

# Iowa Rivers revival

January 13, 2012

**Helping Iowans  
restore, protect  
and enjoy our  
rivers.**

Mayor Jim Erb  
Mr. Tom Brownlow, City Administrator  
105 Milwaukee Mall  
Charles City, IA 50616

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Dear Mayor Erb and Mr. Brownlow:

We are very pleased to inform you that Charles City has been voted “River Town of the Year” by Iowa Rivers Revival. The vision and the efforts of Charles City leaders to enhance the city’s connections with the Cedar River are impressive, and influential to many other communities.

We especially admire the city’s positive response to recent devastating floods. Rather than separate the city from the Cedar, you chose to embrace new ideas, including transforming a low-head dam into a popular whitewater park, developing a new riverside park with recreational opportunities for all ages, and redesigning a beloved bridge. In addition to new amenities, Charles City is addressing wastewater issues, including a new disinfection system and use of permeable paving projects to slow down storm water discharge, and finding ways to connect youth with the Cedar. With these and other efforts, Charles City is forging a very good future with the Cedar River.

We believe Charles City’s accomplishments and ongoing efforts will be admired, discussed and emulated by other Iowa river towns for a long time to come.

We look forward to conferring the River Town of the Year Award at a reception Friday, Feb. 3, at the Charles City Library, with the public welcome to attend (10:30 a.m., Zastrow River Room). We also will celebrate Charles City and its River Town award on Feb. 13 in Des Moines.

Please accept our heartiest congratulations on this award.

Sincerely,



Jerry Peckumn  
Board Chair

Rosalyn Lehman  
Executive Director  
515.202.7720  
[rlehman@iowarivers.org](mailto:rlehman@iowarivers.org)  
[www.iowarivers.org](http://www.iowarivers.org)