



Map Source: Iowa Department of Natural Resources, "Natural Resources Geographic Information Systems Library," <http://www.igsb.uiowa.edu/nrgislibx/>

Present-day Land Cover

The land-cover map depicts both natural and man-made land-cover types with aerial imagery. The Iowa DNR created 15 unique classes for this dataset to differentiate land covers. Refer to the legend for a breakdown of land-cover types within your community boundaries.

What do you observe about the dominant land-cover types in your community?

Where is the tree canopy most concentrated?

Look at how much of your community consists of impervious surfaces (e.g., parking lots, roads, buildings) compared to other surfaces (e.g., water, grass, and agriculture). What does this mean for surface-water movement?

Tree cover affects microclimate. Are places surrounded by canopy more pleasant in the summer? How do these places feel in the winter?

