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Media Contact:
Kathryn Kuckelman
The Harkin Institute for Public Policy & Citizen Engagement
kathryn.kuckelman@drake.edu
515-271-1895

(DES MOINES, Iowa – September 30, 2025) – [The Harkin Institute for Public Policy and Citizen Engagement](#) strongly encourages news outlets in every medium to provide in-depth coverage of the [upcoming release of the 2025 EAT-Lancet Commission](#) on October 3, 2025 (9:00 am-Noon, Central European Time; 2:00-5:00 am US Central Time). The 2025 Commission will be the first major scientific update to the [2019 EAT-Lancet Commission report “Food in the Anthropocene,”](#) which advocated for widely adopting environmentally sustainable diets and agricultural practices as a key step toward solving the mounting global climate crisis. We also encourage individuals concerned with the safety of food and water supplies, environmental health, and human wellbeing to join the online release of the 2025 Commission report.

EAT’s work in partnership with *The Lancet*, among the most trusted and influential journals of medicine in the world, aligns with The Harkin Institute’s longstanding commitment to advancing data-driven, achievable health and wellness solutions through informed policy and citizen education.

Recently, The Harkin Institute hosted a [panel discussion](#) on the [Central Iowa Source Water Research Assessment](#), a comprehensive analysis of the health of the Raccoon and Des Moines River watersheds. [Commissioned in 2023 by the Polk County \(Iowa\) Board of Supervisors](#) and conducted by sixteen scientists, including biologists, chemists, and environmental scientists, CISWRA identified threats to water quality, including upstream agricultural use of nitrate fertilizer and urban wastewater systems, among others.

“CISWRA demonstrates that agricultural practices, environmental health, and human and animal wellbeing are parts of a complex interlinked system,” explains Adam Shriver, director of Wellness and Nutrition Policy at The Harkin Institute. *“In examining the role of diet and the persistence of animal-centric foodways, the 2019 EAT-Lancet Commission not only shed light on the scope of the threat to wellbeing, but it also expanded the scope of interventions available to mitigate those threats.”*





The 2025 EAT-Lancet Commission report promises to “promot[e] a global shift towards a healthy and sustainable diet that benefits both people and the planet,” according to the project’s website. According to [EAT Forum’s](#) website, “EAT connects and translates science to policy, business and society to make food healthy, fair and sustainable for people and planet.”

“The Harkin Institute takes an interest in the work of any organization seeking to connect trustworthy research and data to policy and everyday practice,” says Craig Owens, Executive Director of the Harkin Institute. *“Those concepts are key [The Harkin Institute’s mission](#), too, and EAT Forum’s work aligns very clearly with our work in raising awareness about the impact of environmental health on water systems and the people who depend on them,”* Owens adds.

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Available to Media:

- Craig Owens, Executive Director, The Harkin Institute
- Adam Shriver, Director of Wellness and Nutrition Policy, The Harkin Institute

About The Harkin Institute: The Harkin Institute for Public Policy and Citizen Engagement at [Drake University](#) builds on the legacy of former Iowa Senator Tom Harkin in the areas of wellness and nutrition, disability policy, and retirement security. It promises to improve the lives of all by giving policymakers access to high-quality information and engaging citizens as active participants in the formation of public policy. The Harkin Institute is housed at [The Tom and Ruth Harkin Center](#), among the most universally accessible buildings in the world, named in honor of the Harkins’ shared commitment to public service.

