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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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FEDA Presented Traveling Storm Water Conference Excellence Award

Fairfield, (IOWA) – The Fairfield Economic Development Association (FEDA), on behalf of the Fairfield Urban Steward Alliance (FUSA) recently received the 2007 Storm Water Conference Award for Excellence. Jim Gevock of the Jefferson Soil and Water Conservation District and David White, District Conservationist with the USDA’s Natural Resources Conservation Service presented the award to Brent Willett, FEDA executive director.

FUSA, an alliance of 21 public, private and non-profit entities, was formed to create a storm water run-off control program for the FEDA industrial park in Fairfield. The completed project consists of a large water retention pond surrounded by indigenous wildflowers and grasses. Also included are and several smaller filtration ponds and an eco-parking lot which allows water to slowly percolate and enter the retention pond after being naturally cleansed. The project sits on land donated by FEDA.

“FEDA is proud to have been a part of what has been an unprecedented collaborative effort between the public and private sector,” Willett said. “We recognize the ongoing importance of intelligent storm water management and have been pleased with this project. FEDA will continue to explore ways to support conservation projects like this and we look forward to partnering with the community on similar projects in the future.”

White added, “The level of cooperation from the 21 member partners has been astonishing. This project, with so many contributors and interests, nevertheless progressed swiftly and right on schedule.”

As a result of the project, water runoff from nearby industrial park businesses reaches the pond naturally cleansed and purified, resulting in improved water and soil quality throughout the park and extending into the Jefferson County Park system. The Excellence Award will remain on display at FEDA offices for a period of six months, after which the award will travel to another FUSA member for display.

FEDA, established in 1977, works closely with local community development organizations, financial institutions and businesses, as well as agencies and elected officials in local, county, state and federal government to help facilitate economic growth in Fairfield by providing assistance in locating financing for business and community development projects, grant administration and land development. The non-profit organization is governed by a seven-member Board of Directors.

For more information on FEDA, contact Brent Willett at 472.2111 or bwillett@fairfieldiowa.com