



A DECADE OF DEDICATION



WHAT IS IT?

Who, What, When, and....



- **Who:** Anyone - paddlers of all ages and skill levels.
- **What:** 7-day, 7-night float trip down an Iowa River - volunteers participate in water quality and wildlife monitoring, educational programs, and river clean-up.
- **When:** Held since 2003, now during July – Spend one day, the whole week, or anywhere in between on A.W.A.R.E.





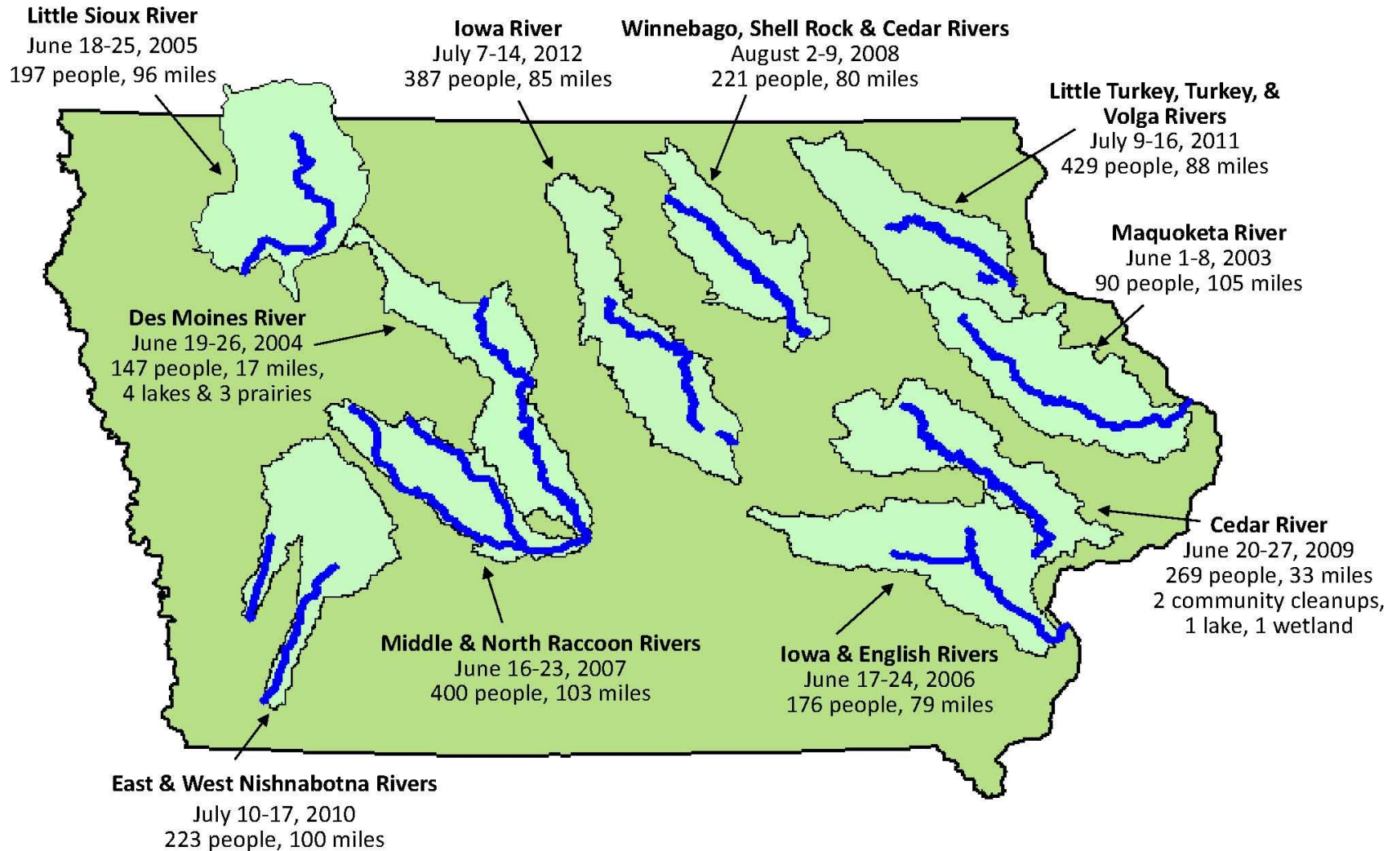
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WHAT HAPPENS ON AWARE?

Project AWARE

A Watershed Awareness River Expedition





iowaprojectaware.com



Morning safety and Rock-On programs









Handling of Trash

- Local partners – area landfills and local recyclers
- Trash unloaded at halfway and end points each day
- Trash sorted by glass, plastic, scrap metal, tires, HHMs, scrap metal for artist, and actual trash



Project AWARE Educational Programs







WHO PARTICIPATES?

Sarah – Central Iowa



State Fair 2009

State Fair 2012



2008



The Jacobsens East-Central Iowa

2011



2012



Representatives of the Iowa Section of AWWA and IAWEA





**Mark from
Northwest
Iowa**

**Greg from
South-Central
Iowa**

Grandchildren and their Grandparents





- Hands-on environmental stewardship and service-learning opportunities
- Ages 18-25
- Focus on conservation, natural resource management & emergency response work.



HOW IS THE TRASH REMOVED?





TEAMWORK





PATIENCE





POSITIVE ATTITUDE





MUSCLE



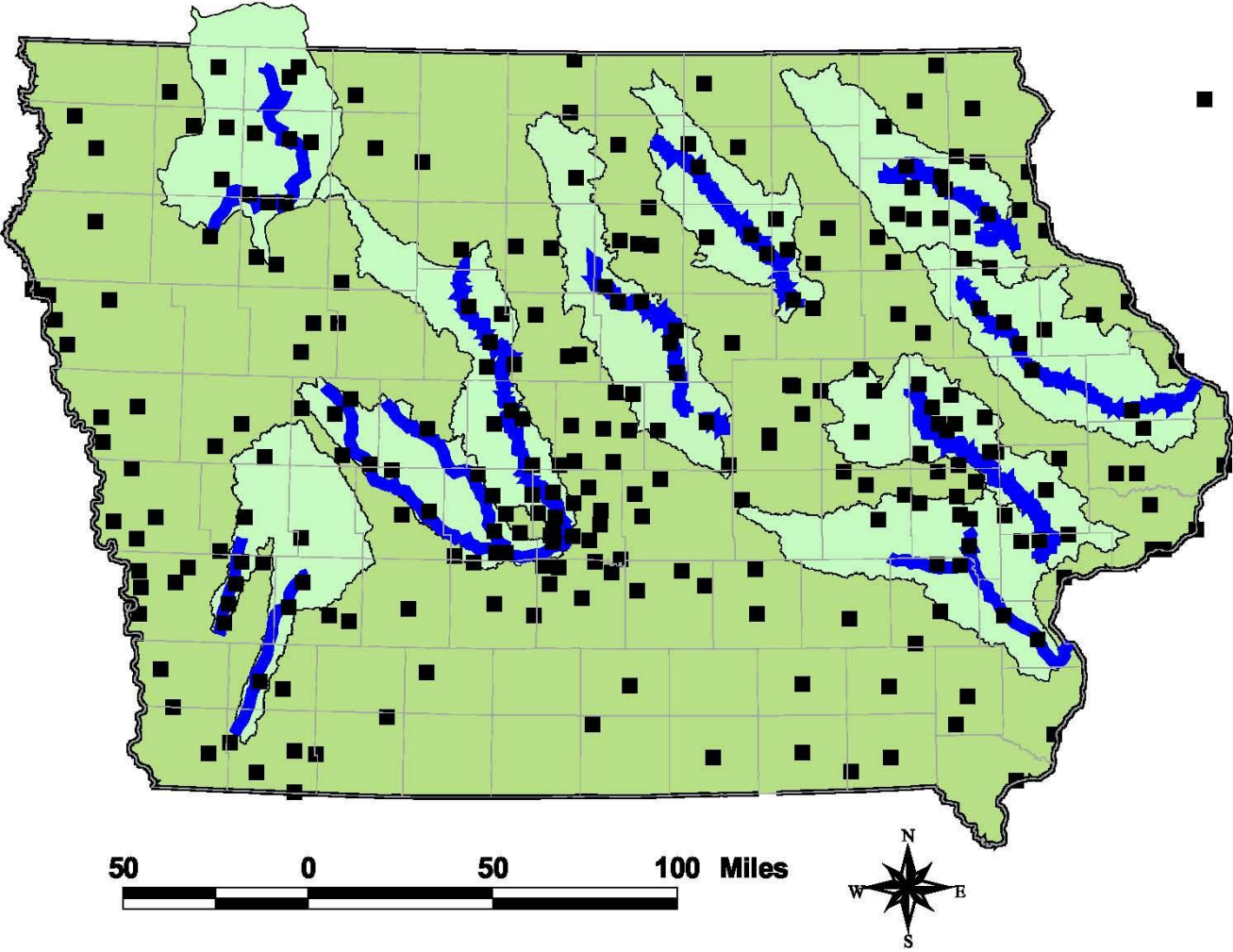
PERSEVERANCE



EXHAUSTION

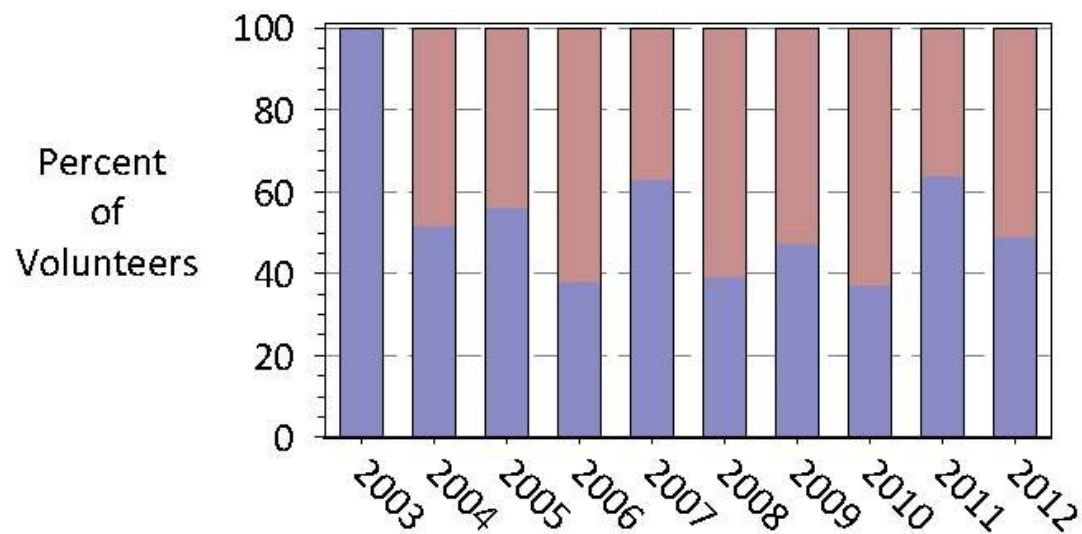
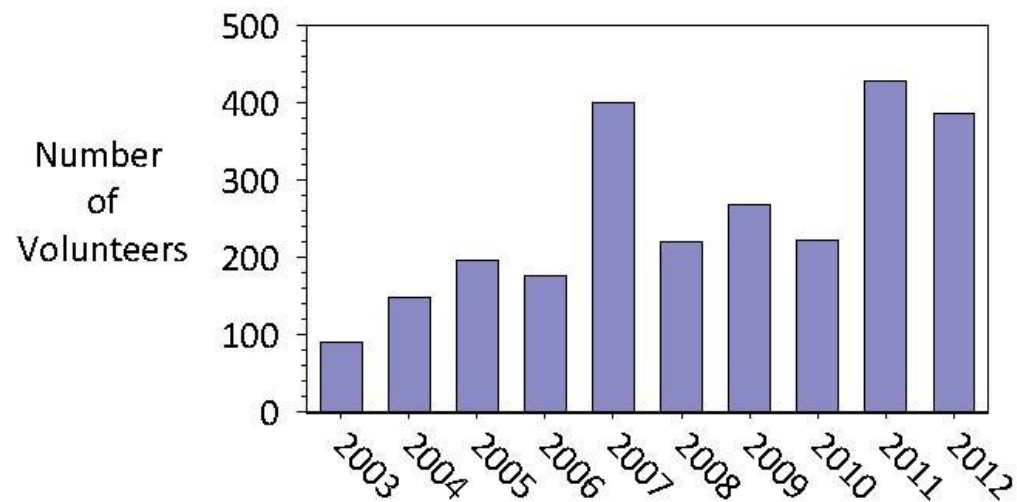


Project AWARE Volunteers -- Where Do They Come From?



■ 2003 - 2012 Volunteers

Out-of-State Volunteers:
Kingston AR, Casa Grande AZ,
Eloy AZ, Sacaton AZ, Fort Collins CO,
Chicago IL, Des Plaines IL,
Downers Grove IL, East Dubuque IL,
Western Springs IL, East Moline IL,
Garrett IN, Indianapolis IN, Larwill IN,
Kansas City KS, Edgewood KY,
Bloomington MN, Burnsville MN,
Grand Marais MN, Jeffers MN,
Lake City MN, Lakefield MN,
Mankato, MN, Marshall MN,
Minneapolis MN, North Mankato MN,
Rochester MN, Russell MN,
Springfield MN, St. Paul MN,
Windom MN, Columbia MO, Hallsville MO,
Maryville MO, Springfield MO,
Crumpler NC, Bellwood NE, Blair NE,
Elkhorn NE, Ithaca NE, Lincoln NE,
North Sioux City NE, Omaha NE,
Papillon NE, Plattsmouth NE,
West Point NE, West Salem OH,
Portland OR, Mission SD, Sioux Falls SD,
Del Rio TX, Seattle WA, Delavan WI,
Fitchburg WI, LaCrosse WI, Madison WI



First Year Participants
Multiple Year Participants



HOW MUCH TRASH?

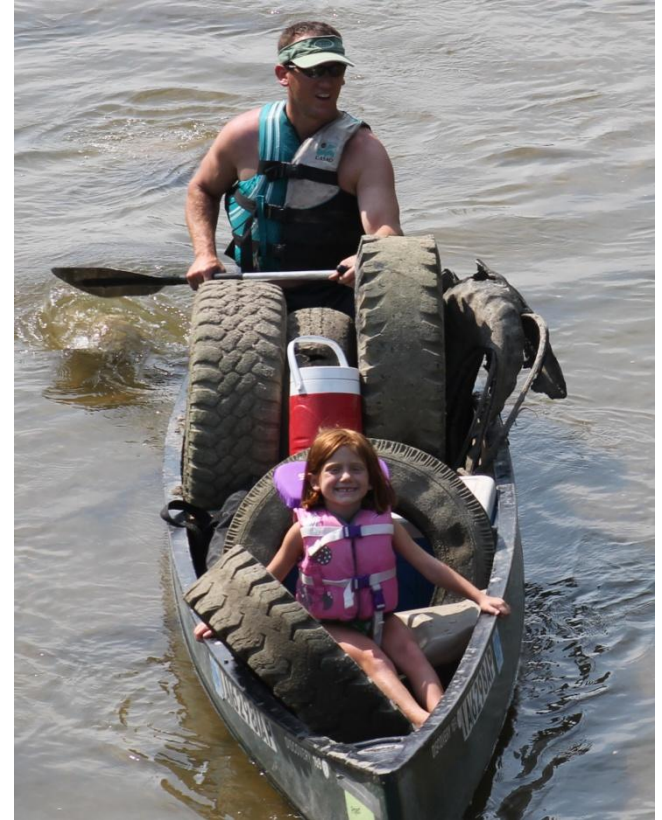
Project AWARE Accomplishments (10 years)

- **2,539** participants
- **786** river miles cleaned
- **500,000 pounds (250 tons)** of trash
- **70%** of trash recycled
- **800** sponsors over the years, including EPI



Tires

(more than 3,300)





HOW IS THE STORY TOLD?

David Williamson





Drop In



Fair Catch



Strongback

Coast to Coast at the Iowa State Fair

IowaStateFair



Bankers
Trust

Iowa DNR Fairgrounds Building – Des Moines



The River Gates of Project AWARE, south arch, 2009



http://www.iptv.org/iowaoutdoors/story.cfm/feature/9498/iao_20120506_203_aware

Project AWARE featured on Iowa Outdoors on IPTV

Project AWARE - article in upcoming issue of DNR's Iowa Outdoors magazine



HOW CAN I GET INVOLVED?

Plans for Project AWARE 2013

- July 5-12, 2013 or July 6-13, 2013
- Coming to a river near you.
- www.iowaprojectaware.com
- Participants will paddle 12-15 miles each day
- Only cost to volunteers are their meals which are catered
- Volunteers may participate as few or as many days as they want



2010 PROJECT AWARE SPONSORS



SILVER STERN SPONSORS: Alliant Energy Foundation • Cass County Landfill & Recycling Center • Eaton Corporation • Hy-Vee, Inc. • Integrated DNA Technologies • Iowa DNR - Law Enforcement, Boating Safety, and Geological & Water Survey • Iowa Outdoors Magazine • Omaha World-Herald • Porter's Lake Lutheran Center • Pottawattamie Conservation Foundation • Shelby County Conservation Board • Townsend Vision, Inc.

RIVER RESCUE SPONSORS: Aero Rental and Party Shoppe • B4 Brands • Barker Lemar Engineering Consultants • Boone County Landfill • Boy Scout Troop 242 • Casey's General Stores, Inc. • Cass County Mormon Trails Association • Cedar Valley Paddlers • Central Iowa Paddlers • Connie Struve • CrawDaddy Outdoors • Des Moines Area Community College • Des Moines Chapter Izaak Walton League • Environmental Advocates • Golden Hills RC&D • Hawkeye Fly Fishing Association • Hitchcock House Advisory Board • Howard & Phyllis Ciha • Humanities Iowa • Iowa Conservation Education Coalition • Iowa Natural Heritage Foundation • Iowa Rivers Revival • Iowa Waste Systems, Inc. • Iowa Whitewater Coalition • Mark Bohner • Marne & Elk Horn Telephone Co. • Metro Waste Authority • MidAmerican Energy Company • Montgomery County Family YMCA • Muscatine Chapter - Izaak Walton League of America • Nishnabotna Yacht Club • Page County Landfill & Recycling • Prairie Winds RC&D • Rubber Duck Outfitters • Seatasea Watersports Center • Shenandoah Community School District • Snyder & Associates, Inc. • Springbrook Conservation Education Center • Stine Seed Company • Sue Caley • The Dental Practice • The Nature Conservancy • Touch the Earth - University of Iowa Recreational Services • UNI Outdoors • Wilton Steel Processing, Inc.

LIFE JACKET SPONSORS: Clipper Windpower • Fareway Stores, Inc. • Great Western Bank • Iowa Soil and Water Conservation Society • Janet Rahmani • Marvin J. Rops • Nishnabotna Valley Rural Electric Cooperative • Stanley Consultants, Inc. • Tom Stamets

