



News release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: March 31, 2021

Contact: Kristen Dearden, 515-334-1482, kdearden@iasoybeans.com

AG RETAILER GROUP ANNOUNCES NEW PARTNER, ANNUAL REPORT PUBLISHED

Ankeny, Iowa — Agriculture's Clean Water Alliance (ACWA) is pleased to announce a new partner in the group's work to improve water quality. Nationwide Insurance has joined the organization as an Associate member.

ACWA members are comprised of agricultural retailers who are in direct competition but have been united for two decades in the goal of improving and protecting water quality in the Des Moines and Raccoon River watersheds. The ACWA board recently completed a strategic planning process to envision to work for the next 20 years. One of the outcomes of the strategic plan is to expand its membership. As the number one farm and ranch insurer, Nationwide's Associate membership with ACWA provides another avenue of outreach for water quality improvement.

"After talking with the folks at Nationwide, it was clear they support their members and continue to stay abreast of issues that impact them," says Roger Wolf, ACWA executive director. "Having Nationwide align with ACWA will help the company stay informed on water quality efforts, and in turn, provide extraordinary care for their members and farming associates."

ACWA Associate members have representation at ACWA board meetings but are not voting members. Associate member representatives provide valuable input and ideas to board decisions and priorities. ACWA members regard their associate members as an integral part of the organization.

“Nationwide has been a key component to our retailers’ and growers’ businesses in Iowa for decades,” says Eric Scherder, ACWA board member representing Corteva Agriscience.

“Nationwide continues to support agriculture initiatives that benefit various aspects of our businesses ranging from financial safety, crop and input education efforts, along with safety on the farm and in the classroom. It was a natural fit for Nationwide to join ACWA’s efforts to improve water quality as we look for ways to meet the growing needs for food and fiber but in more environmentally stable ways.”

2020 Annual Report available online, in print

The ACWA 2020 annual report has recently been published and is available on the website. The annual report highlights some of the organization’s accomplishments, which are significant in the midst of the Covid-19 pandemic. Highlights include an overview of the strategic planning outcomes, announcement of ACWA’s partnership with the national Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP) grant, a feature on the new Conservation Agronomists in place in the watersheds, a recap of the Farm to River Partnership, and an update of ACWA’s keystone work in water monitoring.

For more information and to read the annual report, visit the ACWA website: www.acwa-rrws.org.

Agriculture’s Clean Water Alliance (ACWA) is a non-profit association whose mission is identifying and advancing solutions that reduce nutrient loss, build healthier soils, and improve Iowa’s waters. ACWA is recognized for its ability to build upon its members’ extensive relationship with farmers across Iowa.