

**ADA HAYDEN HERITAGE PARK  
AMES, IOWA  
(2002-2003)**

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**PROJECT SPONSOR:** City of Ames, Iowa

**PROJECT AREA:** 430 Acres

**IMPROVEMENT COST:**

Total projected construction cost \$3.8 million

**CONTACT:** Paul Wiegand  
Public Works Director  
City of Ames, Iowa

**PROJECT CONCEPT:** The Ada Hayden Heritage park project is a 430-acre site including two lakes with an approximate surface area of 125 acres. The two lakes are a remnant of the gravel quarry formerly occupying the site. During unseasonably dry years, water from these lakes is pumped into the nearby Skunk River to replenish the drinking water aquifer. The primary project goal is to preserve these bodies of water and improve the water quality of the lakes to remain a viable solution as a secondary drinking water source. This will be accomplished through the creation of bioengineered wetland treatment cells for storm water runoff from existing and future residential development.

**PROJECT ACCOMPLISHMENTS:** The primary accomplishment of this project is the construction of three bioengineered wetland treatment cells in the west and southwest portions of the site. Another major accomplishment of the project is the stabilization of approximately three miles of shoreline. The entire site will be accessible by approximately three miles of asphalt trail and two miles of a secondary gravel trail. The secondary gravel trail will allow site patrons to explore the native prairie and wetland features within the park. Site visitors will enjoy other conveniences such as a restroom facility and picnic shelter, parking for cars and boat trailers, boat launch, handicap accessible fishing dock, and a pedestrian bridge between the two lakes. Coordination with the Iowa Department of Transportation, Army Corps of Engineers, Iowa Department of Natural Resources, and Story County Conservation Board was also necessary during the planning, design, and permitting phases of this project. Construction of the major project elements such as the wetland treatment cells, shoreline stabilization, and recreation trails will begin in 2003. Long term site improvements such as the native prairie restoration will be completed through voluntary efforts and the Story County Conservation Board over the next seven years.

