

Golden Hills is a community-based non-profit serving rural western Iowa. We care about our natural resources, the Loess Hills, outdoor recreation & rural tourism, small towns, and the innovative, resilient rural spirit of our area.

Our mission: to develop and promote sustainable cultural and conservation projects that enhance quality of life and preserve the assets of rural western Iowa.



Land & Water Conservation

Hungry Canyons Alliance
East & West Nishnabotna Watershed
Management Coalition
Native Oaks Project

Loess Hills Prairie Seed Project
Rural/Urban Water Quality Practices
NRCS Iowa Dam Inventory



Rural Tourism & Outdoor Recreation

Frontier Iowa Trails
Loess Hills Missouri River Parks to
People Region
Southwest Iowa Art Tour
Iowa Trails Summit

Loess Hills National Scenic Byway™
Western Skies Scenic Byway™
Glacial Trail Scenic Byway™
Waubonsie Artists in the Parks Residency
Program



Community Backbone Support

Boost4Families
Corner Counties Early Childhood Area
Loess Hills Alliance
Friends of Waubonsie State Park

Loess Hills Development & Conservation
Authority
Western Iowa Development Association
The Naturalist School



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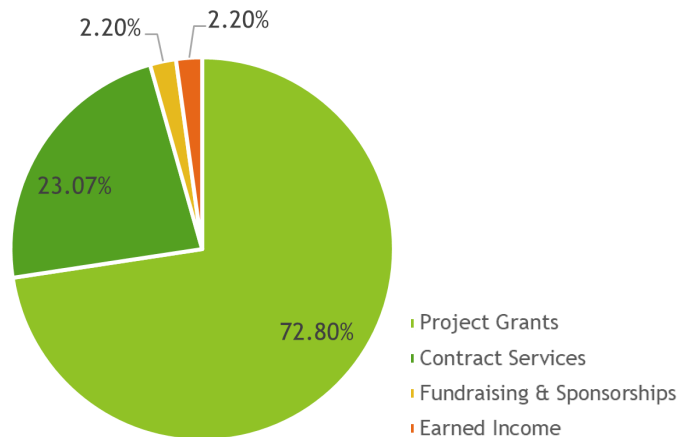
2020—What a year to be grateful for wide open spaces and small towns....

Rather than focus on all the things that didn't go right this year, we are happy to share some of the following highlights for 2020:

- Outdoor recreation use and exploration skyrocketed this year in response to the pandemic, bringing greater numbers of visitors to our parks, trails, cabins, and campgrounds.
- The Loess Hills Missouri River Parks to People Region wrapped up a three year challenge grant from the MidAmerican Energy Foundation and the Iowa Parks Foundation, leveraging a \$500,000 grant to more than \$17 million in collaborative outdoor recreation infrastructure projects in Harrison, Pottawattamie, and Mills Counties. Eight new cabins were built in our county parks.
- With funding through Iowa Economic Development Authority and the Iowa Watershed Approach, more than \$5 million in landowner cost share projects began construction to address flood resiliency and water quality in Fremont and Mills Counties, to build retention ponds, bioretention cells, water and sediment control basins, prairie strips, and grassed waterways.
- The Southwest Iowa Art Tour hosted its seventh annual event—abbreviated and socially distanced—but still showcased the amazing artistic talent in southwest Iowa and generating some much needed financial support for our local artists.
- Dozens of volunteers escaped to the scenic prairies of the Loess Hills to harvest local eco-type grass and forb seed this year, to help replenish and restore prairies in the region.
- We continued to construct bioretention cells and rain gardens through a partnership with the Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship in four counties, to create learning spaces and water filtration for rural communities.
- In February, we partnered with TS Bank, SWIPCO, and Western Iowa Development Association to hold the first Southwest Iowa Community & Economic Development Forum.



2020 Revenue Sources



Our 2020 Funding Partners

Iowa Economic Development Authority
USDA Natural Resource Conservation Service
Iowa Department of Transportation
Iowa Department of Agriculture & Land Stewardship
Mills County Board of Supervisors
Harrison County Board of Supervisors

Pottawattamie County Board of Supervisors
Iowa West Foundation
Clif Bar Family Foundation
Pottawattamie County Community Foundation
Iowa Department of Natural Resources REAP
Fremont County Tourism
Gilchrist Foundation

Our Board of Directors

Barry Deuel, Shelby County
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Jon Herzberg, Page County
Sheryl Sanders, Fremont County

Walter Utman, Harrison County
Steve Baier, Cass County
Mark Peterson, Montgomery County
Lynn Grobe, Pottawattamie County