Iowa Watershed Academy

May 13 & 14, 2026
Easter Lake Event Center
2816 Shoreline Road,
Des Moines, IA 50320

May 13

9:30 am	**Registration opens**	
10:00 - 10:30 am	**Introductions & Ice Breaker**	
10:30 – 10:50 am	**Unveiling the Conservation Professional Interactive Map**	Catherine DeLong *Iowa State Extension*
10:50 - 11:45 am	**Iowa GeoProfit: A publicly available tool to assess farm field profitability**	Haleigh Summers *Sand County Foundation*
11:45 - 12:45 pm	**Lunch** *(and group photo!)*	
12:45 – 2:15 pm	**Talking with landowners about profitability**	Stephanie Nelson and Bailey Klein, *Pheasants Forever*
2:30 – 4:00 pm	**Watershed Coordinator Success Panel** **Iowa Working Lands Project**	Erin Ogle, Ashley Brincks, Caleb Mattox

May 14

8:30 - 9:00 am	**Welcome and breakfast**	
9:00 – 10:50 am	**Morning Session: Batch and Build Research Updates**	

Explore the latest findings from recent assessments of the Batch and Build model, including key lessons learned from stakeholder interviews and best practices for identifying and prioritizing high-impact sites. Speakers include Clare Lindahl, Keegan Kult, Laurie Nowatzke, Gabriel Johnson, Tanner Puls & Jeremy Bril.

11:00 – 12:15 pm	**Start of Facilitated Session: Framing & Visioning**	Scott Timm, *ISU Extension*
12:15 – 1:00 pm	**Lunch**	
1:00 – 4:30 pm	**Afternoon Session: Facilitated Peer Discussion**	Scott Timm, *ISU Extension*

A collaborative, facilitator-led discussion focused on distilling lessons learned from the Batch and Build model. Attendees will explore what's working, what's not, common bottlenecks, and practical ways to overcome them. This is a chance for seasoned coordinators to share insights—and for those new to the model to learn from their experiences. We foresee this session being useful to anyone who currently works on or will work on structural/engineered practices.