

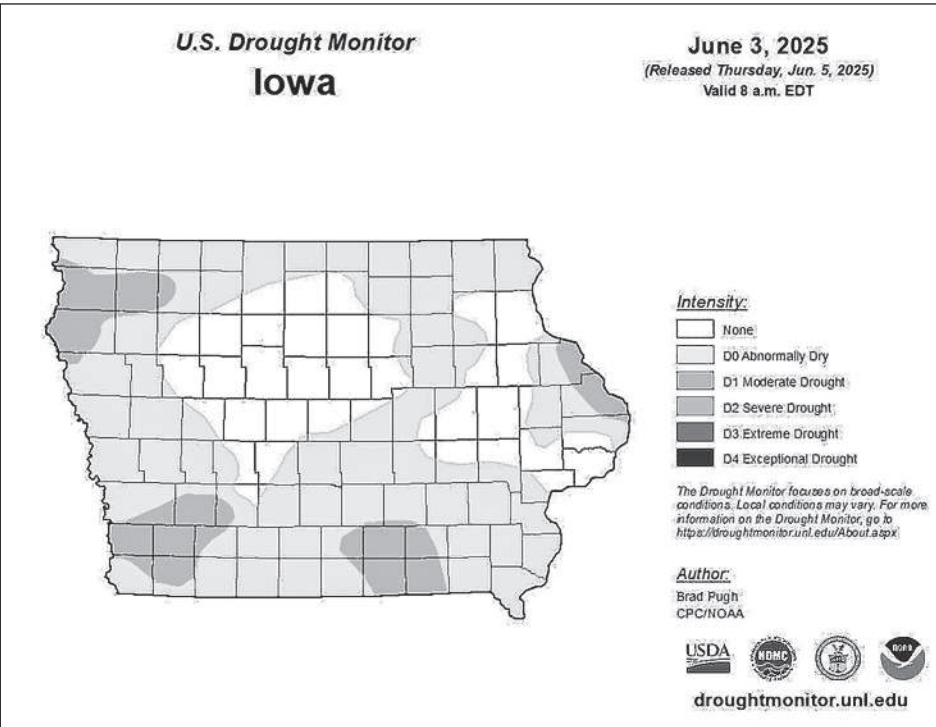
Below-average rainfall extends Iowa drought area

Iowa Department of Natural Resources

DES MOINES — Drought conditions have expanded across the state due to below-normal precipitation in May, according to the latest Water Summary Update. After a drier-than-normal April, May saw decreased rainfall across all regions of the state, resulting in an increase in drought and abnormally dry conditions. While early rainstorms initially helped maintain stable dry conditions, lower rainfall amounts later in the month resulted in deteriorating conditions across Iowa. May's average state-wide precipitation was 2.80 inches, 2.04 inches below normal. The state experienced slightly warmer weather, with statewide temperature

averaging a normal 60 degrees. At the end of May, Iowa's Drought Plan showed degrading conditions across the state except in the central drought region. However, Western Iowa now carries a drought watch designation. The remaining drought regions remain under a normal drought designation. According to the current U.S. Drought Monitor, more than 80% of Iowa continues to experience abnormally dry conditions or drought conditions. The June precipitation outlook from the National Weather Service's Climate Prediction Center indicates an equal chance for above-, below- or near-average precipitation across the state, but also an elevated likelihood of

above-normal temperatures. Warmer air holds more moisture and could increase concerns for widespread drought if the state experiences below-normal rainfall during June. "Despite above-average rainfall in March and nearly average amounts in April, May saw below-normal totals, which expanded drought conditions across the state, but most notably in Western and southeastern Iowa," said Jessica Reese McIntyre, DNR environmental specialist. "Western Iowa is now under a drought watch as D1 — Severe Drought persists. The National Weather Service precipitation outlooks predict an equal chance for the entire state for above, below, or normal precipitation through June," McIntyre said.



It's Wild Turtle Week

Many species decline due to lack of habitat

Iowa Department of Natural Resources

Wild Turtle Week is a celebration of turtles led by the Partners in Amphibian and Reptile Conservation, the Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Iowa is home to 13 turtle species: western painted turtle, snapping turtle, midland smooth softshell turtle, eastern spiny softshell turtle, red-eared slider, northern map turtle, Ouachita map turtle, northern false map turtle, ornate box turtle, Blanding's turtle, wood turtle, eastern musk turtle and yellow mud turtle. Many of Iowa's turtle species are aquatic or semi-aquatic, living in lakes, ponds, rivers, streams, marshes and wetlands. Ornate box turtles are primarily terrestrial, meaning they spend nearly all of their life on land, often in prairie areas. Western painted turtles, snapping turtles, and eastern spiny softshell turtles are widespread across the state and are turtles you may be likely to encounter. Western painted turtles get their name from their bright coloration and can be identified by their plastron (the bottom of the shell) that has a yellow and orange design outlined

in black. Snapping turtle adults are typically large with a large head in comparison to their body and a large, sharp, beak. Snapping turtles have a very distinctive appearance with a dark brown to black carapace (the top of their shell) that has spikes at the back, a long tail with bumps along the top, and a reduced plastron with a tan or yellow color. Eastern spiny softshell turtles get their name from their soft and flexible shell which has short spines along the upper portion near their head. This is one way they can be distinguished from the similar-looking smooth softshell turtle. They have a very long neck with a long, narrow, snout and large webbed feet. Eastern spiny softshell turtles often have circular markings on their carapace. Many of Iowa's turtle species are in decline due to threats such as habitat loss and road mortalities. Since most of Iowa's turtles spend part or much of their lives in or near water, they depend on healthy streams, rivers, ponds, wetlands and lakes. Turtles are long-lived animals and take a long time to reach reproductive age. Few young turtles reach that age. Therefore, the loss of even a few adult turtles from an area can be very detrimental to a local population.

All of Iowa's turtles, other than painted turtles and red-eared sliders, are identified in Iowa's State Wildlife Action Plan as species of greatest conservation need. Blanding's turtles, ornate box turtles and eastern musk turtles are listed as state threatened, and wood turtles and yellow mud turtles are listed as state endangered, meaning it is illegal to kill or collect these species. To help turtles, contribute to non-game wildlife conservation through the Chickadee Checkoff, buy a Natural Resources License Plate or donate directly to the Wildlife Diversity Program. Avoid hitting turtles in the roadway and move them out of the roadway if it is safe for you to help them. Make sure to never pick up a turtle by the tail as this can damage their spine. Handle snapping turtles only if you know how to safely and properly handle them. Make sure to always move the turtles across the road in the direction they were headed, and never take a turtle with you to a different location.

You can take steps to make your property or yard more wildlife friendly, and even if it doesn't benefit turtles directly, there are many indirect benefits. Check out iowaherps.com or herpnet.net to learn more about Iowa's turtle species.

CLASSIFIEDS

LEGAL NOTICES

BROOKLYN, IOWA
June 4, 2025
The Board of Trustees of Brooklyn Municipal Utilities met in regular session at the utility office. The roll called showing Mary Jo Upham and Pat Coleman present. The minutes of May 1, 2025 meeting were read and upon motion by Upham and second by Coleman were approved as read. The manager's reports were reviewed and upon motion by Upham and second by Coleman were approved. Upon motion by Upham and second by Coleman the following bills were allowed and paid from the General Fund.
Treasurer State of Iowa sales, option, use tax \$ 2,956.73
Employee May wages \$ 20,120.78
Treasurer State of Iowa state w/h \$ 767.66
IPERS w/h \$ 4,272.14
EFTPS federal w/h \$ 6,644.90
Clayton Energy May reservation \$ 4,075.98
Clayton Energy April commodity \$ 2,690.83
PEFA, Inc April commodity \$ 7,869.07
Simca April Powerbill \$ 50,838.08
Brooklyn Grocery fuel, supplies \$ 476.50
Crossroads repairs \$ 3,892.71
City of Brooklyn expenses pd by city \$ 878.43
Brooklyn Hardware supplies \$ 54.55
Brooklyn Ruritan Club Car Show donation \$ 50.00
Brooklyn Telecommunications phone, internet \$ 705.63
T&R Electric supplies \$ 30,840.01
CJ Cooper drug test \$ 290.00
Bear Creek Insurance insurance \$ 715.00
Quill supplies \$ 110.36
Intercounty Cable cable \$ 104.50
Visa supplies \$ 34.24
USPS postage, rent \$ 337.17
DGR Engineering services \$ 2,520.00
Halls Feed & Seed supplies \$ 270.98
Audas Sanitation dumpster rent \$ 64.84
Brooklyn Comm. Development donation \$ 700.00
Iowa One Call emails \$ 20.70
Troy Meldrem reimbursement \$ 50.00
Napa supplies \$ 12.83
WMPF Group ad \$ 38.16
Brooklyn Utilities gas, water, sewer \$ 101.95
Brooklyn Hardware supplies \$ 64.18
Brooklyn Lumber supplies \$ 118.71
Alex Pladsen reimbursement \$ 561.30
Upfront Floral donation \$ 47.62
Stuart C Irby supplies \$ 2,464.07
Skarshaug testing, clothing \$ 2,599.90
Meeting adjourned.
Attest:
Troy Meldrem, Board Secretary

June 2, 2025
The Poweshiek County Board of Supervisors met in regular session at 8:30 a.m. Members present: Jacki Bolen, Jason Roudabush, and Jeff Tindle. Moved by Roudabush, 2nd by Bolen to approve agenda. 3 ayes. Motion carried. Moved by Bolen, 2nd by Roudabush to approve May 29, 2025, board minutes. 3 ayes. Motion carried. Moved by Roudabush, 2nd by Bolen to approve certificate of appointment for Sawyer Tindle, Mechanic, Secondary Road, effective June 16, 2025; rate of pay \$29.87 per hour. Jeff Tindle abstained from voting. 2 ayes. Motion carried. Brian Paul, Emergency Management Director, discussed the NIMS/NQIS Implementation Plan. The purpose of this plan is to provide a strategy on how Poweshiek County will implement the National Incident Management System (NIMS) through the National Qualification System (NQS) and be prepared to respond to and manage the full spectrum of potential incidents, hazards, and impacts, regardless of size, complexity or location. Paul stated he receives federal and state funding through an emergency preparedness grant (EMPG), and part of the grant requirement is to have this plan for disaster response and preparedness. The plan lays out the different roles and responsibilities and who from within the county will fulfill those roles. Individuals filling the needed roles will be required to have education and training in order to operate in that role. Paul will set up department head meetings with county officials to discuss the plan, receive their feedback, and get names of individuals to fill the necessary roles. Before implementation of the plan, the board will need to adopt a resolution. Lytle Brehm joined the meeting. Brehm anticipates asphalt work will be completed this week on 480th, weather permitting. Shoulder rock, rumble strips on the side/center of the road, and pavement markings will still need to be completed. Once completed with asphalt on 480th, Manatts will move to continue work on Old 6 Rd east of Hwy 21 into Victor. Board reviewed the drafted job description for the Assistant Veterans Service Officer. Board requested Auditor to make some revisions and place on agenda for approval at next board meeting. Auditor will then forward to VA Director and VA Commission for their approval. Moved by Bolen, 2nd by Roudabush to approve a letter to Governor Reynolds asking her to line-item veto Section 42 of SF659. 3 ayes. Motion carried. Bolen is attending Grinnell Food Coalition meeting on Wednesday. Moved by Bolen, 2nd by Roudabush at 10:54 a.m. to adjourn. Melissa Ellander, Poweshiek County Auditor
Jeff Tindle, Chairman

June 5, 2025
The Poweshiek County Board of Supervisors met in regular session at 8:30 a.m. Members present: Jacki Bolen, Jason Roudabush, and Jeff Tindle. Also present Simone Bates, The Record. Moved by Bolen, 2nd by Roudabush to approve agenda. 3 ayes. Motion carried. Moved by Roudabush, 2nd by Bolen to approve June 2, 2025 board minutes. 3 ayes. Motion carried. Moved by Bolen, 2nd by Roudabush to approve June 6, 2025 payroll for \$318,910.45. 3 ayes. Motion carried.

LEGAL NOTICES

Moved by Roudabush, 2nd by Bolen to approve Utility Permit #25-17U to ITC Midwest LLC for work in Sections 17 & 18, Grant Township. 3 ayes. Motion carried. Sandy Ross, Treasurer, discussed with the board the request for an abatement on mobile home taxes. Ross stated the mobile home park in Victor has two mobile homes that were delinquent on taxes. Ross reached out to the E & J Mobile Home Park owner and was advised that the City of Victor bought the land. Ross reached out to the City of Victor and was informed that the mobile homes were scrapped and the remains buried. Ross stated that since the mobile homes are no longer on the property in Poweshiek County, per Iowa Code 435.25, all taxes shall be abated by resolution by the county board of supervisors. It was moved by Bolen, 2nd by Roudabush to approve Resolution #2025-35, abatement of mobile home taxes. 3 ayes. Motion carried.
Resolution #2025-35
WHEREAS, the Poweshiek County Treasurer has made a written recommendation to the Poweshiek County Board of Supervisors and has determined that it is impractical to pursue collection of the total amount due through tax sale and the personal judgment remedies of the following tax sale certificates; and
WHEREAS, a compromise has been reached and the following tax adjustment will be made to the taxes:
Owner of record: Simpson Melvin Lester & Gerard Linda Kay
Mobile home: 1980 Shar-Lo - VIN#8075 - Title 79AA07485
Location taxed: E & J Mobile Home Park, Lot 1003, Victor, IA
Tax to abate: 2025 MH \$165.00
Owner of record: Van Scovoc Albert E
Mobile home: 1996 Artcraft Catalina - VIN#A069235 - Title 48-W061874
Location taxed: E & J Mobile Home Park, Lot 6, Victor, IA
Tax to abate: 2024 MH \$247.00
2025 MH \$213.00
Tax Sale \$ 80.00
\$540.00
Total to abate: \$705.00
WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors feels that it is in the best interest of the public and the petitioners to abate the above taxes.
THEREFORE, the Board of Supervisors hereby directs Sandy K. Ross, Poweshiek County Treasurer, to abate the aforementioned taxes from the tax records.
So resolved this 5 day of June 2025.
Jeff Tindle, Chairman
Jason Roudabush, Vice-Chairman
Jacki Bolen, Member
Melissa Ellander, County Auditor
Ross provided a quarterly update on the Treasurer's department, stating that the delinquent tax list has been published. Ross stated there were 265 parcels advertised, and as of today, there only remain 176 parcels totaling around \$168,000 of uncollected taxes. Ross further provided an update on the driver's license office and motor vehicle office. Board received sealed bids for the baling of grass hay at the Poweshiek County Landfill site, located at 1151 Hwy 63, Malcom. Board received the following bid:
• Murlin McCain, \$25.35 per ton
Moved by Roudabush, 2nd by Bolen to accept bid from Murlin McCain for \$25.35 per ton. 3 ayes. Motion carried. Jennifer Anderson joined the meeting. Board discussed the candidates interviewed to be considered for appointment to fill the vacancy of Poweshiek County Treasurer, effective July 1. After careful consideration, it was moved by Roudabush, 2nd by Bolen, to authorize the Auditor to publish notice of the Board's intent to appoint Jennifer Anderson to fill the vacancy of Poweshiek County Treasurer. 3 ayes. Motion carried. Said notice of intent will set forth the name of the individual, date of intended appointment, and information on how citizens may petition for a special election. This notice will run in the

LEGAL NOTICES

official newspapers June 19 & 20. Board reviewed the updated job description for Assistant Veterans Service Officer. Moved by Bolen, 2nd by Roudabush to approve the job description for a new position of Assistant Veterans Service Officer, subject to further approval by the county VA Commission. 3 ayes. Motion carried. Moved by Roudabush, 2nd by Bolen to approve cigarette/tobacco license renewal for TA Operating LLC, dba Travel Centers of America, 4124 N18 Rd., Brooklyn, IA. 3 ayes. Motion carried. Jennifer Norris met with the board to express her interest in the General Assistance duties in addition to her current position within the driver's license department. Norris stated she has experience working with low-income assistance and is interested in taking on these duties with Poweshiek County. Board stated they would pay \$5,200 per year for these duties. Board discussed with Norris the concern about her time with the current FT position to allow for additional time to cover the General Assistance duties. Norris stated she was confident she would have the necessary time. Moved by Bolen, 2nd by Roudabush to approve a certificate of appointment for Jennifer Norris as General Assistance Director effective June 9, 2025, receiving a stipend of \$5,200 per year. Bolen - aye; Roudabush - aye; Tindle - nay. Motion carried. Board received Recorder's Report of Fees collected for the month ending May 31, 2025. Bolen read an e-mail she received from Brian & Erin Lee concerning the speed limit on Diamond Trail Road from Lake Ponderosa to just East of 110th Street, requesting the county to consider a lower speed limit. Moved by Bolen, 2nd by Roudabush at 10:26 a.m. to adjourn. Melissa Ellander, Poweshiek County Auditor
Jeff Tindle, Chairman

DOES YOUR basement or crawl space need some attention? Call Thrasher Foundation Repair! A permanent solution for waterproofing, failing foundations, sinking concrete and nasty crawl spaces. FREE Inspection & Same Day Estimate. \$250 off ANY project with code GET250. Call 1-866-554-1730

IF YOU HAD KNEE OR HIP REPLACEMENT SURGERY and suffered an infection between 2020 and the present time, you may be entitled to compensation. Call Attorney Charles H. Johnson 1-800-535-5727

PREPARE FOR power outages today with a Generac Home Standby Generator. Act now to receive a FREE 5-Year warranty with qualifying purchase. Call 1-855-954-5087 today to schedule a free quote. It's not just a generator. It's a power move.

SAFE STEP. North America's #1 Walk-In Tub. Comprehensive lifetime warranty. Top-of-the-line installation and service. Now featuring our FREE shower package and \$1600 Off for a limited time! Call today! Financing available. Call Safe Step 1-844-376-4154



Blanding's turtle, a threatened species in Iowa, crosses a road. (Photo by Iowa Department of Natural Resources)

AROUND-THE-CLOCK RELIABILITY

