

RESOLUTION NO. 10-1008

Eco-County Designation

WHEREAS, Iowa County acknowledges that a clean and healthy environment determines the quality of life, where the environment can support and sustain the community, and where citizens are committed to local and regional cooperation and a personal philosophy of stewardship, and

WHEREAS, the willingness of Iowa County to move in the direction of eco-county designation can serve as a model for our citizens, encouraging economic development, and industrial initiatives while protecting the ecosystem in which they raise their families, and

WHEREAS, Iowa County has established a number of programs and/or services that fall within an eco-municipality area and include:

- A. Sponsoring the Where Water Matters workshop series and handbook;
- B. Sponsoring the on-going Groundwater Quantity and Quality Study, which is expected to enter the 3rd and final phase;
- C. Consideration of alternative energy friendly zoning ordinance language relating to wind and solar by the Planning and Zoning Committee;
- D. Conducting an energy audit of the major County facilities with high energy utilization;
- E. Planning for public educational efforts relating to Green building design and LEED certification; and

WHEREAS, Iowa County will include many references to sustainability practices in their strategic and comprehensive planning processes, and

WHEREAS, Iowa County endorses the following four guidelines which were developed by the Natural Step, and adopted by the American Planning Association, to help communities implement sustainable practices:

1. Reduce dependence upon fossil fuels and extracted underground metals and minerals;
2. Reduce dependence on chemicals and other manufactured substances that can accumulate in Nature;
3. Reduce dependence on activities that harm life sustaining ecosystems; and
4. Meet the hierarchy of present and future human needs fairly and efficiently.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Iowa County Board of Supervisors hereby endorses the principles of sustainable community development described herein, and agrees to apply these principles whenever possible in its planning, policy-making and practices.

Dated this 21st day of October 2008.

Respectfully submitted by the Iowa County Economic Development, Extension and Property Committee