Advance Iowa - an Economic Gardening Program for Iowa Companies

As one of the many programs of UNI’s Business & Community Services (BCS) division, we have the opportunity to work alongside some very innovative and creative teams bringing new ideas and opportunities to Iowans in a manner like we have never seen. One of the newest BCS programs is Advance Iowa, a business growth program for small Iowa businesses.

Advance Iowa is an economic development program that focuses on the expansion of small and medium-sized businesses (10-99 employees) using an approach called Economic Gardening and is currently looking for new clients across the state.

Economic Gardening is a “grow your own” strategy for economic development and is a proven economic growth strategy that focuses on providing information and tools to grow existing businesses. To use this approach to meet the unique needs of Iowa, the Advance Iowa team consists of skilled researchers who mine sophisticated databases and use high-end tools related to search engine optimization, geographic information systems and social media marketing.

The Advance Iowa team then works directly with the business to gather customized actionable data and develop a plan to implement the strategies developed.

For more information, visit www.advanceiowa.com or contact Dan Beenken, program manager for Advance Iowa, at 319-273-4322 or dan.beenken@uni.edu.

IWRC News

MSEIs Due May 15

Inventories for facilities in the central portion of Iowa, as well as all portable plants, are required to get their Minor Source Emissions Inventory submitted by May 15. Visit msei.iwrc.org for tools, resources and calculators to help complete the inventory!

Upcoming Webinar

Minor Source Emissions Inventory (MSEI) SPARS training webinars are scheduled for the following dates:

Wednesday, February 26 (1:00 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. C.D.T.) Click here to register.
This session will include a general introduction to using and maintaining the site management portion of SPARS, the Minor Source Emissions Inventory requirement, available resources to complete the requirement, and a Q&A session.

Thursday, February 27 (9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. C.D.T.) Click here to register.

This session will include instructions on how to create and submit the Minor Source Emissions Inventory in SPARS, example calculations for common processes, available resources, common errors, and a Q&A session.

After registering, you will receive a confirmation e-mail containing information about joining the webinar. There is no registration fee, but long-distance telephone charges will apply if you choose to participate by phone. The system requirements for PC-based attendees are Windows® 8, 7, Vista, XP, or 2003 Server. Macintosh®-based attendees must have Mac OS® X 10.6 or newer. Mobile attendees must have iPhone®, iPad®, AndroidTM phone, or Android tablet. If you have questions, please contact Nick Page at (515) 725-9544 or Nick.Page@dnr.iowa.gov.

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**Iowa News**

*Lawmakers praise Iowa water quality program*
*Source: The WCF Courier*

*Iowa City recycling up 20 percent*
*Source: The Daily Iowan*

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**National News**

*EPA Partnerships Cut Greenhouse Gas Emissions and Save Businesses Money*
*Source: US EPA*

*State of Green Business: Food sustainability gets a seat at the table*
*Source: GreenBiz.com*
Upcoming Events

February 24
UNI Day at the Capitol
Des Moines, IA

February 11
A Mongoose Visits the STAR4D Facility

February 4
Three Questions: MSEI Assistance

January 28
Painter Training - An Investment in Your Business

January 21
A Global Protocol for Measuring Food Waste

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