

## Learn how to work with groups to turn:

- awareness into caring
- caring into involvement and commitment
- involvement into understanding
- understanding into action
- action into sustained conservation



Renewing Local Watersheds

Maintaining water quality requires the contributions of everyone — residents, local leaders, and agency staff.

The community leaders' guide will equip you to work with others and encourage involvement for sustainable solutions.

## *Extension to Communities*

### *Helping communities become their best*

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## Extension to Communities

provides educational programming and technical support to organizations, groups, and agencies to assist them to better serve their clients. Technical assistance and workshops can be tailored to the needs of your organization.

For more information, contact your local community development specialist.

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### **... and justice for all**

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# Iowa State University

## Extension to Communities

## Renewing Local Watersheds: Community Leaders' Guide to Building Watershed Communities



Photo by Peggy Murdoch

*The Community Leaders' Guide to Building Watershed Communities* equips community leaders with basic skills to organize and nurture active citizen involvement to protect water resources.

## Inside the Guide

- 1 Assumptions and definitions of community watershed management
- 2 Getting started
- 3 The role of third party facilitator
- 4 Conducting the first community watershed meeting
- 5 Community watershed group formation
- 6 Sustaining local interest
- 7 Local, state, and federal partners
- 8 Trouble shooting
- 9 Ways of knowing about your watershed
- 10 Resources and Web sites
- 11 Glossary of watershed terms



When leaders learn how to increase citizen participation, local residents and their community reap the benefits:

- Meaningful citizen involvement improves programs.
- Science and local knowledge exchanges build strong foundations for watershed management.
- Citizen groups partnering with government and private organizations expand their knowledge and resources.



## How to obtain the Guide:

Print your own copy from the Web:  
[www.soc.iastate.edu/extension/watersheds\\_manual/index.htm](http://www.soc.iastate.edu/extension/watersheds_manual/index.htm)

Purchase a color copy in a binder (publication EDC 278) or on a CD.

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Web: [www.extension.iastate.edu/pubs](http://www.extension.iastate.edu/pubs)

Comments from people who have used the community watershed group process:

As a result of our meeting I will...

*"talk to neighbors and friends about water issues"*

*"go walk the tributaries near my home"*

*"find out more about the watershed and how to participate in doing our part"*

*"get more involved"*



Photo by Jim Colbert