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**About IOWWA**

**Iowa Onsite Waste Water Association**

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency recognizes onsite, or “septic” systems and technology as a viable long-term solution for wastewater treatment. Onsite treatment systems are chosen as a cost effective alternative to the more costly installation of gravity sewer mains and centralized treatment works. With proper maintenance and management, onsite systems are designed to last. Current technology rapidly evolves, fueled by continuous research and development. National and state regulations require regulators, designers, manufacturers and contractors to remain informed and knowledgeable on the latest developments and findings in the onsite wastewater industry. Clean water is a valuable resource and onsite systems are a critical part of the water cycle. Treated waste water ultimately becomes water used in our private and municipal wells.

Since its inception in 1999, IOWWA has worked to educate both the members and public about the benefits of quality onsite wastewater treatment. IOWWA is one of the largest state organizations in the country focused on the onsite wastewater industry. Our members number some 400 and include regulators, installation contractors, maintenance contractors, soil scientists, engineers, manufacturers and educators. These people join to make IOWWA a diverse and well-balanced organization.

IOWWA is directed by a board of members elected by the association. The Board of Directors consists of 10 members that equally represent five major groups in the organization; contractors, regulators, manufacturers, maintenance providers, and other representatives (e.g. designers, soil scientists, educators). The Board of Directors meets regularly to conduct the business of the organization, address current issues, and plan future activities.

IOWWA supports onsite waste water system inspections at time of property transfer. IOWWA supports mandatory certification of installers, designers, regulators and maintenance providers. IOWWA is currently working to establish a voluntary certification program for on site system installers, designers and regulators.

IOWWA is a constituent state member of the National Onsite Wastewater Recycling Association (NOWRA), the largest organization within the U.S. dedicated solely to educating and representing members within the onsite and decentralized industry.

The Iowa Onsite Waste Water Association works to support its members, promote the onsite waste water industry, and to ultimately improve water quality in Iowa.