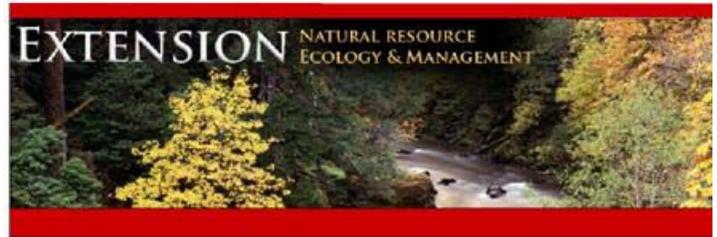


The Renewable Resources Extension Act (RREA) Program Iowa State University, FY 2009



The Renewable Resources Extension Act (RREA) program funds allocated to Iowa State University (ISU) are administered by the Department of Natural Resource Ecology and Management (NREM). These funds are used to enhance programming in forest stewardship and health while integrating information pertaining to wildlife and fisheries resources for residents of Iowa.

RREA program funds enabled natural resource extension professionals to target programming in multiple areas. Programs were developed to educate landowners about the ecological significance of the decline in Midwest oak forest acres as well as the loss of knowledge associated with wood utilization at the non-industrial private landowner scale. RREA funds were leveraged with state, federal, and private contributions to enhance program delivery through a series of field days, workshops, and a multi-state event. Highlights are listed below.

TriState Forestry Conference – More than 550 participants from four states attended a one-day intensive conference where 24 speakers covered a broad range of topics, including traditional forest management, management for diversity, game management, selling forest-based carbon credits, the economics of timber sales, and emerging forest pest and disease issues.

Wood Utilization at the Non-Industrial Scale - Over the course of three days, more than 10,500 participants visited and learned from a small-scale timber recovery demonstration in which dead and dying trees were harvested and milled into economically viable materials. This demonstration utilized small farm-scale equipment to promote self-sufficiency and local entrepreneurial options. Participants learned how to handle dead or dying logs, mill logs into lumber with small-scale mills, and implement best management practices associated with the handling of lumber prior to use.

Realignment of Online Natural Resources Information – Iowa State University NREM Extension focused efforts this past year on better integrating online informational resources. Forestry and Fisheries web-based pages have been reconstructed so there is seamless integration from page to page. This new integration between fisheries and forestry resulted in more than 13,000 unique users having access to both topics. Wildlife web resources will be evaluated next.

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Rich Clayton, Extension Fisheries, discussing pond management with 80 third grade students.