



THE LAND USE BULLETIN

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It's Time for Climate Action

By Senator Rob Hogg

Across the state, Iowans are getting more involved in the campaign against climate change and striving for sustainability. More Iowans are taking direct action to reduce greenhouse gases. More Iowans are speaking up as we experience extreme storms, floods, and drought.

Recent events like Hurricane Sandy, flooding in Colorado, and Typhoon Haiyan are tragic reminders that climate action is ever more urgent.

Iowans are recognizing that while we need to continue to protect and preserve local natural resources, climate change poses an overriding threat to those resources.

Scientists tell us climate change today means greater threats of extreme weather events, floods, droughts, wildfires and ecological disruptions. Scientists also warn the impact of climate change is expected to increase substantially in the future.

If you are interested in a better understanding of the science, the US National Academy of Sciences provides a brief, summary and the full report, [America's Climate Choices](http://www.nap.edu), at www.nap.edu.

No one asked for this problem, but now we have to deal with it. What do we need to do?

First, dealing with climate change means slashing greenhouse gas emissions by leaving fossil fuels in the ground.

At a minimum, Iowa needs to do its part, and we urgently need national policy to address this problem. You can help by letting your Congressional representative know you support climate action.

With or without Congress, however, our state has the opportunity to demonstrate to the world that we can have a modern, safe, healthy economy without fossil fuels.

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1000 Friends of Iowa is a statewide non-profit organization founded in 1998 based in Des Moines, Iowa.

1000 Friends of Iowa promotes responsible development that

- Conserves and protects our agricultural and natural resources
- Revitalizes our neighborhoods, towns and cities, and
- Improves the quality of life for future generations

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We Want YOUR Feedback

1000 Friends of Iowa is member supported and could not operate without the generous contributions of people like you. We thank you for your ongoing financial support, and we invite your comments.

We continue to operate with one dedicated staff person, and the ongoing effort of one volunteer. We do our best to monitor land use issues across the state – but we need your help. We rely on you to be our eyes and ears across the state.

We are working to improve several aspects of the organization including updating publications, reorganizing and adding content to our website, and fine tuning our programs. Below are a just a few ways you can help. We invite you to participate in the process and welcome your feedback.

THE TOP TEN

Currently, we are focusing on updating the “Top Ten Things Adversely Affected by Poor Land Use Decisions”. 1000 Friends has relied on this publication to guide our position on land use issues from the beginning.

Please read through the Top Ten, available on our website, and jot down questions you’d like to have answers to, experiences you’ve had with the issues listed, pictures from around Iowa we can use to illustrate the issues, solutions you’ve been a part of or witnessed in your community—anything that comes to mind you’re willing to share with 1000 Friends of Iowa—we want to hear from you.

YOUR COMMUNITY

Does your community have a success story you’d like to share with the rest of Iowa? Is there a local issue you’d like to see 1000 Friends cover in the Land Use Bulletin? Are there any revitalization or rehabilitation stories you’re proud of? Are there upcoming events you want added to our website calendar? **Please tell us what’s happening where you live!**

TELL A FRIEND

1000 Friends of Iowa grows through word of mouth. Contact Crystal Leto if you’re interested in receiving a handful of brochures or Buy Local posters to distribute in your community. If you have a Facebook account, please find us on Facebook!

Please share your feedback about the Top Ten, other publications, our website or any local news with 1000 Friends by contacting Crystal Leto by email at crystal.r.let@gmail.com, calling her at 515-401-7146, or mail your written comments to her at 1000 Friends of Iowa, 3850 Merle Hay Road, Suite 605, Des Moines, IA 50310.

TIME FOR CLIMATE ACTION, continued from pg 1

What would that economy look like?

Everything would be energy efficient. All new and renovated buildings would incorporate green practices. We would use 100% renewable electricity including wind, solar, biomass, and biogas.

We would have vibrant local, healthy food systems and farm practices that sequester carbon dioxide, reduce nitrogen fertilizers, and improve manure management.

We would implement real transportation solutions like fuel efficiency, electric vehicles, rail for both freight and passengers, and urban and neighborhood revitalization for walkable and bikeable communities.

By itself, cutting greenhouse gases is no longer enough. Climate change is a reality contributing to real disasters causing real consequences for real people.

We must act to safeguard our people, our property, and ecosystems from the future disruptions and disasters that can no longer be avoided.

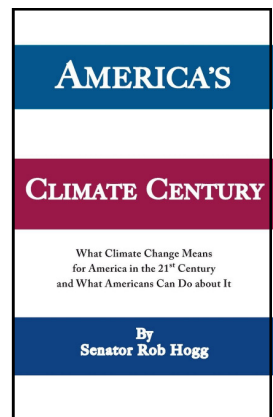
Improved land use planning, storm safety, floodplain protection, watershed management, water conservation, land conservation, and restored natural corridors will give native wildlife and plants a chance to survive climate change.

On this half of the climate action agenda, Iowa has primary responsibility. We need Congressional help, but it is up to Iowa to safeguard Iowans.

By taking action, we can also improve the safety, health, and prosperity of our communities. Moving away from fossil fuels will clean up our air. Better land use planning and natural resource management will conserve resources and clean up our waters. Investing in energy efficiency, renewable energy, and transportation solutions will create jobs and provide prosperity now and in the future.

There are lots of things individuals, families, businesses, and workers can do on the climate action agenda. Do them – but remember to contact elected officials and candidates in support of climate action at the community, state and national levels.

Together, we can take the climate action we so urgently need for a safe, healthy, prosperous, and sustainable future.



Rob Hogg is a state senator from Cedar Rapids and author of the new book, America's Climate Century, available through book stores and libraries across Iowa.

Consider the Gift of Grain—Many grain producers may be looking for a way to minimize their tax liability while making a significant charitable gift to a like-minded non-profit. By donating grain, farmers support the mission of 1000 Friends of Iowa and save on self-employment tax, federal income tax and state income tax:

- For many cash basis producers, significant tax savings can be achieved by donating crops grown in a previous year directly to 1000 Friends of Iowa.
- The producer will not realize taxable income from a sale, thus minimizing taxes.
- The producer is still able to deduct the entire production on Schedule F.
- Depending on the producer's specific circumstances, savings may be realized on federal and state income tax self-employment tax.

If you're interested, please contact Crystal Leto at 515-401-7146 or crystal.r.letto@gmail.com, to request a Gift of Grain form. Thank you for considering 1000 Friends of Iowa as the non-profit to benefit from your generous grain donation!

NEWS from Around the State

***Des Moines*—Farmer Veteran Coalition of Iowa First Annual Conference**

The Farmer Veteran Coalition of Iowa First Annual Conference will be held at Easter Seals Iowa, 401 NE 66th Ave, Des Moines, IA 50313, on Saturday, December 14, 2013 from 8 am to 5:30 pm, with a social reception immediately following from 5:30 pm to 7:30 pm.

Several workshops are planned including:

- Using state, USDA, and VA assistance programs for farming
- Legal and Tax Issues
- Land Access and Talking to Landowners
- Business Development and Talking to Lenders
- Marketing Opportunities and Contracts
- Finding Jobs and Careers in Iowa Agriculture

There will be ample social and business networking opportunities for farming veterans and those seeking jobs and careers in agricultural related businesses.

To learn more about the Coalition and to register for this unique event, visit: <http://iowafarmerveteran.org> or contact Ed Cox at 515-661-8459 or edward.cox@drake.edu.

Attendance is free, but space is limited – please register early!

***Chariton*—Chariton Earns National Main Street Community Accreditation**

In October, 2013, during a two day visit, officials from Main Street Iowa met with Chariton Area Chamber/Main Street representatives to review progress and successes in Chariton during the previous year.

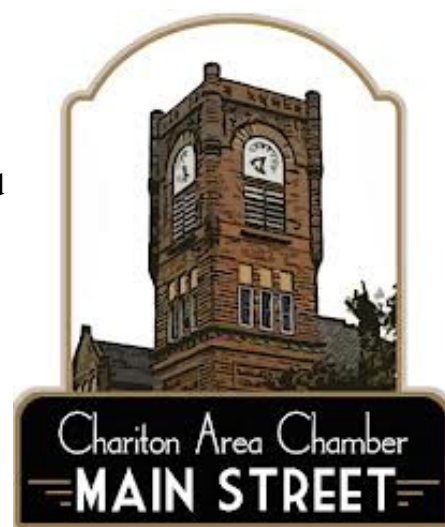
Main Street Iowa officials determined that Chariton, Iowa met all criteria for recognition as a National Main Street Accredited Community.

The standards of performance were developed by the National Trust Main Street Center and coordinating Main Street program partners. They are based on operational performance for a sustainable organization, not on economic performance. Main Street organizations that receive the national designation are recognized by the National Main Street Center at the National Main Streets Conference in May, 2014.

1000 Friends of Iowa congratulates the Chariton community on this achievement!

For additional details about Chariton, visit <http://www.charitonareachambermainstreet.com>.

For more information about the Main Street Iowa program, visit www.iowaeconomicdevelopment.com.



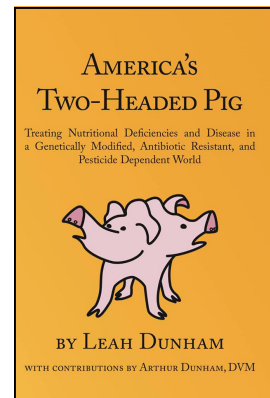
1000 Friends of Iowa Members Ray & Sue Meylor Review

“America’s Two-Headed Pig”

We all enjoy fairy tales, fantasy animals and adventures with happy endings. This is NOT a fairy tale, nor is the potential ending a happy one.

In “America’s Two-Headed Pig”, Leah Dunham uses the notes of her father, Iowa veterinarian Art Dunham, and turns them into a book about how changes in the ag industry affected animal health.

The book begins with Dunham telling a story of her father bringing home a piglet with two heads. She attempts to keep the animal alive by bottle feeding it, only to discover that one head prevents the other from feeding and there is no hope for the creature.



Dunham draws comparisons of the two-headed piglet to present day agriculture. One head, represented as huge, monoculture operations, attempting to survive and destroying the other head, represented as small, diverse farms. “Contrary to the widespread notion that most of the nation’s “breadbasket” is brimming with food to feed the masses, a large percentage of American corn is actually used to fuel cars and trucks.”

Current disastrous farm policies have deformed our agricultural system to the extent that they jeopardize the quality of natural resources we rely on for our food. Dunham includes impressive data correlating diseases in animals and humans. Just to name a few: Vitamin D and manganese deficiencies; infertility; Mycotoxicosis; and Listeriosis.

Dunham observes “Some of us, including seemingly intelligent political leaders and parents, are so distracted by global financial solutions, personal economic opportunities, and technological possibilities that we forget to take care of what’s at home: our regions, our bodies, our schools, our children and our communities. Ironically, these are the aspects of life we can most easily influence.” If we want to change how the story ends, it will have to begin in our homes.

To read more about the author, and to order her book, visit www.americastwoheadedpig.com.

Editor’s Note: Art Dunham, DVM, spoke at 1000 Friends of Iowa’s 2013 Annual Meeting about his clinical observations of animals fed a diet of GMO grains. Glyphosate (commonly referred to by its trade name, Round-Up) is discussed in Leah Dunham’s book. The annual meeting attendees were surprised to hear that glyphosate, which is sprayed on the majority of Iowa cropland, is registered at the U.S. Patent Office as an antibiotic. Below, we’ve included a great description of glyphosate and what it does from Howard Vlieger:

Glyphosate is a broad spectrum chelator. Chelate is a Greek word meaning “claw”, “to hold” or “to bind up and make unavailable”.

Glyphosate chelates calcium, magnesium, manganese, zinc, iron, copper, nickel, cobalt, boron, molybdenum, selenium and potassium. Glyphosate chelates these nutrients wherever it is present; in the soil, in the plant, in the grain or in the digestive tract of the mammal that consumes the residue.

In addition to being a broad spectrum chelator, glyphosate is a very potent biocide or strong antibiotic. It has been scientifically proven to harm beneficial organisms (bacteria and fungi) in the soil and in the digestive tract of animals.

In Pictures: Losing Iowa Farmland



Above: A stark contrast of “highest and best use” of Iowa’s world-class soils. Cattle graze contentedly on post-harvest bean stubble, while across the road multi-family dwellings and subdivisions are “the final crop” to spring from the land. Below: While Iowa’s population growth remains in single digits, our cities continued to sprawl outward as rural Iowa loses population to sustain rural communities.



The primary threats to farmland include suburban and rural residential development as well as industrial and commercial development. In addition, the acquisition of land for roads, parks, and other public uses account for about a fourth of the land that comes out of production.

The appeal of country living, the comparatively inexpensive land in fringe areas surrounding urban centers are all factors leading to the loss of Iowa farmland.

Iowa has many more urban centers experiencing, or with the potential for experiencing, suburban sprawl and loss of farmland. At the same time, Iowa has been losing population in the rural areas giving the statewide statistical impression of a decrease in pressure on farmland.

Numerous techniques are designed to preserve farmland. The Legislature and local governments all play a part. But in the end private property rights give each landowner the right to make development decisions. Personal responsibility of private ownership has a lot to do with the future of farming.



Above: What's on the horizon for this flock? While Iowa's population growth remains in single digits, our cities continue to sprawl outward as rural Iowa loses population to sustain rural communities.



Consider The Gift of Responsible Land Use!

This holiday season, if your gift-list includes someone who “has everything” but who cares about preservation of our land, our natural resources, or our historic places, please consider giving the gift of membership to 1000 Friends of Iowa!

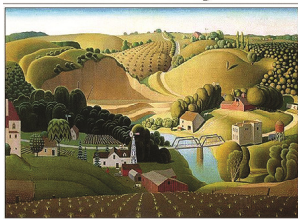
Simply complete the form on the back page of this issue or if you prefer, visit our website at <http://1000friendsofiowa.org/> and complete the online form.

Did You Know? Your Gift Will Grow!

For every new member who joins at the \$100 level, the Iowa Foundation for Education, Environment and the Arts will give \$50. **Your donation of \$100 will result in \$150 for 1000 Friends of Iowa!**

For every current or new member who donates \$2,000, the Cole-Belin Education Foundation will donate \$1,000 and the Iowa Foundation for Education, Environment and the Arts will donate an additional \$1,000. **Your gift of \$2,000 or above will be doubled, resulting in \$4,000 or more for 1000 Friends of Iowa!**

1000 Friends of Iowa



Citizens United for Responsible Land Use

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