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PLANNING FOR THE
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BUILD A STRONGER,
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IOWA WASTE EXCHANGE - AREA II ON THE ROAD TO REDUCING, REUSING, RECYCLING AND SAVING

PROUDLY SERVING
Boone, Cerro Gordo, Dallas, Franklin, Hamilton, Hancock, Hardin, Polk,
Story, Winnebago, Worth and Wright Counties

Corridor

Connections

January, February, March 2009

The Iowa Waste Exchange is a **confidential** and **non regulatory** program of the Iowa Department of Natural Resources and is managed by Region XII Council of Governments. This program is provided at **no cost** to Iowa businesses, organizations, municipalities, non-profits and individuals.

Stay Pink! Think Green! Recycling at the Race 2008

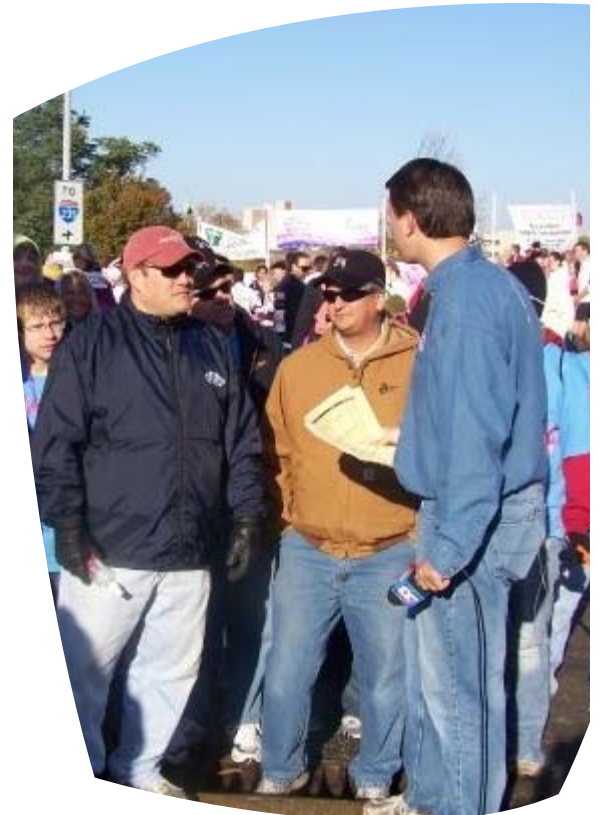
In August 2007, Diane Faris, Race Chair for Susan G. Komen's Des Moines Affiliate Race for the Cure, contacted Julie Plummer, Area Resource Specialist located at Eastern Iowa Community College. Faris wanted to initiate a recycling program similar to the one that Plummer, who served as the Quad City affiliate's honorary chair had initiated at their race held in Davenport.

Upon Plummer's recommendation, Faris contact Shelly Codner, Area Resource Specialist serving Central Iowa and requested her assistance in implementing a comprehensive events recycling program at the 2007 Race for the Cure. This inaugural event - appropriately tagged *Recycling at the Race* - was highly successful and collected nearly 1500

pounds of recyclable materials in less than four hours, diverting nearly 100 percent of all cardboard generated onsite and collecting just under 150 pounds of plastic bottles. Because of these successes, Codner was approached by this year's Race Chair, Wendy Hoffman and asked to once again spearhead *Recycling at the Race*.

This year, with the assistance of recycling partners including Donnie's Disposal, Metro Waste Authority, Mid America Recycling, Keep Iowa Beautiful and Casey's Corporation and with the assistance of 39 Green Team volunteers representing the Iowa Department of Natural Resources, Iowa Department of Economic

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Will Rogers, Iowa/Nebraska Equipment Dealers Association and Eric Corwin, General Mills take time from their Green Team volunteer duties to talk to local media about *Recycling at the Race*.

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Members of Komen's Green Team off load recyclables into the trailer provided by Mid America Recycling of Des Moines.

Stay Pink! Think Green!
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Development, General Mills, AmeriCorps, Mid America Recycling, Metro Waste Authority, Iowa/Nebraska Equipment Dealers Association, Chem Station, Wells Fargo, Principal Financial, Donnie's Disposal and other individuals wanting to make a difference in their community, recycling efforts at this year's race - held Saturday, October 25, 2008 at West Capitol Terrace - once again diverted nearly 100 percent of all cardboard generated onsite.

In addition to diverting cardboard and plastic bottles, recycling collection activities were expanded to include paper, shrink wrap, glass, pallets and even rubber bands.

The efforts of this year's Green Team yielded a combined total of nearly 2000 pounds of recyclable material in less than four hours. Revenues generated from materials collected at *Recycling at the Race* were credited back to Susan G. Komen's Des Moines Affiliate. Plans are already under way for next year's race and include the possibility of composting food waste generated onsite.

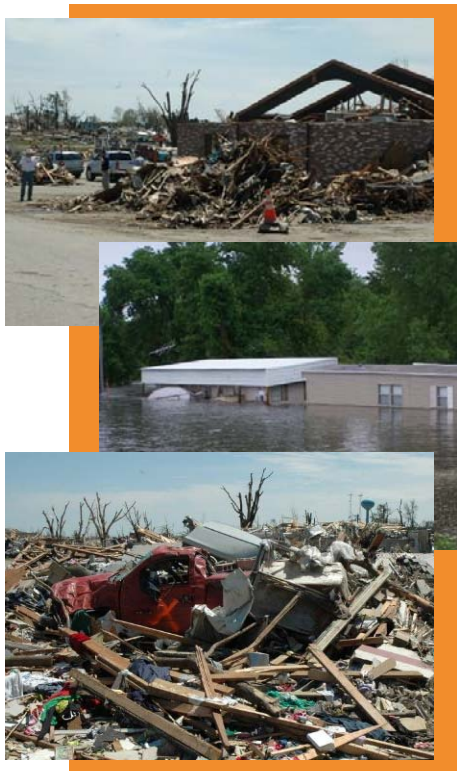
With the overwhelming support of the race committee and the generous assistance of recycling partners and volunteers, the Iowa Waste Exchange has introduced and demonstrated the added value of events recycling to over 50,000 race participants, sponsors and volunteers through *Recycling at the Race*. The number of participants at the Des Moines Affiliate's race surpassed both Chicago and New York's events in participant numbers this year. In addition, Susan G. Komen's Des Moines and Quad City affiliates were honored as this year's recipients of the Iowa Recycling Association's Best Public Education Campaign award for *Recycling at the Race* and have recently been contacted by Komen's National Office to obtain information to market the program on a national level. For more information about the Iowa Waste Exchange visit www.iowadnr.com/waste/iwe/index.html. For more information about Susan G. Komen's Des Moines affiliate visit www.KomenDesMoines.org.

DO YOU HAVE AN UPCOMING EVENT?



Recycling containers for *Recycling at the Race* were provided by Metro Waste Authority of Des Moines.

If you are located in Metro Waste Authority's service area and would like more information on container availability through Metro Waste Authority's Events Recycling Program please contact Sara Kurovski Recycling Coordinator 515.323.6524 sku@mwatoday.com



Wall to Wall Recycling

In September 2008, Shelly Codner, Area Resource Specialist was contacted by Lane Stumme, Director of Habitat for Humanity Restore of Greater Des Moines (Habitat).

Habitat had received a generous donation of commercial grade carpeting from Bentley Prince Street in California to assist disaster victims in and around the Des Moines metro area. Carpeting had been distributed to Des Moines residents that had been adversely affected by the devastation of the 2008 floods. Fortunately damage received in Des Moines was far less than had previously been anticipated. This subsequently resulted in nearly 50,000 square feet of carpet remaining in storage. Space is a commodity that is continually in short supply for Habitat so carpeting had been stored in a "borrowed" warehouse and needed to be moved.

Codner began to access the need of disaster victims in Butler and Black Hawk Counties, who not only received the brunt of damage caused by an EF5 tornado that touched down in May, but were also victims of the extensive flooding that occurred in June.

She contacted several disaster recovery organizations, municipalities, other non-profits and residents but logistical difficulties including manpower and transportation continued to be an overwhelming obstacle in getting these materials to those

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Volunteers from Presbyterian Disaster Recovery, DMACC and other individuals load carpet to be transported to disaster victims in Northern Iowa.

Wall to Wall Recycling (Continued from Page 2)

who desperately needed them. During these interactions, Codner listened to countless survivor stories and decided that this carpeting needed to get to these victims one way or another. "In hearing the overwhelming obstacles that disaster victims had overcome, there was no way we could let little things like manpower and transportation stand in the way of getting this much needed resource to these courageous survivors - landfilling was not an option." Codner stated. "At that point, I didn't care if I had to hook on to a stock trailer and haul it myself."

Codner would not have to haul the carpeting. After relaying the story to Larry Grubisich, Executive Director of Des Moines Area Community College's (DMACC) Business Resources, who provides housing for Codner's main office, he immediately contacted Dave Pfiffner of DMACC's Transportation Institute and DMACC generously agreed to transport and haul the carpeting from Des Moines to the Butler County Fairgrounds in Allison for distribution to disaster victims.

In response to DMACC's generosity, Codner working with Kaylene Hoskins of Presbyterian Disaster Recovery in Waterloo, began sending out email messages and press releases to local media outlets, soliciting not only those in need but volunteers to help with loading in Des Moines and unloading and distribution in Allison.

On November 4th with the assistance of Presbyterian Disaster Recovery of Des Moines, DMACC biology instructor Melanie Sadeghpour, along with three of her students, Habitat for Humanity employees, Codner and her son Jeffery and with the generosity of Star Equipment Company, 110 rolls of carpeting, measuring 50,000 square feet were loaded into DMACC's trailer and subsequently hauled to Allison on November 5th for distribution.

Volunteers on the receiving end included Phelps implement of Greene, who donated the use of a skid loader as well as the time of operator Scott Miller. In advance of the distribution, Miller also fabricated an attachment to enable the use of a carpet pole supplied by a local carpet retailer, Dralle's Department Store (Dralle's) of Greene. "So many people have helped us since the floods," stated Miller, "It just feels right to repay the favor."

Not only did Dralle's supply the carpet pole, but also the technical expertise. Owner, Jeff Dralle, assisted countless disaster victims in choosing a color and style and cut countless yards of carpeting to fit their needs. "Being involved with this entire process and assisting local residents has been its own reward," stated Dralle.

In addition, Jeff Schlee, Area Resource Specialist housed at the Iowa Northland Regional Council of Governments and Kaylene Hoskins of Presbyterian Disaster Recovery both located in Waterloo assisted Codner in checking in victims, providing instructions and in some cases, loading and deliv-

ering materials to senior citizens and others who did not have the means to transport the carpeting or who could not afford to take the time away from work. In addition, disaster victims themselves who were there to pick up carpeting jumped right in and began helping other disaster victims. "We're so thankful," stated one gentleman from Clarksville, "I just felt like I needed to do something to give back."

Muscle for unloading the DMACC trailer and loading carpeting into individual pickups and trailers was provided by the generosity of student volunteers from Aplington-Parkersburg, Clarksville and North Butler Community Schools. "I didn't mind helping one bit," stated Donovan Weidler, a senior at North Butler High School, "it feels good to save materials from being wasted and to make a difference for so many of my neighbors. We weren't just doing it because Cod's mom was the organizer we did it because we wanted to."

Carpeting was distributed to 80 businesses and individuals, resulting in an estimated cost avoidance of nearly \$50,000 as well as avoiding the usage of already limited warehouse space available at Habitat.

"We did not know how we were going to afford carpeting," stated a disaster victim from New Hartford. "We are thankful from the bottoms of our hearts."

"Rebuilding has been a long and difficult process," commented one of the disaster victims from Parkersburg, "Our retirement funds are dwindling due to all of this. We truly appreciate the assistance and are deeply thankful."

Codner would like to extend her overwhelming gratitude to all that assisted in donating the carpeting, equipment, transportation, loading, unloading, distribution area (Butler County Fairgrounds) and to the media in getting the word out that enabled these much needed materials to get into the hands of residents and businesses in her home county and surrounding counties.

"I am overcome with the generosity of the many organizations and volunteers who made this possible. I am especially proud of the high school student volunteers," commented Codner, "not only for their muscles but in the courteous and respectful manner in which they assisted residents - it is very reassuring to know that our future is in the hands of these very capable young men."

Because of the publicity and connections made through this transaction more resources from around the state - which might otherwise end up in the landfill - are being directed to disaster recovery efforts through the Iowa Waste Exchange. For more information about the Iowa Waste Exchange or to locate your area resource specialist visit www.iowadnr.com/waste/iwe/index.html. In addition, Codner suggests that residents in need of specific materials might also visit www.freecycle.org and www.Reuseit.net.

Student volunteers from Aplington Parkersburg, Clarksville and North Butler Community schools unload rolls of carpeting for awaiting disaster victims.



Tragedy struck Iowa beginning May 25, 2008 when an EF5 tornado ripped through the rural cities of Parkersburg and New Hartford leaving seven dead and hundreds homeless. This catastrophe was compounded less than two weeks later when a deadly twister took the lives of four Boy Scouts camping at the Little Sioux Boy Scout Ranch near Blencoe, Iowa while severe weather and heavy rains were simultaneously causing widespread flooding and devastation across the rest of the state. All told, the disasters displaced 40,000 Iowans. Faced with the worst disasters ever seen in our history, Iowans have persevered, have moved forward and are currently undertaking the monumental task of rebuilding a stronger, safer and greener Iowa.

In order to provide Iowans with the resources and expertise needed to streamline rebuilding efforts, several Iowa state agencies including the Iowa Department of Natural Resources' (IDNR) Iowa Waste Exchange Program (IWE) collaborated to host *Learning from the Past, Planning for the Future: The Iowa Disaster Recovery Conference*. The only event of its kind ever held in the Midwest was held on December 9 and 10 at the Marriott Coralville Convention Center which just months earlier had been a victim of the flooding. Despite the inclement weather, this unique first-time event drew more than 200 participants, speakers and sponsors during the course of this two-day forum.

Interested individuals from all over Iowa and the United States traveled to network, view presentations and participate in panel discussions regarding a variety of disaster topics including basic health and safety issues, regulatory requirements, sustainable design and planning reconstruction considerations including following the waste management hierarchy of reducing, reusing, recycling and renewing.

Anyone attending the conference and seeking inspiration regarding disaster recovery could find that in the example of Greensburg, Kansas, the city that rebuilt itself into a sustainable community after being destroyed in 2007 by an EF-5 tornado.

Bob Dixon, mayor of Greensburg, one of the keynote speakers, discussed what Greensburg is doing to transform itself into a totally "green" community after the twister leveled 95 percent of the town. Now, Greensburg has, or will have, several new buildings that are platinum and gold-certified in Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED), a U.S. Green Building Council rating system.

Although Greensburg sparked national awareness of sustainable energy and has been featured as a community with new ideas, "green living" started in the Midwest, Dixon said.

"We in rural America are the original 'green people,'" he said. "We are conservationists. Our ancestors knew everything they needed to know about wind, solar and geo-thermal. They knew that if you took care of the land it took care of you...the concepts are not new, folks. It's that we have the advanced technology now to take advantage of some of those concepts."

Keynote speaker Parris Glendening, former two-term governor and president of the Smart Growth Leadership Institute, used his power as Maryland governor to stem suburban sprawl and spur growth in deteriorating urban areas statewide. Glendening talked about how sprawl has become defacto government policy and how Smart Growth policies can reverse that trend. Smart Growth is about redirecting economic energy into existing neighborhoods and delivering results such as thinning traffic, easing tax burdens and enhancing the quality of life in existing neighborhoods. Glendening complimented event organizers stating the conference agenda was the most comprehensive he had seen, was a premier event and offered an all important networking forum for Smart Growth discussions on a state-wide level.

Mike Tramontina, Director of IDED, Rich Leopold, Director of IDNR and Governor Chet Culver were the concluding speakers for this event and presented a discussion regarding where Iowans go from here, including an overview of programs and resources available to assist all Iowans in accomplishing this monumental task. Governor Culver used this forum to reiterate the assistance that is available to Iowans in need, including enhancements that have been made to the Jumpstart program. More information on Jumpstart can be found at the Rebuild Iowa Office's website at www.rio.iowa.gov.

Learning from the Past, Planning for the Future: The Iowa Disaster Recovery Conference was officially organized by a consortium of representatives from IDED, IDNR, RIO and IWRC. Given the compressed timeline for planning the conference,

"There was greater participation than we anticipated," stated Jan Loyson, IDED Environmental Liaison and conference spearhead, "the results of our follow-up questionnaires were very positive, we had several walk-in attendees as well." In addition, EPA's Region 6 contacted Loyson to use Iowa's Disaster Recovery Conference as a model for addressing lingering problems wrought by Hurricane Ike which devastated the U.S. Gulf Coast last fall. EPA plans to emulate the Iowa conference in Region 6, which is composed of Arkansas, Louisiana, New Mexico, Oklahoma and Texas.



More than 200 copies of the newly revised **Best Management Practices Guide for Construction and Demolition**, compiled by Area Resource Specialists with IDNR's IWE with input and funding provided by IDNR's Solid Waste Alternatives Program and the technical assistance of IDNR regulatory staff and the Iowa Waste Reduction Center (IWRC) were distributed to enthusiastic attendees anxious to increase their knowledge of sustainable demolition

and rebuilding practices. Graphics layout and design for the manual, which is available online at IDNR, IWRC and the Iowa Department of Economic Development's (IDED) websites (www.iowadnr.gov, www.iwrc.org, www.iowalifechanging.com), was provided by IDED communications staff.

Dick Stater, Area Resource Specialist housed out of the Eastern Iowa Central Council of Governments in Cedar Rapids manned the IWE's booth in the vendor exhibition hall, here he presented information to incoming visitors regarding the IWE program. In addition, the two-day conference provided plenary and breakout sessions which allowed participants to listen to two keynote speakers and choose between varying technical presentations. One of the many presentations, given by Shelly Codner, Area Resource Specialist in Central Iowa - who also served on the conference planning committee - highlighted the assistance that had been given and that is available through the IWE program to businesses, organizations, municipalities and individuals who were adversely affected by the disasters.



View the introduction and conclusion videos highlighting Iowa's disasters and recovery efforts (originally shown at the Iowa Disaster Recovery Conference) by visiting RIO's website at:

http://www.rio.iowa.gov/photo_gallery/videos.html

Upcoming Events/Deadlines

February 17, 2009

Analog to Digital Changeover

For online resources regarding handling and disposal of analog televisions and a host of other information please visit

<http://www.iowadnr.gov/waste/recycling/tvrecycling.html>

March 18, 2009

Minnesota Technical Assistance Program 2009 Paint and Powder Coating Expo

For more information or to register visit

<http://www.mntap.umn.edu/paintexpo/index.htm>

March 27, 2009

Keep Iowa Beautiful First Impressions Symposium "Spring Cleaning Your Community"

For more information visit

<http://www.keeptowabeautiful.com/annualSymposium.html>

March 28, 2009

Greening your Garden

Presented by the Landfill of North Iowa and the Iowa Waste Exchange

For more information contact Renee Bartling, 1-877-Landfill,

education@netconx.net or Shelly Codner, 319.404.1942,

scodner@region12cog.org

April 1, 2009

Solid Waste Alternatives Program deadline

For more information and application materials visit



April 1, 2009

Watershed Improvement Grants - For more information and application materials visit <http://watershed.iowadnr.gov>



February 16 - March 29, 2009

The Des Moines Public Library is going **GREEN** this spring.

Read 2B Green, Learn 2B Green, Manage 2B Green

For more information visit www.desmoineslibrary.com/events_news/greenseries/learn.html

Need an Exhibit for Your Upcoming Event?



The IDNR's exhibit trailer, **Smart Choices, Clean Future, Better Iowa**, is an all-inclusive experience that includes informative displays, interactive kiosks, educational videos and more. The trailer showcases topics such as energy alternatives, household hazardous wastes, recycling, illegal dumping and composting. The trailer is equipped with a welcome desk, touch screen computers with games and flat screen TVs and DVDs. The trailer can be plugged in (220V, 60 amp) or you can use the onboard generator to power the trailer. The trailer is also handicapped accessible, heated and air conditioned so it can be used year round.

The trailer makes an excellent addition to fairs, conferences, kick-offs or other promotional events. We bring the trailer to you! Mid America Recycling in Des Moines transports the trailer and then picks it up after your event. The DNR encourages science teachers, environmental educators, recycling coordinators, event managers, community leaders, solid waste professionals and other interested parties to use the trailer for their events.

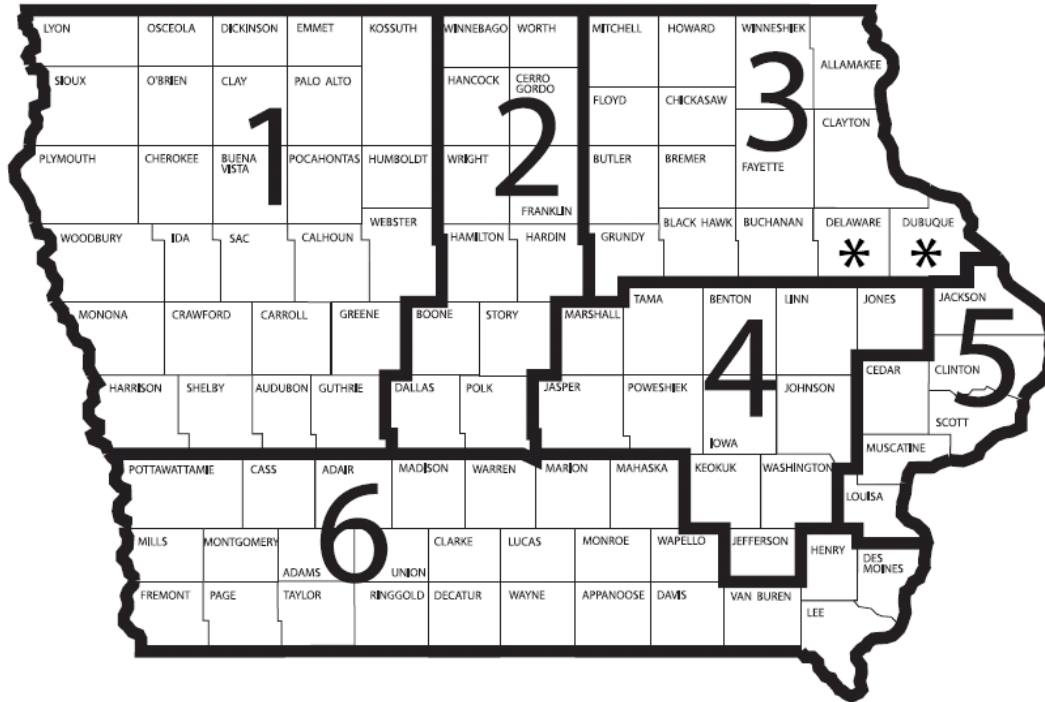
To request the trailer visit <http://www.iowadnr.gov/waste/trailer.html>

Applications are accepted throughout the year. Please register as soon as possible to reserve the trailer for your event. A deposit of \$500 is required to secure your reservation. The deposit will be refunded upon return of the trailer and inspection by our staff.

For more information, contact Amy Wilken, 515.281.0649, Amy.Wilken@dnr.iowa.gov.



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