

Chicago Wilderness

2007–2008 ANNUAL REPORT



Chicago Wilderness is a regional alliance that connects people and nature. We are more than 230 organizations that work together to restore local nature and improve the quality of life for all living things, by protecting the lands and waters on which we all depend.



Embedded in one of North America's largest metropolitan regions and stretching from southern Wisconsin, through northern Illinois, into northwestern Indiana and southwestern Michigan is a network of natural areas that includes nearly 360,000 acres of protected lands and waters. These natural areas are Chicago's wilderness, and are home to a wide diversity of life. Thousands of native plant and animal species live here among the more than nine million people who also call the region home.

Chicago
Wilderness

New Beginnings

A Message From the Chair & Executive Director

It has been said that the only constant in nature is change. As we write this in early fall, it is most apparent in the change of seasons and the vibrant scenes we see outside. But change is also happening behind the scenes within the Chicago Wilderness alliance.

At the outset of Chicago Wilderness, we knew there was a lot at stake in how we defined ourselves and how we crafted our identity. Our name reflected a great metropolis linked to a vision of rare nature. Our logo—the nodding wild onion, an abundant prairie plant of the Chicago lake plain whose Pottawatomie name inspired the eventual name of the City itself—reinforced the place and

vision. In words we laid out what we stood for and what we wanted to accomplish. In our youthful ambition we aspired to take our messages and mission equally to all conceivable audiences. In the spirit of Daniel Burnham, “We made no little plans.”

The litany of our accomplishments has been recited in many places and need not be recapped here. Our identity served us well in coalition building those first 12 years. But we have matured as an organization and better appreciate the alliance’s role in the regional conservation effort and how to harness our collective passion to be most effective. We know the strengths and



limitations of the collaborative approach we have chosen. We better understand ourselves.

At the same time our model is undergoing necessary change as a result of shifts in the organization's funding base. As federal governmental support has assumed a lesser role, we have been actively cultivating new sources of funding and new partnerships. In doing so, we have to be absolutely clear about who we are, what we intend to do, and what value we bring to the region as a result of our collaborative effort. Communication, always important, has taken on a new urgency. A re-tooling was in order.

To this end, we began to distill our wide-ranging activities and priorities into a few primary initiatives that are reflected in the following pages: green infrastructure, restoration and management, climate change, and connecting children with nature. Our tools for communication have been revamped so that now, with an economy of words, you can communicate to others our identity and common values. Although the nodding wild onion had sentimental or spiritual value it did not mean much beyond the choir. So we have refined the Chicago Wilderness identity in the hope it will resonate with the larger population of our region. You'll see our new identity reflected in this report,

in our new Web site, and in all things Chicago Wilderness going forward.

Some might view the refinement of the Chicago Wilderness brand as cosmetic. We suggest it is an absolutely essential step in creating the most effective organization to deal with the current challenges and opportunities facing us: climate change, poor land health, the disconnection between people and nature, and poorly planned development that fails to integrate the green with the gray infrastructure.

Better understanding our strengths and matching these to the opportunities has driven these efforts. The underlying goal remains the same: finding that harmony between people and land that Aldo Leopold defined as conservation.

Sincerely,



John D. Rogner
Field Supervisor,
US Fish & Wildlife Service
and Chair, Chicago Wilderness



Melinda Pruett-Jones
Executive Director
Chicago Wilderness



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INITIATIVES

Chicago Wilderness is dedicated to enriching life
in our region through four strategic initiatives:

The Green Infrastructure Vision

Leave No Child Inside

Restoring the Health of Local Nature

Climate Change





Initiative 1

The Green Infrastructure Vision

NEARLY A CENTURY AGO, Daniel Burnham and Edward Bennett unveiled their 1909 Plan of Chicago, a framework for growth in the greater Chicago area. Often called the Burnham Plan, their vision included a network of forest preserve districts, open spaces and trails that have become a legacy unique to this region. Now, almost 100 years later, members and partners of Chicago Wilderness are building on that legacy to bring nature to people and make our metropolitan region an even more exceptional place to live and work, by implementing the Chicago Wilderness Green Infrastructure Vision.

The mosaic of natural areas in the Chicago Wilderness region, including woodlands, savannas,

prairies, wetlands, lakes, and streams, are our “green infrastructure,” and help clean our air and water, control flooding, and offer opportunities for outdoor recreation, exploration, and respite. They are as critical to the people in this region as our built environment and transportation systems.

The Green Infrastructure Vision paints a bold picture of what our region can look like if we are careful to protect these natural areas. The Vision maps out our existing green infrastructure and identifies 1.8 million acres of prospective protection and restoration areas—nearly one-third of the entire region. Yet the Vision is not just a land acquisition strategy, but rather a call to carefully think about how we can live in and among natural



Before



After



areas in a sustainable way and to mutual benefit, by using tools such as conservation development, conservation easements, and thoughtful land use planning. It is a guide to creating a region where healthy ecosystems contribute to economic vitality and a high quality of life for all residents.

Four Scales

Beginning in 2009, Chicago Wilderness members will begin a coordinated effort to implement the Vision at four scales:

REGIONAL, by working with regional planning agencies to redefine how we think about sustainability and community health by incorporating conservation development principles and natural resource preservation into regional land use and transportation plans;

COMMUNITY, by incorporating principles of biodiversity conservation and sustainability into local land use plans and ordinances;

NEIGHBORHOOD, by promoting the preservation of natural spaces, people-friendly design and access to nature in developing communities; and

SITE, by promoting nature in backyards through the use of native landscaping, rain gardens and rain barrels, and by promoting the greening of schoolyards and other community open spaces.

The Chicago Wilderness Green Infrastructure Vision is the blueprint for a region in which nature is accessible to all residents and the built environment reflects our commitment to sustaining a healthy environment for today, and for generations to come.

“Chicago Wilderness has established a dynamic model of citizen involvement and broad civic participation in restoring and protecting local natural areas in one of the nation’s most populous regions. Chicago Wilderness’ success is a hopeful sign for a nation that needs to reconnect with nature.”

—Larry Selzer,
President and CEO, The Conservation Fund







Initiative 2

Leave No Child Inside

CHICAGO WILDERNESS MEMBERS share a common dream: that residents of this region will live in a culture in which children enjoy and are encouraged to be outside in nature and, as a result, are healthier, have a sense of connection to this place, and become supporters and stewards of local nature. The Chicago Wilderness Leave No Child Inside initiative is helping to create that culture by raising public awareness about the importance of access to nature for healthy childhood development, and by providing the places and programs for generations of families to connect with nature.

A growing body of research is telling us that time spent outdoors in nature is critical to children's physical, social and emotional development. Research also shows that while time spent outside with parents, teachers or other adults is valuable, it is also important that children be encouraged to play on their own, to explore and simply *be* in nature. This unstructured time fosters creativity, emotional well-being, independent learning and problem solving. And, it lets kids connect with the place in which they live and the larger environment on which we all depend.

“In my experience, there is not always a lot of opportunity for large organizations and small groups to work with each other, as missions don't always overlap. Leave No Child Inside is a bridge that gives Fishin' Buddies commonality with a regional conservation coalition because connecting children with nature is something we are all striving to accomplish.”

— John Kidd, Jr.,
President, Fishin' Buddies!





Creating a Plan

To address the importance of connecting children and nature in our region, Chicago Wilderness members worked with a diverse group of educators, healthcare organizations, faith leaders, local businesses, and community representatives to create an action plan. The action plan identifies the need to expand successful programs such as Mighty Acorns, a school-based program that combines a science curriculum with exploration of local nature and hands-on stewardship of public lands; and to offer more overnight camping programs that create positive outdoor experiences and lasting impressions on children and families. Chicago Wilderness members are also creating training programs to help teachers and others who work with children facilitate play in nature in ways that enhance learning and foster caring relationships. In 2009, Chicago Wilderness members will also work with area high schools to incorporate new elements of nature discovery and exploration into service learning programs for teens. In these ways, Chicago Wilderness is fostering early and continued connections between children and nature for their benefit and so they may choose to conserve the region's natural heritage for their children as well.

“Through Leave No Child Inside, the Chicago Park District has offered once-in-a-lifetime opportunities for children and families to camp in city parks and the surrounding Chicago wilderness. Through strong collaboration with the Illinois Department of Natural Resources, Forest Preserve District of Cook County, Forest Preserve District of DuPage County, and the Indiana Dunes Environmental Learning Center, children and families have camped overnight in our unique dunes and woodlands. These immersion programs help kids and families ‘unplug’ and connect with each other and the natural world.”

—Peggy Stewart, Manager of Outdoor
and Environmental Education, Chicago Park District







Initiative 3

Restoring the Health of Local Nature

NATURE OFFERS US MANY BENEFITS:

outdoor recreation, opportunities for learning and discovery, spiritual renewal. Healthy ecosystems also provide us with clean air and water, filter pollution and help control flooding, and provide habitat for native wildlife. As residents of the Chicago Wilderness region, we are fortunate to have access to a large amount of open space and natural areas that have been conserved as part of the growing metropolitan region.

But the lands, waters, and wildlife—which provide us with so much—need our help as well. In an urban environment, natural areas become fragmented and disconnected, causing natural processes to break down. Active restoration and land management are needed to maintain the health of those natural areas for the people, plants, and animals that depend on them.

Unfortunately much of our local nature is not in good health. In 2006, Chicago Wilderness released a report card on local nature that assigned grades of C and D to our wetlands, woodlands, prairies, and rivers, with only a scattering of sites that, with attention and care, have been restored to grade A health.

To return local nature to a healthy condition, Chicago Wilderness members are actively managing the region's habitats through controlled burning, removal of invasive species, deer control, seeding of native plant species, and by engaging area residents as volunteer stewards of the landscape. Chicago Wilderness members also collaborate to build the capacity of conservation organizations to carry out their restoration work through member-to-member training programs and collaborative communication initiatives.

For example, for many years, land-managing agencies in the region used federal training programs for conducting controlled burns.

But because the programs were designed for use by land managers nationwide, they didn't include information specific to Midwestern ecosystems. Seeing the need for more region-specific information, and recognizing the efficiency that could be realized by having a common approach, members of Chicago Wilderness produced a training program on how to conduct controlled burns in this area. The training program is held several times a year at different locations around the region. This collaborative approach builds consistency in land management techniques, prevents duplication of efforts, and allows resources that would otherwise be used administering individual training programs to be put toward other conservation efforts.

As a complement to the training program, Chicago Wilderness members developed research-based tools for communicating about controlled burns to facilitate public communication





efforts and increase awareness of the need for this land management tool. And in 2008 the Forest Preserve District of Cook County, in association with Chicago Wilderness, held a conference to increase understanding and support for controlled burns among elected officials, local decision-makers and the public.

Reaching Out

Celebrating its 10th anniversary in 2007, *Chicago Wilderness Magazine* continued to introduce new audiences to the rich natural heritage of our region and the people and organizations collaborating to protect local nature. In its first decade, the magazine was recognized by *The Chicago Tribune* as one of the nation's top 50 magazines. The magazine, the diverse organizations of the Chicago Wilderness alliance, and all the volunteers committed to the mission of Chicago Wilderness speak volumes in our region with a powerful, collective voice advocating for the region's wild spaces. Our public communications, like our restoration and management efforts, are based on sound scientific principles, research, and emerging knowledge.

Measuring Progress

The progress of restoration efforts in the Chicago Wilderness region is measured through careful monitoring of plant and animal species by natural resource management professionals as well as citizen scientists—trained volunteers who help gather data on species that in turn helps inform resource management decisions. To ensure continued progress, Chicago Wilderness members have identified the need for clear long-term goals and the development of a system of indicators of health that can be used to measure progress over time across the entire region, and to inform the decisions natural resource managers make in caring for specific sites.

The development of such a system will be a future focus for Chicago Wilderness which, because of the diversity and breadth of its membership, is in a unique position to lead such a region-wide initiative. It will take many resources to re-establish and sustain the health of the region's natural spaces, but the organizations working collaboratively in Chicago Wilderness—and the individuals that support them—are up to the challenge.







Initiative 4

Climate Change

CLIMATE CHANGE TRULY presents an opportunity to think globally and act locally. While there are many studies showing the worldwide impact of climate change, its effect on specific regions and their biological diversity is yet unknown.

Thus, in 2007 Chicago Wilderness launched a climate change task force to study and make recommendations on adaptation strategies and models for mitigation to address the local impact of climate change. By June of 2008 the task force had produced a situation analysis and set of initial recommendations to Chicago Wilderness members that were endorsed by the entire alliance.

The analysis summarizes the findings of a number of scientific studies that project profound local impacts from climate change. These include changes in seasonal weather patterns and increased frequency of extreme weather events; increased flooding and diminished water quality; disruption of natural communities due to the different responses of species to climate change; and increased threats from invasive species and

insect and disease pathogens. It is also expected that the distribution and number of native trees, fish, and wildlife will change due to loss of habitat or changing conditions to which they can not adapt quickly enough. For example, as many as 44 bird species that breed in Illinois—such as the Yellow Warbler, Scarlet Tanager, and American Goldfinch—may no longer do so by the end of the century.

Based on these findings, the Chicago Wilderness alliance is now beginning to address local climate change on several fronts. First, Chicago Wilderness is facilitating timely information exchange among its members on emerging climate adaptation science and Chicago Wilderness members are developing strategies to adapt how we care for and manage our natural





resources to make them more resilient to climate disruptions.

Second, Chicago Wilderness members are working to develop, advocate for, and implement policies and programs to reduce energy and water consumption, and promote sustainable growth and land use strategies, all of which are critical to mitigating the effects of climate change. By protecting open spaces and natural areas, we provide places and travel corridors in which native plants and wildlife can live, migrate, and survive to adapt to the changing environment.

Finally, because of the size and diversity of its membership, Chicago Wilderness is positioned to promote more discussion of the value of simply having natural areas to sequester carbon and therefore, fight climate change. To date, there has been little recognition of the importance of land conservation in climate change policy discussions, presenting an opportunity for the members of Chicago Wilderness to help increase awareness among local policy makers and the public.

“The impacts of climate change on regional biodiversity present numerous significant challenges that cross scientific, conservation, natural resource, and communication disciplines. The Chicago Wilderness structure and the breadth of our membership make us uniquely suited to address these many challenges in a coordinated and sustained fashion. Working together and drawing upon the wide range of talent and expertise available through our large and diverse member base, we can do far more than any single member organization could accomplish on its own.”

— Robert Sullivan, Program Manager/Coordinator,
Environmental Science Division, Argonne National Laboratory

Financial Report

Fiscal Year 2007–2008 (May 1, 2007 to April 30, 2008)

Many thanks go to the organizations and foundations that supported the work of Chicago Wilderness and its members through financial contributions and in-kind support.

The Chicago Wilderness Alliance

Revenue to the Chicago Wilderness Trust

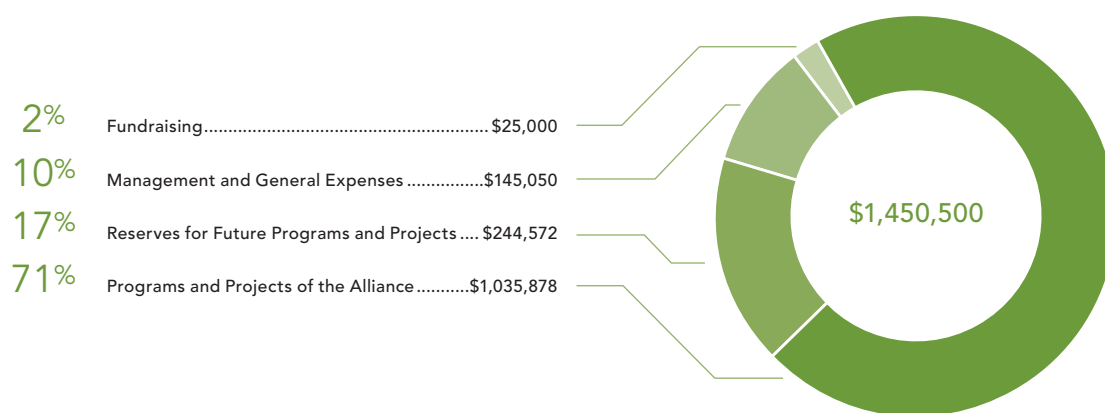
Corporate Council Membership.....	\$87,000
CW Membership	\$50,000
Individual/Family/Group Contributions.....	\$316,000
Corporate Gifts and Grants	\$54,000
Foundation Gifts and Grants	\$43,000
State/Local Government Grants.....	\$117,000
Other Income.....	\$19,000
Total Trust Revenue	\$686,000

Federal Funding Directed to Chicago Wilderness Programs

US Fish and Wildlife Service	\$390,000
US Forest Service	\$374,500
Total Federal Government Revenue.....	\$764,500

Combined Revenue **\$1,450,500**

How the Alliance Invested Its Revenue During the 2007–2008 Fiscal Year



Corporations, Foundations, Government Agencies, and Organizations

Academy of Certified Hazardous
Materials Managers, Chicago Chapter

Alphawood Foundation

Aveda Corporation

Binky Foundation

BP Foundation

Chicago Wilderness Corporate Council

Edgerton Area Chamber of Commerce

Euclid Avenue United Methodist Church

First Congregational Church of Wilmette

Forest Preserve District of Cook County

Illinois Department of Natural Resources

REI

US Environmental Protection Agency

US Fish & Wildlife Service

USDA Forest Service

Individual Donors

Biodiversity Guild

Charles Haffner III, Hamill Family Foundation,
Louis Schauer

Wilderness League

Christopher B. Burke, Sandy & Jerry Manne,
George Rabb, Mary Wilson

Conservation Circle

Bradley Beile, Mr. & Mrs. Paul F. LeFort,
Debra Moskovits

Habitat Club

Marianne P. Benveniste, Peter Chen,
Louise Egerton-Warburton, Lawrence & Lou Ann
Grabowski, Jennifer Hamilton, L. Hall Healy, Jr.,
Mark A. Kamiya, Bruce Z. Sanders, Edmund O.
Schweitzer, Jean Schweitzer, David Stagman

2007 Projects

Chicago Wilderness provided funding for the following projects during its 2007–2008 fiscal year.

Green Infrastructure Vision

Community & Landowner Engagement for Oak Woodland Preservation in McHenry County

Principal Investigator (PI)/Collaborators

The Land Conservancy of McHenry County (PI), Davey Tree Expert Company/Davey Resource Group, Glacier Oaks Nursery, McHenry County Conservation District, McHenry County Nursery, The Care of Trees

Integrating Conservation Design Principles into Community Development

The Conservation Foundation (PI), Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning

Integrating the Green Infrastructure Vision into the CMAP Regional Comprehensive Plan

Cowhey Gudmundson Leder, Ltd. (PI), Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning

Sustainable Watershed Action Team (SWAT) for Local Officials

Environmental Planning Solutions, Inc. (PI), Illinois Department of Natural Resources, Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning, Cowhey Gudmundson Leder, Ltd.

Transportation & Environmental Collaboration Initiative

The Delta Institute (PI), Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning

Leave No Child Inside

BackYard Nature Center—Connecting Children with the Wonders of Nature

BackYard Nature Center (PI), Chicago Audubon Society, Chicago Botanic Garden, North Shore Country Day School, The Volunteer Center of New Trier Township

Chicago Botanic Garden Fairchild Challenge

Chicago Botanic Garden (PI), Chicago Public Schools, Illinois Art Education Association, Network of Environmental Science Teachers, Northwestern University's Collaboratory Project, Ravinia, The Field Museum, Young Chicago Authors

Chicago Cultural Alliance: Youth Connecting Communities with Nature

Bronzeville/Black Chicagoan Historical Society (co-PI), Swedish American Museum (co-PI), Indo-American Center, Institution of Puerto Rican Arts and Culture

Chicago Wilderness Mighty Acorns Program: Maintaining the Partnership

The Field Museum (PI)

Fishin' Buddies Leave No Child Inside program

Fishin' Buddies!, Inc. (PI)

Leave No Child Inside Program

Save the Dunes Conservation Fund (PI), LaPorte County Soil and Water Conservation District

ParKids: A Leave No Child Inside Initiative

Indiana Dunes Learning Center (PI), Boys and Girls Club of Michigan City, Indiana Department of Natural Resources/Indiana Dunes State Park, Lake County Solid Waste Management District, USDI National Park Service/Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore

Reading Our Landscapes: A Teacher Professional Development Project

Jurica Nature Museum (PI), Chicago Zoological Society/Brookfield Zoo, Forest Preserve District of DuPage County, Geneva Park District, Schaumburg Park District, US Department of Energy Fermi National Accelerator Laboratory

Leave No Child Inside, *continued*

Water Rescue, 2008 Youth Environmental Symposium

Principal Investigator (PI)/Collaborators

Friends of Ryerson Woods (PI), Lake County Forest Preserves

Restoring the Health of Local Nature

A Comprehensive Site Inventory for Sites Included in a Long-term Chicago Wilderness Research Program

DePaul University (PI), Forest Preserve District of DuPage County, Lake County Forest Preserves, McHenry County Conservation District, The Field Museum

Building the Momentum: Support for the Chicago Wilderness Volunteer Community

Audubon-Chicago Region (PI), Chicago Park District, Forest Preserve District of Cook County, Forest Preserve District of DuPage County, The Nature Conservancy, Thorn Creek Audubon Society

Genetic Characterization of Species, Invasion, and Hybridization: A Bittersweet Story

University of Illinois at Chicago (PI), US Geological Survey

Increasing Prairie Plant Diversity with Patch-Burn Grazing

The Nature Conservancy (PI), Indiana University

Keeping the Chicago Region Free of Poison Hemlock: An Interdisciplinary Approach to Studying the Invasion Front of a Known Invasive Plant

University of Illinois at Chicago (PI), Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago

Climate Change

Biodiversity & Carbon Sequestration Potential of Restored Landscapes: A Case Study of two Chicago Park District Nature Areas

Chicago Park District (PI), University of Illinois at Chicago, US Department of Energy Argonne National Laboratory

Plants of Concern: Standardized Rare Plant Monitoring Using Trained Volunteers

Chicago Botanic Garden (PI), Audubon-Chicago Region, Chicago Park District, Forest Preserve District of Cook County, Forest Preserve District of DuPage County, Forest Preserve District of Kane County, Forest Preserve District of Will County, Illinois Department of Natural Resources, Illinois Endangered Species Protection Board, Illinois Natural Heritage Database, Illinois Natural History Survey, Illinois Nature Preserves Commission, Lake County Forest Preserves, McHenry County Conservation District, The Nature Conservancy, North Branch Restoration Project, USDA Forest Service-Midewin National Tallgrass Prairie

Protection and restoration of Big Rock Creek, a Chicago Wilderness Priority Stream: repair and reconnection of fish and mussel passage at Drakes Dam

Illinois Department of Natural Resources (PI), Kane County Environmental Management, Kendall County Soil and Water Conservation District, The Conservation Foundation, USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service

Updates to the *Chicago Wilderness Atlas of Biodiversity: A Natural History of the Chicago Region*

Chicago Wilderness (PI), Adlai E. Stevenson High School, Center for Neighborhood Technology, The Field Museum

Savanna Restoration at Bur Oak Woods Nature Preserve

Shirley Heinze Land Trust, Inc. (PI)

Shrub Border for Migratory Birds: Foley Pond, Highland Park, IL

Park District of Highland Park (PI), Bird Conservation Network

Chicago Wilderness Executive Council

Many thanks to the representatives of the following institutions,
who have most recently served on the Chicago Wilderness Executive Council:

Audubon-Chicago Region

Stephen Packard, Justin Pepper, Judy Pollock

Biodiversity Project

Jennifer Browning

CAS/Notebaert Nature Museum

Laurene von Klan, Rafael Rosa

Center for Neighborhood Technology

Steve Wise

Chicago Botanic Garden

Sophia Siskel, Pati Vitt

Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning

Randy Blankenhorn, Kerry Leigh

Chicago Park District

Adam Schwerner, Peggy Stewart

Chicago Zoological Society/Brookfield Zoo

Dr. Stuart Strahl, Jo-Elle Mogerman,
David Becker

City of Chicago Department of Environment

Suzanne Malec-McKenna, Aaron Durnbaugh

Chicago Wilderness Corporate Council

James Jerozal, Jedd Anderson

Deerfield High School

Jeff Hoyer

DePaul University

Liam Heneghan, Barb Willard

The Field Museum

Laurel Ross

Fishin' Buddies!

John Kidd, Jr., Julian Kidd

Forest Preserve District of Cook County

Steve Bylina, Cathy Geraghty

Forest Preserve District of DuPage County

John Oldenburg, Bill Weidner, Leslie Berns

Forest Preserve District of Kane County

Monica Meyer

Forest Preserve District of Will County

Marcy DeMauro, Ralph Schultz

Friends of the Chicago River

Margaret Frisbie, John Quail

Geneva Lake Conservancy

Jim Celano, Pam Holy

Illinois Department of Natural Resources

Leslie Sgro, Lynn Boerman, Deborah Stone

Illinois Endangered Species Protection Board

Dan Gooch, Susanne Masi

Illinois Natural History Survey

Geoffrey Levin, Dave Thomas, Brian Anderson

Illinois Nature Preserves Commission

Steven Byers

John G. Shedd Aquarium

Cheryl Mell, Melanie Napoleon

Kendall County Forest Preserve District

Jason Pettit, Megan Andrews

**Lake County Parks & Recreation
Department (IN)**

Bob Nickovich, Joy Bower

Lake County Forest Preserves (IL)

Andrew Kimmel, Jim Anderson

Lincoln Park Conservancy

Susan Fargo, Steven Zelner

Lincoln Park Zoo

Kevin Bell, Steven Thompson

Loyola University, CUERP

Nancy Tuchman, Gina Lettiere

Max McGraw Wildlife Foundation

Sarah Blevins

McHenry County Conservation District

Kim Hankins, Elizabeth Kessler

McHenry County Conservation Foundation

Nancy Williamson, Yvonne Semel

**Metropolitan Water Reclamation District
of Greater Chicago**

Richard Lanyon

“Conservation efforts are in many ways like political activities that are more successful with greater momentum. Regional initiatives help create this momentum by reducing risks for all participants and speeding program acceptance through broader reach, combined resources as well as concurrent learning.”

—Charles L. Colman, Chairman, Geneva Lake Conservancy

Chicago Wilderness Executive Council, continued

The Morton Arboretum

Gerald Donnelly

The Nature Conservancy-Illinois

Leslee Spraggins, Claudia Emken,
Susan Donovan

NiSource Environmental Challenge Fund

Arthur Smith, Jr.

**Northwestern Indiana Regional
Planning Commission**

John Swanson, Kathy Luther

Northwestern University

Environmental Policy & Culture

Paul Friesema, Yael Wolinsky

Openlands

Gerald Adelman, Lenore Beyer-Clow,
Joyce O'Keefe

Purdue University Calumet

Edward Pierson, Diane Trgovcich-Zacok

**Riverside Brookfield High School,
School of Environmental Education**

Tim Scanlon, Ann Roth

Roots and Shoots Great Lakes

Garth Katner, Credell Wells

Sierra Club, Illinois Chapter

Jack Darin, Doug Chien

University of Chicago Civic Knowledge Project

Bart Schultz

University of Illinois at Chicago

Mary Ashley, Joel Brown, David Wise

US Army Corps of Engineers

Lynne Whelan

**US Department of Energy,
Argonne National Laboratory**

Donna Green, Joe DiMatteo

**US Environmental Protection Agency
Great Lakes National Program Office**

Gary Gulezian, Danielle Green, John Perrecone,
Karen Rodriguez

US Environmental Protection Agency Region 5

Jerri-Anne Garl, Jim Van der Kloot

US Fish & Wildlife Service

John Rogner, Karla Kramer

USDA Forest Service

Mike Prouty, Tom Dilley, Logan Lee

USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service

Jon Hubbert

USDI National Park Service/IDNL

Costa Dillon, Dale Engquist, Garry Traynham,
Kim Swift

Village of Lake Barrington

Lauren DeJesu

Village of Lincolnshire

Lydia Scott, Jennifer Hughes

Waukegan Citizen's Advisory Group

Sharon Thiesen, Susie Schreiber

Honorary Member

George Rabb, President Emeritus,
Chicago Zoological Society/Brookfield Zoo

Chicago Wilderness Staff Hosts

Many thanks also go to the organizations that generously house and host Chicago Wilderness staff:

Audubon — Chicago Region

Benedictine University

Chicago Academy of Sciences/
Peggy Notebaert Nature Museum

Chicago Botanic Garden

Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning

Chicago Park District

Chicago Zoological Society/Brookfield Zoo

Forest Preserve District of Cook County

The Nature Conservancy-Illinois



Members of Chicago Wilderness

233 Members as of October 2008

Alliance for the Great Lakes	Center for Neighborhood Technology	Coffee Creek Watershed Conservancy
Association for the Wolf Lake Initiative	Chicago Academy of Sciences/Notebaert Nature Museum	College of DuPage
Audubon—Chicago Region	Chicago Audubon Society	The Conservation Foundation
Backyard Nature Center	Chicago Botanic Garden	The Conservation Fund
Barrington Area Council of Governments	Chicago Cultural Alliance	Conservation Research Institute
Barrington Area Conservation Trust	Chicago Herpetological Society	CorLands
Batavia Plain Dirt Gardeners	Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning	Crystal Lake Park District
Benedictine University	Chicago Ornithological Society	Deerfield High School
Biodiversity Project	Chicago Park District	Deerpath Farm Homeowners' Association
Bird Conservation Network	Chicago Wilderness Corporate Council	Delta Institute
Bolingbrook Park District	Chicago Zoological Society/ Brookfield Zoo	DePaul University, Environmental Science Program
Boone Creek Watershed Alliance	Chicagoland Bird Observatory	Downers Grove Park District
Bronzeville/Black Chicagoan Historical Society	Chicago's Green City Market	Ducks Unlimited-Great Lakes/ Regional Office
Butterfield Creek Steering Committee	Chiwaukee Prairie Preservation Fund	Dundee-Crown High School
Calumet Ecological Park Association	Citizens for Conservation	DuPage Birding Club
Calumet Environmental Resource Center	City of Chicago, Department of Environment	Eden Place Nature Center
Campton Historic Agricultural Lands, Inc.	City of Elgin Parks & Recreation Department	Elmhurst Park District
Campton Township	City of Park Ridge	Emily Oaks Nature Center
Canal Corridor Association	City of Rolling Meadows	Environmental Law and Policy Center of the Midwest
Cary Park District	Clarendon Hills Park District	Evanston Environmental Association
		Experiencia Learning Center

Members of Chicago Wilderness, continued

Faith in Place	The Grove National Historic Landmark	Jurica Nature Museum
Fermilab Natural Areas		Kane-DuPage Soil & Water Conservation District
The Field Museum	Homewood Izaak Walton League	Kendall County Forest Preserve District
Field Station Cooperative	I&M Canal National Heritage Corridor, Civic Center Authority	Kendall County Soil & Water Conservation District
Fishin' Buddies!		Kenosha/Racine Land Trust
Flagg-Rochelle Community Park District	Illinois Audubon Society	Kettle Moraine Land Trust, Ltd.
Forest Preserve District of Cook County	Illinois Audubon Society, Fort Dearborn Chapter	Kishwaukétoe Nature Conservancy
Forest Preserve District of DuPage County	Illinois Butterfly Monitoring Network	Lake Bluff Open Lands Association
Forest Preserve District of Kane County	Illinois Department of Natural Resources	Lake County Health Department—Environmental Health Services (IL)
Forest Preserve District of Will County	Illinois Endangered Species Protection Board	Lake County Soil & Water Conservation District (IL)
Frankfort Square Park District	Illinois Natural History Survey	Lake County Stormwater Management Commission (IL)
Friends of Ryerson Woods	Illinois Nature Preserves Commission	Lake County Solid Waste Management District (IN)
Friends of the Chicago River	Illinois Ornithological Society	Lake County Forest Preserves (IL)
Friends of the Forest Preserves (Cook County)	Illinois-Indiana Sea Grant College Program	Lake County Parks & Recreation Department (IN)
Friends of the Fox River	Indian Creek Watershed Project	Lake Forest College
Friends of the Kankakee	Indiana Department of Natural Resources	Lake Forest Open Lands Association
Friends of the Morton Grove Forest Preserves	Indiana Dunes Environmental Learning Center	Lake Katherine Nature Reserve
Friends of the Parks	Indiana University Northwest	Land Conservancy of McHenry County
Friendship Village of Schaumburg	Inverness Park District	Land Trust Alliance
Garden Clubs of Illinois, Inc.	Irons Oaks Environmental Learning Center	Land Trust of Walworth County
Garfield Park Conservatory Alliance	Izaak Walton League of America—Illinois Division	LaPorte County Conservation Trust, Inc.
Geneva Lake Conservancy	Izaak Walton League of America—Indiana Division	
Geneva Park District		
Global Alliance of Artists	John G. Shedd Aquarium	

Liberty Prairie Conservancy	Natural Land Institute	Oswego Eco Commission
Lincoln Park Conservancy	The Nature Conservancy— Illinois	Palos Park Tree Foundation
Lincoln Park Zoo	NiSource Environmental Challenge Fund	Palos-Orland Conservation Committee
Lincoln-Way Community High School	North Branch Restoration Project	Park District of Franklin Park
Long Grove Park District	North Cook County Soil & Water Conservation District	Park District of Highland Park
Loyola University—Chicago Center for Urban Environmental Research & Policy	Northbrook Park District	Portage Park and Recreation Department
Max McGraw Wildlife Foundation	Northeastern Illinois University	Porter County Plan Commission
McHenry County Conservation District	Northminster Presbyterian Church	Prairie Club
McHenry County Conservation Foundation	Northwest Indiana Forum Foundation, Inc.	Prairie Club Conservation Education Fund
McHenry County Defenders	Northwestern Indiana Regional Planning Commission	Prairie Crossing Homeowner's Association
Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago	Northwestern University Environmental Policy & Culture Program	Prairie Woods Audubon Society
The Morton Arboretum	Oakbrook Terrace Park District	Prairies Forever
Naperville Park District	Openlands	Pringle Nature Center
National Association for Interpretation—Region 5		Purdue University Calumet
		Red Oak Nature Center
		Resurrection Center



Members of Chicago Wilderness, continued

Richardson Wildlife Sanctuary	University of Chicago — Civic Knowledge Project	Village of Hoffman Estates Environmental Commission
Ridgeville Park District		
Riding Club of Barrington Hills	University of Illinois at Chicago	Village of Homer Glen
River Forest Park District	University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign	Village of Lake Barrington
Riverwoods Preservation Council	University of Illinois Extension, Northeast Region	Village of Lincolnshire
Roots & Shoots Great Lakes	Upper DesPlaines River Ecosystem Partnership	Village of Oak Park
Save the Dunes Conservation Fund	US Army Corps of Engineers	Village of Orland Park
Save the Prairie Society	US Department of Energy, Argonne National Laboratory	Village of Riverside
Scenic Illinois		Village of Schaumburg
Schaumburg Park District	US Department of Energy, Fermi National Accelerator Laboratory	Warrenville Environmental Advisory Commission
School of Environmental Education, Riverside Brookfield High School	US Environmental Protection Agency, Great Lakes National Program Office	Waukegan Citizens Advisory Group
Seeding the Snow		Wayne Park Commission
Shirley Heinze Land Trust	US Environmental Protection Agency, Region 5	The Wetlands Initiative
Sierra Club, Illinois Chapter		Wheaton Park District
Southeast Environmental Task Force	US Fish and Wildlife Service	Wild Flower Preservation Society, Illinois Chapter
Spring Brook Nature Center	USDA Forest Service	Wild Ones Natural Landscapers, Ltd.
St. Charles Park District	USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service	Wildflower Preservation & Propagation Committee of McHenry County
Sustain	USDI National Park Service/ Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore	Wildwood Nature Center
Taltree Arboretum and Gardens		
Team Green Environmental Network	Valley Lakes Community Association	Woodland Savanna Land Conservancy
Thorn Creek Audubon Society	Valparaiso Chain of Lakes Watershed Group	
Town Square Condominium Association	Village of Brookfield	
Trout Valley Homeowner's Association	Village of Deer Park	
	Village of Frankfort	
The Trust for Public Lands	Village of Glenview	

Chicago Wilderness Corporate Council

29 Members as of October 2008

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