



## Application Information

### **About the *Water Leaders Academy***

The Academy is a one year program that identifies community leaders and educates them about water issues and leadership skills. The program prepares participants to take active, cooperative approaches to decision making about water resources issues. Leading stakeholders and top policy making trainers serve as program facilitators and mentors.

The *Water Leaders Academy* is now accepting applications for the 2014 Academy class which will begin in **January 2014**. Application deadline is **October 31, 2013**. Applicants will be notified of acceptance by **December 1, 2013**.

### CRITERIA FOR ACCEPTANCE

- Commitment to understand Nebraska water issues;
- An interest in seeking leadership roles on public boards, commissions and water policy groups;
- Commitment to the community through proven voluntary activities.

### PARTICIPANT REQUIREMENTS

This leaders program seeks early to mid-career professionals with interests in water resources, production agriculture, law, business, fisheries, wildlife and recreation or environmental issues. The program involves a time commitment from the participant which must be assured by the participant and his or her employer.

Participants will be required to:

- Commit to attend six 1½ days sessions. Each will commence on Thursday and concludes by 3 p.m. on Friday.
- Session locations will vary across the state and will include field tour of varied water use projects.
- Sessions will be scheduled every two months. The schedule will be set in advance for the entire year-long program with confirmed dates and locations.
- Each participant will be required to produce and present an initial program about him or herself and their interests in water as well as a final program about a water related topic developed from the Academy experience.

### PROGRAM COST

The *Water Leaders Academy* is funded through grants, scholarships and tuition fees. The total program cost for 2014 participants is \$2,000 per person. A limited amount of scholarship support is available to assist with participant cost. If scholarship funds are required to participate, the applicant must submit a letter with this application outlining specific reasons for the request and the amount of support required to participate.

Each participant is required to personally pay \$500 toward program costs. This check must be written on the application's personal account and submitted with the application. Applications not conforming to these requirements will be rejected. Tuition fees cover attendance, meals and

lodging for program activities. Travel to Academy events and any additional lodging or meals prior to or following Academy events is the responsibility of the participant.

APPLICATION (please print clearly or type)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address (Street, Road, P. O. Box): \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ (work)

\_\_\_\_\_ (home)

\_\_\_\_\_ (cell)

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Business Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Job Title and Work Description: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

This additional information is **required** (applications that do not include this information will be rejected):

- One page (250 typewritten words) description of why you are interested in the program;
- Personal resume;
- Letter of support from your employer (unless you are the owner/operator)
- Non-refundable fee of \$500 (written on your personal account) which will be applied to the program fee of \$2,000 due upon acceptance. If your application is not accepted for any reason, a full refund will be given. If the class is full, you may choose to be placed on the waiting list for the next class.

Please note that class size for the Academy is limited. Applicants who are not accepted will receive a complete refund.

**Submit this application form to:**  
The Nebraska State Irrigation Association  
*Water Leaders Academy*  
1233 Lincoln Mall, suite 201  
Lincoln, NE 68508

For questions, contact: Lee Orton, 402.476.0162