
AFIRM
Association for Integrated Roadside Management
Matt Sherman Memorial Scholarship
Application

Application Deadline: July 17, 2026

Matt Sherman attended Hawkeye Community College in 1998 to study integrated roadside vegetation management. He interned with Doug Sheeley during the summer of 1999 in Dallas County. Matt graduated from HCC with an Associate of Applied Science degree in Natural Resources Management in May 2000. He became Roadside Manager of Allamakee County following graduation. Matt became Assistant Biologist of Dallas County in 2001, working with his mentor, Doug Sheeley. Matt died January 9, 2003 at the age of 23.

Two \$500.00 scholarships are being offered in his name because, in his short professional life, Matt exemplified what a roadside manager is. His passion for prairies and using prairie species to vegetate the landscape soon became the passion of those around him.

The purpose of AFIRM, as stated in its by-laws:

- A. Support the Integrated approach to roadside vegetation management by:
 - 1. Promoting integrated roadside vegetation management for all Iowa roadsides.
 - 2. Collecting and disseminating information about best roadside vegetation management practices.
 - 3. Cooperating with organizations interested in integrated roadside vegetation management.
- B. Promote the professional development of roadside vegetation management.

PART I: IDENTIFICATION INFORMATION

Legal Name: _____

E-mail address: _____

Permanent Address: _____

City, State, ZIP: _____

Address While Attending College: _____

City, State, ZIP: _____

Parents: _____ Spouse: _____

Telephone Number: Permanent: _____ College: _____

High School Attended: _____

Year of High School Graduation: _____ or GED: _____

Major/Program Enrolled in or Planning to Enroll: _____

Start Date: Year _____ Semester _____

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PART II: SCHOLARSHIP INFORMATION

A) ACADEMIC INFORMATION

HS GPA _____ RANK: _____ SIZE: _____

Copy of transcript(s) from current high school or college must be attached.

College attended _____ Dates _____

College attended _____ Dates _____

B) RECOMMENDATION

It is required that you **attach a recommendation** prepared by a college or high school instructor, school administrator, counselor, employer, or other non-relative individual who can attest to your academic or personal qualifications.

C) WORK EXPERIENCE IN NATURAL RESOURCES/IRVM

Include any relevant paid or volunteer work experience in Integrated Roadside Vegetation Management specifically and Natural Resources Management in general.

D) PERSONAL STATEMENT

It is required that you **attach a statement** describing your educational and career goals and objects as they apply to the field of integrated roadside vegetation management.

All completed scholarship applications are to be submitted to:

AFIRM Scholarship Committee
c/o Sherlyn Hazen
Buchanan County Roadside Office
1511 1st Street East
Independence, Iowa 50644
(563) 920-2581

I certify that the information on this application is correct and complete to the best of my knowledge, and I hereby authorize employers/supervisors to release information concerning my qualifications to the Scholarship Committee. I understand that being awarded a scholarship is contingent upon meeting selection criteria and that I will be included in publicity relating to scholarship received.

Signature of Applicant

Date

Checklist – Attached Is:

- ☐ Recommendation
- ☐ Personal Statement
- ☐ Work Experience
- ☐ Transcript