The Iowa Watershed Approach (IWA) voluntarily engages local stakeholders from nine watersheds across the state to accomplish six specific goals:

- reduce flood risk;
- improve water quality;
- increase resilience;
- engage stakeholders through collaboration and outreach/education;
- improve quality of life and health, especially for vulnerable populations; and
- develop a program that is scalable and replicable throughout the Midwest and the United States.

Funding is available for select areas in each watershed to construct conservation practices to mitigate downstream flood damage and improve water quality. Volunteer landowners in each watershed may be eligible to receive up to 75 percent cost-share assistance on flood control and water quality practices including, but not limited to:

- Farm ponds
- Wetlands
- Terraces
- Water and sediment control basins (WASCOBS)
- Floodplain restoration
- Oxbow restoration
- Saturated buffers

Financial assistance for project construction is anticipated to be available beginning in 2018.

For more information:
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Or visit our websites:
http://www.middlecedarwatershed.weebly.com/
http://www.iihr.uiowa.edu/iwa/
“Watershed projects not only provide protection against soil loss, but also provide an opportunity to enhance wildlife habitat.”
— Josh Batterson, Davis County Quail Forever

“[The] project has created jobs and outside income for our small communities… The structures have increased the value of ag land, not only for the landowners, but for those downstream as well.”
— Soap Creek Landowner

The IWA is a $96,887,177 program funded through the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development in response to areas impacted by flooding from 2011–2013. The IWA builds upon the foundation of the Iowa Watersheds Project (IWP) that, between 2010 and 2016, implemented over 150 practices including wetlands, ponds, and WASCOBS in five watersheds across the state.

“Structures have provided significant savings in federal, state, and local road and bridge maintenance costs to our county.”
— Davis County Supervisor

Located on Fir Avenue in Davis County in the Soap Creek Watershed, this IWP structure replaced an existing box culvert. It controls a drainage area of 1,150 acres and has a permanent pool of 20.5 acres.

**IWA Partners**
- Iowa Economic Development Authority
- Iowa Homeland Security & Emergency Management
- University of Iowa/Iowa Flood Center
- Iowa State University
- University of Northern Iowa
- Iowa Department of Agriculture & Land Stewardship
- Iowa Department of Natural Resources
- Natural Resources Conservation Service
- County Soil & Water Conservation Districts
- The Nature Conservancy
- Iowa Natural Heritage Foundation
- Iowa Soybean Association
- Iowa Corn Growers Association
- Iowa Farm Bureau
- Iowa Agricultural Water Alliance
- local Resource Conservation & Development offices
- local Council of Governments offices
- Iowa Department of Transportation
- Iowa Association of Counties
- Silver Jackets Flood Risk Management Team
- and many more