City: Griswold  
Population: 1036  
Contact name: Nick MacGregor  
Phone: 712-778-2615  
City Manager  
Email: griscity@netins.net  
Source Water Protection

In a few sentences, give a summary of the project and why it was needed.  
Griswold's Source Water Protection Project evolved as a plan to reduce nitrate levels in our drinking water to avoid being required to purchase a costly nitrate removal system. The committee for this project is made up of local farmers, a local business owner, city officials and city employees.

The City's well houses are located outside of city limits making the farmers essential for the success of the project. With the help of IDNR and NRCS a 'capture zone' was determined as the target area to focus on. Source Water Protection is an ongoing effort and applying cover crop within the 'capture zone' was the first step taken towards achieving our goal to reduce nitrate levels. In August 2013, rye was applied to 155 acres of our 610 acre capture zone, paid for by NRCS (share cost grant for the farmers) and by money the Cass County Soil and Water Conservation District committed to the City of Griswold to help our project move forward. The IDNR has installed four monitoring wells for monthly water samples to be tested and recorded. Griswold has received a Conservation Innovation Grant to be used over a three year period. The goal is to cover the entire capture zone with cover crop along with implementing new ideas towards nitrate reduction.

The committee continues to discuss new and old ideas that could be implemented for the protection of Griswold's drinking water. It is important to understand this project is not intended to be an instant fix but more of a lifetime commitment.

Project Funding and Execution:  
will vary every year- FY14 was no cost to the city  

Total Cost/Projected Cost of Project: ☐ or ☐ no cost  
List where funding came from (grants, donations, city funds, etc.)  
Federal Conservation Innovation Grant, Cass County Soil and Water Conservation District donation, City Funds Commitment, volunteer time

Total time project took/projected to take for completion:  
(to qualify project must be operating or completed between January 1, 2013 and December 31, 2013)  
8-2013  
Start date  
End date  

☐ Project is ongoing

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Explain the specific role of your city in this project. The City is the hub of the Source Water Protection Project facilitating all meetings and sources of funding. The City employees will test monthly the nitrate levels at each monitoring well and each well house, these results will be recorded and filed. It is essential the City of Griswold maintain open communication with all entities involved. Grant opportunities will always be looked for and applied for to help offset any cost of the project.

In a few sentences, what future impact will this project have on your community? The intentions of the project is to reduce the nitrate levels within the City's drinking water to a level where the city is not in jeopardy of obtaining a mandatory nitrate removal system.

With that said, a project like this involving farmers working together with the City to achieve one common goal would surely bring community interest. This may lead to the community wanting to become more involved in other innovative projects relating to our water and the protection of it.

Resources
Please list Web sites judges may reference if they seek additional information. Do NOT include supplemental paper information. Only information on this form or the sites listed will be used in the judging process.

iptv.org Griswold is featured in a couple Market to Market episodes

Signatures: (Must be signed to be eligible. Most members print to sign)

[Signatures]

Mayor

City Clerk

Return this form by Monday, April 7, 2014.

Iowa League of Cities
Attn: All-Star Community Awards
500 SW 7th Street, Suite 101
Des Moines, IA 50309
or
bethanycrile@iowaleague.org

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