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Institute Information

The Institute for Alternative Agriculture is a nonprofit, tax-exempt research and education organization established in 1983 to encourage and facilitate the adoption of low-cost, resource-conserving and environmentally-sound farming methods. It works closely with producer groups, public research and education institutions, and government agencies in promoting a sustainable agriculture system.

Its programs include providing a national information clearinghouse, serving as a voice for sustainable agriculture in Washington, and developing and implementing research and educational outreach programs. It holds an annual scientific symposium and publishes a monthly newsletter.

The Institute is governed by a 13-member Board of Directors, which includes several commercial-scale organic farmers, and maintains a small professional staff. It is supported by memberships and donations and grants from foundations, corporations, and individuals.

Cover

The cover diagram illustrates the relationships among agricultural land use, the underlying aquifer and ground water, and well water drinking supplies. It was developed to show the susceptibility of the farm family's drinking water to contamination from agricultural chemical use in Iowa. Original illustration by Patricia J. Lohmann, Geological Survey Bureau, Iowa Department of Natural Resources.