**Sample Letter to the Editor - Farmer**

As a farmer in Iowa, I put my life into the business of producing food for others. Our family has maintained a proud tradition of farming our land. As a **{insert first, second, third, etc.}** generation farmer, it is important to make sure future generations have the same fertile ground to farm as I have.

Our rows of crops help feed America. And while people rely on us, what we rely on are healthy soils and waterways to produce quality products.

It’s time our legislators fund Iowa’s Natural Resources and Outdoor Recreation Trust Fund to protect the land and water so crucial to our agriculture.

The Natural Resources and Outdoor Recreation Trust Fund will improve Iowa’s soil health and water quality while reducing flooding and ensuring a sustainable water supply.

In 2010, 63% of Iowans voted to establish the Natural Resources and Outdoor Recreation Trust Fund. This fund is constitutionally protected to ensure 100% of the money is directed to conservation efforts. Yet, for the last six years, the fund has not received any dollars.

The solution is simple. The voters passed an amendment to the Iowa Constitution guaranteeing 3/8 of 1% of the next sales tax increase would have to be spent on natural resources. It is expected to raise $180 million annually. While this will bring millions to conservation, the average Iowa family will pay less than $1 per week to fund the trust. It is a great return on investment for a cleaner, healthier Iowa and better quality of life for all Iowans.

**{insert a few sentences about your personal story, and why this issue is important to you}**

I am urging our legislature to fund the trust in 2016. Please contact your lawmaker and ask them to do the same.