and enhance the condition of Iowa waterways – ensuring a quality, safe and lasting resource for future generations. Golden Hills RC&D is a non-profit organization dedicated to the sustainable use and protection of natural resources for the economic and social betterment of the people of western Iowa. By collaborating for these presentations, IRR and Golden Hills hope to build awareness and support for river restoration activities in Southwest Iowa. The presentations are being hosted with funding support from the McKnight Foundation.

For more information about these meetings, please visit  
<http://westnishwatertrail.weebly.com/river-restoration>.

If you have any questions about these presentations, please contact Lance Brisbois at Golden Hills RC&D.

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