



IOWA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

Leading Iowans in Caring For Our Natural Resources

DNR's Derelict Building Grant Program

This program works with rural communities with a population of 5,000 or fewer residents to address the issues posed by neglected commercial buildings or public structures.

From Concept to Today

The program started in 2011 with a successful pilot project to help the City of Seymour, Iowa.

We have over 350 applications have been submitted and almost 200 projects have received funding, impacting nearly 150 different Iowa communities.

How the Grant Program is Structured

- \$400,000.00 available per grant round (Each FY).
- The priority of the program is to increase landfill diversion through the recycling and reuse of building materials by providing funding for renovation of an existing structure or removal through deconstruction.

Available Funding Options

- Reimbursement is available in seven different areas to remove environmental hazards, minimize budget issues and improve community appearance.
- Certified ACM Inspection, ACM Removal, Structural Engineering Analysis, Phase I / Phase II Environmental Assessments, Renovation, and Deconstruction.

Eligibility

- Must be owned by the city or be in the process of owning.
- Building must be abandoned for at least 6 months.
- Nuisance buildings welcome.
- Able to reclaim materials for reuse.
- Building can not reside on the National Historic Register.
- Applicants can partner with local non-profits.

Application Requirements

- City ownership by grant start date.
- History of building.
- Plan for deconstruction or renovation.
- Identify reuse markets for building materials.
- Support letters.
- Three bids required per funding options.
- Insurance coverages.
- Color photos of outside/inside (if possible).
- Cash match only.

City of Rockford

Before



After



City of Coon Rapids

Before



After



City of New Market

Before



After



Additional Funding

- Additional \$1 Million - Start of Fiscal Year 2027
- Funded initial projects
- Special asbestos round
- Additional money left over will be added to February's grant round.

Contact

Reid Bermel

Environmental Specialist Senior

IDNR – Land Quality Bureau

6200 Park Ave, Ste 200

Des Moines, IA 50321

Reid.Bermel@dnr.iowa.gov

(515)217-7230

<https://www.iowadnr.gov/environmental-protection/land-quality/derelict-building-program>