**RACCOON RIVER WATERSHED ASSOCIATION**

**RESEARCH GRANT PROGRAM, 2023**

**Mission: To preserve and enhance the river and its watershed through education, research, community engagement and meaningful partnerships**

The Raccoon River Watershed Association, RRWA, is an all-volunteer non-profit organization.

The RRWA will offer a research grant for the 2023 field research season to support research projects concerning life, water quality, physical processes, or other relevant topics in the Raccoon River watershed. The RRWA Research Committee will accept proposals for funding that are submitted by **January 20, 2023**, or on a rolling basis after that as funding allows. The RRWA Research Committee intends to announce the grant recipient(s) on February 24th, or within six weeks of proposal receipt (whichever is later). Funds will be awarded to the recipient of the grant prior to research being conducted. Please see below for the grant recipient criteria and expectations. The amount of funding that will be given to the successful applicant for a research project in the Raccoon Rivers Watershed will be up to $2,500.

This grant is generally set up to support student research overseen by professors or teachers at the high school or college level. However, any proposed research that will lead to a greater appreciation of, understanding of, or protection for natural systems in the watershed will be considered.

The criteria and expectations for the 2023 grant recipient are as follows:

* The applicant must design and conduct original research in the Raccoon River watershed and/or the immediate surrounding area.
* A summary report of the findings must be submitted to the RRWA Research Committee by **March 1, 2024**.
* The recipient is also expected to present their findings at the “Life in the Raccoon” conference, to be held during the spring or summer of 2024. An oral presentation is preferred, but a poster presentation can also be given.
* The recipient also agrees to have their research promoted on the RRWA website including potentially a short video of them describing their work.

The RRWA will enter into a 3-year embargo on the public release of data if a request is made with, or before, the written report is submitted by March 1, 2024 for the sole purpose of publishing the data in a peer-reviewed publication. The embargo applies solely to the release of raw data—the RRWA reserves the right to publish conclusions drawn from the analysis that are reported in the written report or presentation at the annual conference.

RRWA Research and Education Grant Application Form

Applicant name:

Institutional affiliation:

Applicant’s school or professional address:

Applicant’s phone:

Applicant’s e-mail:

Applicant’s supervisor (if applicable):

Supervisor’s phone:

Supervisor’s e-mail:

Title of the project:

Please include a proposal of your research project with the following: research plan, research methods, materials needed (highlight what you are requesting from the RRWA, time commitment, schedule of activities, budget). Please limit proposals to **no more than five pages single spaced**, including figures, tables, references, and other information that you wish to include.

Submit by e-mail to Michael Murphy (anglermurphy@msn.com) by midnight of **January 20, 2023**.

The review committee will be made up of members of the RRWA Board of Directors.