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## Iowa Waste Reduction Center Newsletter, October 2020

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October 2020



## **IWRC Begins Work on New Rural Development, USDA Grant**

The Iowa Waste Reduction Center has recently begun developing The Comprehensive Regional Food Waste Diversion Project with help from a Rural Development, USDA Grant. This initiative will decrease the amount of food waste that is discarded in landfills by providing direct, on-site assistance and training for food waste stakeholders in four regions of the Midwest. These regions include Iowa and surrounding states.

The project will provide training guides, fact sheets, window clings, and certificates of participation. Training materials will inform stakeholders on the federal and participating states' requirements when feeding animals food scraps, tax incentives available to donors of food, and guidance to receive these incentives. Training materials will also cover food waste composting best management practices, and how to build partnerships to increase opportunities that prevent and reduce food waste.

After two meetings are hosted within each of the four regions, on-site training will become available, allowing stakeholders to take advantage of learning the different ways to divert food waste through partnership building on a regional scale.

Each region will also receive their own customized plan addressing the best ways to reduce food waste, the costs and benefits of the current strategies compared to proposed ones, and contact information for the stakeholders that attended the training.

Additionally, information regarding how to participate in this project, plus additional food waste reduction strategies will be readily available on the IWRC's [website](#) in an easy to use downloadable format for all to take advantage of.

## WRC Welcomes New Student Intern

### Meet Elle Olthoff

Elle is a junior at the University of Northern Iowa majoring in Digital Media Journalism with a minor in English Literacy. Elle works as the IWRC's Marketing and Communications Intern where she is in charge of content creation for social media, newsletters, articles, and press releases. Outside of work Elle enjoys going for walks, playing with her kitten and hanging out with friends and family.



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## IWRC NEWS

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### Iowa Strategic Goals Program to Host Upcoming Webinars

The Iowa Strategic Goals Program invites you to join them for a series of FREE webinars on November 4 & 10, 2020. This series, titled "**RCRA Inspections, Generator Improvement Rule, Environmental Finance Center, Risk Management & Safer Choice**" will give participants an opportunity to interact with regulators and industry experts in a small setting and ask related questions.

On November 4, EPA will discuss the RCRA compliance inspection process and the reporting requirements in the generator improvement rule for small quantity generators (SQG). Representatives from Wichita State University will also provide an overview of the Environmental Finance Center and how it can assist you.

On November 10, EPA will discuss Risk Management Program rule changes and the Safer Choice Program.

To find out additional information on speakers and agendas for these webinars, please visit <https://www.iowadnr.gov/Environmental-Protection/Land-Quality/Waste-Planning-Recycling/Pollution-Prevention-P2/P2-Workshops-Conf>

Follow the link(s) below to register for these free webinars:

**November 4, 10 a.m. - 12 p.m.**

**November 10, 10 a.m. - 12 p.m.**

## INDUSTRY NEWS

### | Sustainability |

[Linn County's first-ever sustainability program manager will focus on climate change, environment](#)  
(The Gazette)

### | Energy |

[Turning skyscrapers into urban energy generators](#)  
(GreenBiz)

### | Food Waste |

[Reducing household food waste](#)  
(ScienceDaily)

### | Recycling |

[Exploring Plastics and Policy Related to the Circular Economy](#)  
(Waste 360)



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