



IOWATER: Iowa's Volunteer Water Quality Monitoring Program

Here are some fun Iowa water facts:

- We average 32 inches of precipitation per year
- We have 26,630 miles of perennial (water present all year) streams
- Our biggest threat to water quality is soil erosion and sediment
- 660 miles of river form our eastern and western borders giving Iowa the nickname "Land between Two Rivers"

In May 1998, a volunteer monitoring program called IOWATER was started to give citizens in Iowa the opportunity to be involved in the protection and improvement of one of our most important natural resources – water. Through IOWATER, anyone interested in monitoring the water quality of a river, lake, or stream can participate in training workshops, receive equipment and tools for testing, and submit data to a statewide database.

If you would like more information about how to start monitoring, contact IOWATER staff:

IOWATER

Iowa Department of Natural Resources

Email: iowater@iowater.net

Website: www.iowater.net

Fish Iowa! A Comprehensive Module for Teaching Fishing

A comprehensive module to teach basic spincasting, *Fish Iowa!* incorporates physical education, health, biology, geography, and family and consumer sciences into a program that focuses on fishing. It is designed for use in formal settings with middle school through senior high students, but easily adapts to nonformal programs such as camps, scout outings, etc. *Fish Iowa!* works with students with all levels of abilities.

Program support includes free-loan rods and reels. Materials are available to Iowa educators and youth leaders **only** through training sessions (one-on-one) and workshops. Additional modules include [Ice Fishing](#) and [Fly-Fishing](#).

Fish Iowa!

Iowa DNR Aquatic Education

Email: AquaticEd_Info@dnr.iowa.gov.

Website: <http://www.iowadnr.gov/education/eylmtr1.html#fishiowa>

Winneshiek County Conservation staff members have been trained in the IOWATER and Fish Iowa programs. You may contact our office to have us lead water monitoring or fishing activities with your groups to help you get started. You may reach us by email (education@neitel.net) or phone (563.534.7145).