



News and Updates from
Des Moines Water Works

**SEPTEMBER
2022**

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Des Moines Water Works Listens to become more Diverse, Equitable and Inclusive Utility

Last year, Des Moines Water Works (DMWW) conducted a community-wide engagement effort to develop our five-year Strategic Plan for the utility.

Our community spoke: You shared your desires for DMWW to become a more diverse, equitable and inclusive (DE&I) drinking water utility. We're not done listening. We've hired Keen Independent Research to help us learn how we are doing as a utility to reflect our core value of DE&I.

DE&I is a value DMWW has established for the utility, allowing us to empower and embrace one another for the benefit of all. As a utility, we demonstrate our commitment to our team members, customers and community by ensuring everyone has the opportunity to provide and/or receive the best water service possible.

To learn more about DMWW's core values, go to www.dmww.com and click on "About Us." Select "Strategic Plan."

The Way We Work Should Reflect Who We Serve:

Your perspective as a member of our community is invaluable. How can we serve you in a way that reflects you?

Call 515-329-0550 and provide your thoughts on how DMWW, as the area's water utility, can be a more diverse and inclusive member of the community. A Keen Independent team member will be in contact with you.

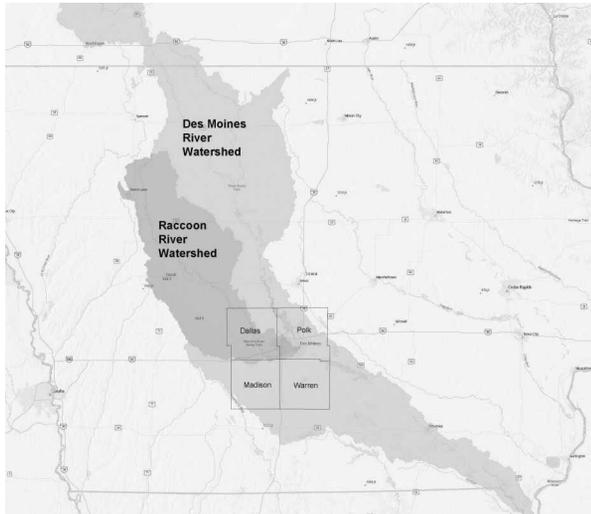
Participate in our DE&I Assessment: The DE&I online survey will be available in September, so stay tuned for when the survey is live!

Learn more information here: <https://keenindependent.com/desmoineswaterworksdei>

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DMWW, partners offer landowner programs



Des Moines Water Works joins partners to offer Landowners Coaching Program: If you own farm land in the Raccoon or Des Moines River Watersheds, you could hold the key to cleaner water in our rivers, lakes and streams.

Conservation practices such as saturated buffers at tile outlets, cover crops to hold soil in place, and wetlands or buffers along streams can keep soil, chemicals and manure out of our raw source waters.

Des Moines Water Works is partnering with Practical Farmers of Iowa (PFI) and Peoples Company for landowners to learn about watershed protection.

The Landowners Coaching Program is a free, virtual meeting with PFI and Peoples to learn how to improve productivity, soil health and water quality, and for advice and resources about achievable next steps. Participants will meet with a farm manager for a one-on-one consultation on their farm's productivity, soil health and tenant farming practices.

Learn more: <https://practicalfarmers.org/programs/landowners/>. Email: martha@practicalfarmers.org

If you are a DMWW customer who owns farm ground, we want to hear from you.

Contact External Affairs Manager Jennifer Terry: terry@dmww.com.

Join DMWW's diversity, equity & inclusion community group

Des Moines Water Works will also have a Community Advisory Group that will teach us more about our communities, their perspectives, and our existing customers and how to best serve them.

If you would like to be considered for participation in a virtual community focus group and/or an ongoing Community Advisory Group, contact us for more information or to learn how to participate: Rachel Brown at 515-283-8717.

Follow DMWW on social media to learn more:
Facebook and LinkedIn: Des Moines Water Works
Instagram and Twitter: @DSMH20

Still not sure how to participate? Give us a call at 515-329-0550, and let us know what questions you have. We are listening for a stronger tomorrow.

"Water" We Up To: Des Moines Water Works News In Brief

Des Moines Water Works joins PFAS lawsuit: The Board of Trustees of Des Moines Water Works voted at its July board meeting to join other drinking water utilities in a pending multi-district lawsuit against manufacturers that have created products that contain PFAS (per- and poly-fluoroalkyl substances).

PFAS is a category of manmade chemicals designed to resist heat, oil, stains and water in items such as Teflon, Gore-Tex and even pizza boxes and fast-food wrappers. It is also found in certain firefighting foam used at airports and on military installations. During production and use, it can migrate into soil, water and air. Most PFAS do not break down and remain in the environment, and DMWW has found detectable amounts in its finished water sampling.

Central Iowa Water Works (CIWW) update: Des Moines Water Works and its regional drinking water partners continue to move forward with discussions and negotiations to form a regional drinking water authority called Central Iowa Water Works.

What's happening now? The three board-governed utilities — DMWW, West Des Moines Water Works and Urbandale Water Utility — and their respective legal counsels are reviewing a governing agreement called a 28EF. Once changes are finalized, a final agreement will be voted on by the boards or councils of the central Iowa municipalities and drinking water utilities that have joined as a founding member.

The DMWW Board of Trustees provides an update and receives public comment period during each of its monthly board meetings about regional governance. The Board is also discussing guidelines for how it will select its representatives to CIWW. The Board is considering three-year terms and will vote in the upcoming months on how it will make its appointments to CIWW.