

## Explore More: Working Landscapes

How will you create a healthy working landscape?

### View your quest.

You have inherited 25,000 acres of land in the heart of the Loess Hills of western Iowa. Your land is rich in mineral deposits with fertile soil for farming. It has woodlands, wetlands, original prairie, and breath-taking views of the hills and the Missouri valley below. As a native of the Loess Hills area, you have always dreamed of creating a place that successfully balances social, ecological, and economic needs. Your dream is to create a healthy working landscape to serve as a living example for people across the country to model. How will you make your dream come true?

#### Find the problem.

- What are the current problems?  
Who does it involve?  
Where is the problem?
- What is happening?  
How is it affecting people, places, processes?
- What stands in the way?  
(individuals, groups, laws, conditions, situations, resources,...)

#### Explore possible solutions.

- What are some possible ways to overcome these problems? Are these possible solutions realistic? Reasonable? Workable? Feasible?
- What seems to be the most appropriate strategy or alternative for solving the problem?
- How would this solution solve the problems? What are the specific details? Is each step logical? Does each step lead to solving the problem?
- What are the likely consequences of putting this solution into place?

#### Recommend a solution.

- What is the best solution to the problem? What solution would I recommend? How would I defend my solution with reasoning and facts?
- What if none of the solutions work? Have I exhausted my possible solutions, and am I still unsatisfied? How can I rephrase, revise, reshape, or reframe my problem?
- Should I repeat this process with my newly reframed problem?

#### Get started.

Think about who the stakeholders are and why they have these ideas. Look for accurate, unbiased information. Think about the important facts and how you will use the information. Begin your quest with these clips...then explore more!

- David Zahrt: *Think Seven Generations Ahead*
- *What Is a Working Landscape, and What Three Elements Are in Balance?*
- *What Is Sustainable Economic Development?*
- *Tragedy of the Commons*
- *A Landowner's Bundle of Rights*
- Randy Carpenter: *What Is a Conservation Subdivision?*
- Tim Sproul: *Rancher Success Story*
- Sue Jennings: *Tourism's Role*

#### Organize your thoughts.

Use the graphic organizer on the next page to help you solve your DVDquest. Record your thoughts. Keep track of your evidence. The problem is "messy" but your solution to the DVDquest will be worthwhile.

#### Explore more.

Be sure to search other places on the DVD to find information about the problems, issues, and consequences of water quality and to gather support for your community action proposal for the city council.



# DVDquest: Solving a Problem

 Graphic Organizer

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

DATE \_\_\_\_\_

**DIRECTIONS:** Use the space below to record information and thoughts about your DVDquest. Keep in mind that the ideas you record may not make sense at first and may lead you down paths that you will later discard. The problem is "messy" but your solution to the DVDquest will be worthwhile.

**My DVDquest:**

My Goal(s):

Obstacles, barriers, limitations:

Reasons why these are obstacles, barriers:

These are three possible solutions to the problem:

1.

2.

3.

Testing the solutions:

**Solution #1:**

How would it work? What will it do?

**Solution #2:**

How would it work? What will it do?

**Solution #3:**

How would it work? What will it do?

**My Results:**

This is the best solution, and this is why.