Date January 24, 2023

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**Cover Crop Workshop to be held February 14 in Orange City**

AMES, Iowa – [Iowa Learning Farms](http://www.iowalearningfarms.org), in partnership with [Consortium for Cultivating Human And Naturally reGenerative Enterprises (C-CHANGE)](https://cchange.research.iastate.edu/), will host a cover crop workshop on Tuesday, February 14 from 12:00-2:00 p.m. at the Sioux County Extension Office. We welcome farmers and landowners to attend the free event, which includes a complimentary meal catered by Nederlander’s Grill.

Cover crops offer many benefits to farmers and landowners, including reduced soil erosion, weed suppression potential, reduced nitrogen and phosphorus loads entering water bodies, increased organic matter in the soil and forage potential for livestock. When paired with no-tillage or strip-tillage, additional benefits include increased water infiltration to further reduce erosion during heavy rain events. Workshop attendees will have the opportunity to learn more about these opportunities, ask questions, and share their experiences.

The discussion will be facilitated by Dr. Jacqueline Comito, Iowa Learning Farms program director, Dr. Matt Helmers, Iowa Nutrient Research Center director, and Mark Licht, associate professor and extension cropping systems specialist with Iowa State University Extension and Outreach, and Liz Ripley, Iowa Learning Farms conservation and cover crop outreach specialist.

The workshop will be held in the basement room of the Sioux County Extension Office, 400 Central Ave NW Suite 700, Orange City, IA 51041. The event is free and open to farmers and landowners, though we require reservations to ensure adequate space and food. For reasonable accommodations and to RSVP, please contact Liz Ripley at 515-294-5429 or [ilf@iastate.edu](mailto:ilf@iastate.edu). Attendees will be entered in a drawing that evening for ISU Prairie Strips honey.

Iowa Learning Farms field days and workshops are supported by the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service and this project is supported by USDA NIFA award 2020-68012-31824. For more information about Iowa Learning Farms, visit [www.iowalearningfarms.org](http://www.iowalearningfarms.org/).

**About Iowa Learning Farms**

Established in 2004, Iowa Learning Farms is building a Culture of Conservation by encouraging adoption of conservation practices. Farmers, researchers and ILF team members are working together to identify and implement the best management practices that improve water quality and soil health while remaining profitable. Partners of Iowa Learning Farms include the [Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship](http://www.iowaagriculture.gov/), [Iowa State University Extension and Outreach,](https://www.extension.iastate.edu/) [Leopold Center for Sustainable Agriculture](http://www.leopold.iastate.edu/), [USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service,](https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/site/ia/home/) and [Iowa Department of Natural Resources](http://www.iowadnr.gov/) ([USEPA section 319](https://www.epa.gov/nps/319-grant-program-states-and-territories)) and [GROWMARK, Inc](https://www.growmark.com/).

**Related Links:** <https://www.iowalearningfarms.org/events-1>

**Image:** Credit Iowa Learning Farms

