# Iowa State Revolving Fund Sponsored Projects Program

Iowa Department of Natural Resources Iowa Finance Authority



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## **Sponsored Projects Background**

- IA had a successful linked deposit program for funding private landowner nonpoint sources project but not much usage of the direct loan program for public entities
- Sponsorship program idea modeled similarly to Ohio's
  - Drive demonstration projects to get municipalities to implement watershed solutions to NPS issues
  - Provide opportunity for communities that wouldn't otherwise do NPS projects



# Sponsored Projects Program Development

- 2009 Iowa legislature allowed the use of sewer revenues to finance locally directed, watershed-based nonpoint source projects
- Qualified applicants wastewater utility/city with SRF project in the planning phase
- Wastewater utility/city must work with a watershed organization to develop the sponsored project
- Project must address nonpoint source pollution on a watershed basis – starts with watershed assessment



#### **Sponsored Project Funds**

- \$10 million for Sponsored Projects per year
  - Interest rate hit to the Clean Water SRF based on how much interest can we afford to lose?
- Current CWSRF interest rate is 1.75%
- Up to 1% of interest can be used for non-point source project (interest rate will not go below .75%)
- Approximately \$100,000 per \$1,000,000 borrowed



# Why Sponsorship is a Successful Mechanism in Iowa

- Most water quality issues in lowa are from nonpoint sources
- Little to no regulatory drivers
- Robust CWSRF fund has financial capacity to fund all eligible projects
- Projects are locally directed
- Good cooperation with other agencies to provide technical assistance



## **Sponsored Project Considerations**

- What are the State's NPS issues
  - What is the source of the problem
  - What factors are driving NPS projects
- How is your State's SRF set up
  - State Code and Rules for SRF and municipal finance
- What are your SRF's financial capacity and priorities
- What current partnerships/coordination with other Agencies does your SRF have/ will need
- Staffing capacity/ needs



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