



## Position Statement on the Iowa Natural Resource Trust Fund

January 2023

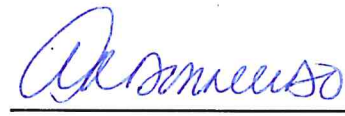
The Scott County Board of Health supports funding of the Iowa Natural Resource Trust Fund as it is strongly connected to protecting the health of the community.


The Board finds that:


- Approximately half of Iowa’s rivers, lakes and streams fail to meet water quality standards.
- With less than 10 percent of its wetlands remaining, Iowa has lost over 5 million acres of natural spaces that help prevent flooding and provide habitat for wildlife.
- Over the past two decades, Iowa has lost more than 1.6 million acres of habitat suitable for pheasants and other small game, and loses on average 5 tons per acre of soil each year to erosion.
- The Iowa Natural Resource Trust Fund will support water quality improvement projects across the state, including lake restoration, wildlife habitat projects, water protection and enhancing flood protection.
- Today, nearly one in every five children in Iowa is classified as obese and numerous studies prove that separation from nature is detrimental to one’s physical health and mental well-being.
- The Iowa Natural Resource Trust Fund will provide a permanent funding source dedicated to clean water, productive agricultural soils and thriving wildlife habitats as well as having broad public health implications to ensure healthy communities for current and future generations of Iowans.


Therefore, the Scott County Board of Health supports the passage of a 3/8th cent sales tax to fund Iowa’s Natural Resources and Outdoor Recreation Trust and retain the integrity of the formula to meet the promises defined in the constitution. Scott County Board of Health finds this to be sound public policy, which preserves and protects Iowa’s natural resources and the health of Iowans.

  
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