

Chicago Wilderness

A regional alliance dedicated to
protecting nature and enriching life

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CHICAGO WILDERNESS HONORS TOP CONSERVATION AND NATIVE LANDSCAPING PROJECTS

CHICAGO REGION –U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Region 5 and Chicago Wilderness today announced the recipients of their annual Conservation and Native Landscaping Awards.

“The Conservation and Native Landscaping Awards are a celebration of conservation excellence: the recipients are inspiring examples of passionate and hardworking stewards committed to restoring and enhancing the health of nature in our region,” said Melinda Pruett-Jones, executive director of Chicago Wilderness.

The awards recognize park districts, forest preserve districts, nonprofit organizations, local governments and corporations for exemplary natural landscaping, ecological restoration and conservation design projects. These practices create and protect habitat for a variety of native plant and animal species and result in important environmental benefits for both people and nature.

The winners were recognized on December 11, 2012, at the Chicago Botanic Garden’s Alsdorf Auditorium. The award recipients for outstanding conservation, native landscaping and sustainable design projects during 2012 are (project name, project manager):

- Gaslight Park Bird and Butterfly Sanctuary, Village of Algonquin
- Nature Trails, Chicago Academy of Sciences/Peggy Notebaert Nature Museum
- Henry Palmisano Park, Chicago Park District
- Sherman Park Lagoon Restoration, Chicago Park District
- Bergman Slough Land and Water Reserve, Forest Preserve District of Cook County
- McMahan Fen Nature Preserve, Forest Preserve District of Cook County
- Iroquois Sands, Friends of the Kankakee
- Heatherwood Estates Pond, Heatherwood Estates Homeowners Association
- Red Mill Park Great Lakes Ecosystem Restoration, LaPorte County Parks

- Nature Boardwalk at Lincoln Park Zoo, Lincoln Park Zoo
- Loyola Academy Wetland Restoration, Loyola Academy
- Naper Settlement Stormwater Management Improvements, City of Naperville
- Niles Community Rain Garden and Prairie Plant Project, Village of Niles

Conservation Developments will be awarded to the following (project name, project managers):

- Olde Schaumburg Center Parking Lot, Village of Schaumburg

Certificates of Merit will be awarded to the following (project name, project managers):

- Empowerment through Education and Exposure, Saferfoundation DOE

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About Chicago Wilderness

Chicago Wilderness is a regional alliance that connects people and nature. More than 260 public, private and corporate organizations work together to restore local nature and improve the quality of life for all who live here, by protecting the lands and waters on which we all depend. The four key initiatives of Chicago Wilderness—to restore the health of local nature, promote green infrastructure, mitigate climate change, and leave no child inside—reflect our commitment to using science and emerging knowledge, as well as a collaborative approach to conservation, to benefit all the region’s residents. For more information, visit www.chicagowilderness.org.