

Ames Tribune

Water quality monitors installed in the South Skunk River watershed

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Prairie Rivers of Iowa, in partnership with Story County Conservation and the city of Ames, installed two water quality monitoring units in the South Skunk River Watershed for the 2017 monitoring season. These units can be found at:

n Squaw Creek at Lincoln Way in Ames.

n East Indian Creek at S27 north of Maxwell.

These are the same locations where the units were placed during the 2016 monitoring season.

Each unit automatically takes samples bi-weekly, as well as during periods of higher flows, such as after heavy rains. These samples are then collected and taken to the state-certified lab in Ames for analysis. At the lab, the samples are tested for levels of nitrogen, phosphorus, E. coli, total suspended solids (TSS), coliform and ammonia. This data helps establish a baseline for the annual nutrient loads delivered to downstream waters.

As part of its educational efforts, Prairie Rivers of Iowa makes this water quality data available to the public monthly. To see the latest results, as well as learn more information about water quality efforts, please visit http://www.prrcd.org/watershed_waterways/waterqualitymonitoringresults/.

Prairie Rivers of Iowa — Prairie Rivers of Iowa is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization committed to strengthening Iowa's communities through the responsible stewardship of our natural resources. Prairie Rivers of Iowa's programs help Iowans conserve our state's natural and historical resources to enrich the lives of current and future generations.