



Protecting Land, Plants, and Animals, Together  
2023 Year in Review



# From Our Board

Dear friends,

The Friends of the Forest Preserve District of DuPage County, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, welcomes gifts at every level to advance the Forest Preserve District's mission "to acquire and hold lands for the purpose of preserving the flora, fauna, and scenic beauty for the education, pleasure, and recreation of DuPage County citizens." It is our pleasure to extend a heartfelt thank you for your generous contributions in 2023. Your involvement makes a difference.

Informed citizens, like you, recognize the value of healthy ecosystems and outdoor recreation close to home. You may know that a large share of the revenue the District depends on for its operations comes from DuPage County real estate taxes (in 2024, taxes account for 64% of District budgeted revenue). For every dollar paid by DuPage residents, fewer than 2 cents comes to the Forest Preserve District. User fees, investment income, grants, and donations help supplement tax revenue to care for the forest preserves we all know and love. Together, we are protecting clean air and water, improving wildlife habitat, and sustaining our quality of life. Your contributions matter.

It is an ongoing challenge to care for nearly 26,000 acres of forest preserve land, operate seven education centers, and maintain the network of trails and amenities that make nature-based recreation enjoyable and accessible. It is a challenge that has grown since the District's founding in 1915, as land holdings and visitation increased. The District rises to this challenge thanks to dedicated efforts by its leaders, staff, volunteers, and friends.

We encourage your continued participation as a champion for the Forest Preserve District of DuPage County. Your support allows the District to restore natural areas, care for injured or orphaned native wildlife, and maintain quality outdoor spaces. Together, we are nurturing a deeper connection to nature today and creating a legacy of conservation for future generations.

Thank you for being a friend!

*Diane Addante*

Diane Addante  
Board Chair

*Jeannine Kannegiesser*

Jeannine Kannegiesser  
Executive Director

## Our Mission

To advance the vision of the Forest Preserve District through philanthropic endeavors





# Friends Board of Directors

Your Friends board of directors plays an important role in stewarding the resources that you share so generously. We are inspired by each member for thoughtful leadership and generosity to our mission.

With their guidance, the Friends granted funds to sustain several programs you love at the Forest Preserve District. More than half of that funding was designated to Willowbrook Wildlife Center, which helped to ensure the center’s staff and volunteers had the supplies needed to administer care to injured and orphaned native wild animals.

Mike Dyer, Dave Stang, Joe Suchecki, and Jeanette Wells were welcomed as new members to the board.

We also wished Karyn Charvat, outgoing board member, “happy trails” in November at our annual meeting.

If you are interested in learning about board service, please contact Partnership & Philanthropy at 630-871-6400 or [fundraising@dupageforest.org](mailto:fundraising@dupageforest.org).



## Board of Directors & Staff

**Chair**

Diane Addante, Naperville

**Member**

Karyn Charvat, Naperville

**Member**

Joe Suchecki, Naperville

**Audra Bonnet**

Donor Relations Coordinator

**Vice Chair**

Bob Watt, Itasca

**Member**

Penny Chanez, Lombard

**Member**

Jeanette Wells, Bartlett

**Chrissy Dawson**

Executive Support Specialist

**Treasurer**

Ashley Guest, Winfield

**Member**

Mike Dyer, Wheaton

**Ex-Officio Member**

Jeff Gahr, Wheaton  
Commissioner — District 4,  
Forest Preserve District

**Lulú Hertenstein**

Corporate & Community  
Giving Officer

**Secretary**

Carl Schultz, Naperville

**Member**

Larry Larson, Naperville

**Francie Sheahan**

Executive Assistant

**Member**

Brian Battle, Wheaton

**Member**

David Stang, Willowbrook

**Executive Director**

Jeannine Kannegiesser  
Chief Partnership &  
Philanthropy Officer

# 2023 Financials

## Statement of Activities

### Revenues

Contributions and Grants	\$508,147
Special Events Income	38,897
Investment Income	37,005
Miscellaneous	942
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$584,991</b>

### Expenses

Grants for the Benefit of the Forest Preserve District of DuPage County	253,251
Fundraising Expenses	17,876
Printing and Copying	10,947
Accounting Expenses	5,330
Outside Contract Services	4,297
Postage and Mailing Services	3,631
Office Supplies	1,086
Insurance	513
Other Expenses	1,344
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$289,275</b>

(Statement of activities omits in-kind contributions valued at \$290,588 from the Forest Preserve District of DuPage County for staff support and in-kind donations for use at District programs and events.)

## Financial Position Summary (as of Dec. 31, 2023)

### Assets

Current Assets	
Cash and Investments	\$1,183,755
Other Receivables	16,257
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>\$1,200,012</b>

### Liabilities

Accounts Payable	1,532
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### Net Assets

With Donor Restrictions	809,950
Without Donor Restrictions	388,530
<b>Total Net Assets</b>	<b>\$1,198,480</b>



# Grant Commitments in Support of the Forest Preserve District's Mission

## Grant Commitments From Federal, State, or Private Donors

Illinois Clean Energy Community Foundation	\$2,000,000
Institute for Museum and Library Services	\$250,000
Ronald Bork Fund of the DuPage Foundation	\$180,400
Navistar, Inc.	\$90,000
TC Energy	\$49,000
Chicago Regional Trees Initiative Urban and Community Forest Grant	\$25,000
Illinois Clean Energy Community Foundation	\$25,000
BNSF Railway Foundation	\$10,000
Chicago Regional Trees Initiative Thanks to Nicor	\$10,000
CNH Industrial	\$10,000
G. Carl Ball Family Foundation	\$10,000
The Conservation Foundation on Behalf of the West Chicago Prairie Stewards	\$6,611
Domtar Paper Company	\$5,000
Ecolab Foundation	\$5,000
Nicor	\$5,000
Mary J. Demmon Private Foundation	\$4,239
Illinois Department of Natural Resources	\$4,000





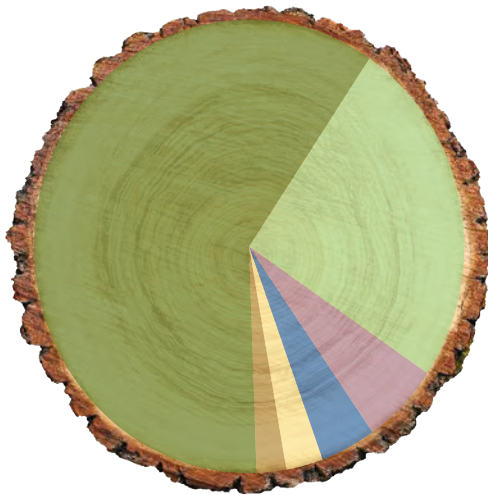
# Your Impact

## Where Your Gifts Made a Difference

The Friends of the Forest Preserve District of DuPage County 501(c)(3) helps the community support the Forest Preserve District's mission. Nearly 1,000 donors, corporations, civic groups, and organizations made gifts to the Friends of the Forest Preserve District to support native wildlife rehabilitation, preservation of Mayslake Hall, habitat restoration in DuPage forest preserves, and more.



## Friends' Support



- Wildlife Rehabilitation **60%**
- Mayslake Master Plan **25%** Support
- Educational Programs **6%**
- Habitat Restoration **4%**
- Recreational Amenities **3%** & Improvements
- Blanding's Turtle Head-Start **2%** Program





# Community Partners

## With Thanks to Our Community Partners

We build relationships with like-minded civic groups, foundations, and corporations to help support DuPage forest preserves and nature-based opportunities year-round. All contributions benefit the Forest Preserve District's mission, master plan, and initiatives and supplement tax revenue for the benefit of your community.

G. Carl Ball Family Foundation

BNSF Railway Foundation

Chicago Fire

CNH Industrial

ComEd/Exelon

The Conservation Foundation

Mary J. Demmon Private Foundation

Domtar Paper Company

Ecolab Foundation

Edward Jones — Financial Advisor:  
Mike Dyer

Illinois Clean Energy Community  
Foundation

IPMG

Molex

Navistar, Inc.

Nicor

Rice Lake Square

TC Energy

Wheaton Bank & Trust





# Volunteers

## With Thanks to Our Volunteers

Nearly 750 yearlong volunteers and 70 community groups contributed over 57,100 hours in 12 programs throughout the Forest Preserve District of DuPage County. With a variety of one-time, seasonal, and yearlong volunteer opportunities, you're sure to find something to fit your schedule, pique your interest, and ignite your passion. For an application and details, visit [dupageforest.org](http://dupageforest.org) and click on "Get Involved" and Volunteer," or contact Volunteer Services at 630-933-7233 or [volunteer@dupageforest.org](mailto:volunteer@dupageforest.org).

Danada Equestrian Center

Fullersburg Woods Nature Education Center

Graue Mill and Museum

Kline Creek Farm

Mayslake Peabody Estate

Natural Resources

Special Services

St. James Farm

Trail Watch

Visitor Engagement

Volunteer Ranger Program

Willowbrook Wildlife Center





# Thank You for Being Our Friend

The following donors and community partners committed through Friends of the Forest Preserve District of DuPage County or Forest Preserve District. To discover more about the Friends of the Forest Preserve District, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit dedicated to providing ways to help care for DuPage forest preserves, visit [dupageforest.org/friends](http://dupageforest.org/friends).

## **Restorers**

### **(\$25,000 and Above)**

Estate of Susan Fikar  
Estate of Charles Johnson  
Diane E. Langley Declaration  
of Trust  
Elaine Libovicz

## **Sustainers**

### **(\$10,000 – \$24,999)**

Fidelity Charitable  
IPMG  
Schwab Charitable

## **Protectors**

### **(\$5,000 – \$9,999)**

ComEd/Exelon  
Myriam Villalta Elijah  
Michael Firman and Marilyn  
L. Schweitzer  
Susan Trommer

## **Conservators**

### **(\$2,500 – \$4,999)**

Anonymous  
Mary and Harold Bamford III  
Chicago Fire  
Edward Jones — Financial  
Advisor: Mike Dyer  
Giving DuPage  
Elaine Novak Jans  
Larry C. Larson  
Rice Lake Square  
Michael and Diane Webb  
Wheaton Bank & Trust  
Jerry and Jody Zamirowski

## **Benefactors**

### **(\$2,000 – \$2,499)**

Paul Herbert  
Mary Ann Mahoney  
Robert Miller  
William Reichardt  
The Richard Laurence Parish  
Foundation  
Martha and Dennis Rogers

## **Stewards**

### **(\$500 – \$1,999)**

Anonymous  
Diane and Joe Addante  
Robert and Marcy Cap  
Coral Baran  
Toni Bazon-Forsberg

Seth Becker and Helen Nam  
Helena Borenus  
Anthony and Joyce Carey  
James and Valerie Carroll  
Rosemary and Robert Carroll  
The Casten Family  
Chicago Ornithological  
Society

Jennifer Chidlow  
Cheryl Clark  
Elizabeth Collins  
Friends of Danada, Inc  
DuPage Birding Club  
Diane and John Fiore  
Patricia Gabris  
Jeff and Bonnie Gahrns  
Howard Goldstein and  
Peggy McGrath

Corryn Greenwood  
Judith Grey  
The Grisemer Family  
Charitable Trust  
Keith and Tracy Hernandez  
Joel Herning

Frances Holbrook and  
Elizabeth Rigsby  
Kathy Isoda  
Izzie's Garden  
Jeff and Heidi Jacobson  
Jeffrey Jens  
Susan Johansen  
Pat and Philip Johnson  
Ryan and Jeannine

Kannegiesser  
Doug and Carrie Kaplan  
James Koehler  
DuPage Area Moms  
Tim and Kelsey Letizia  
Lombard Juniors  
Philanthropic Fund  
Kathy Loth  
George W. Luvisi, Jr.  
Manhard Consulting  
Guy and Sharon Matthew  
Mary Ellen and Patrick

Mauro  
Robert R. McCormick  
Foundation  
Lydia McKay  
Kay McNab  
Milton Township  
Belinda Morgan  
Morningstar Financial

Kathleen Murphy  
Naperville Animal Control  
Roger and Susan Nelson  
Kim Neuberg  
Donald and Susan Panozzo  
Pat and Lara Pappas  
Richard A. Pena and Edith  
M. Podrazik

Jennifer Pope and Leo  
Schwarz

PowerForward DuPage  
Tom and Karen Pulver  
David and Amy Reeter  
Martha and Bruce Sanders  
Lisa Savegnago and Ronald  
Johnson

John Schofield  
John and Maria Shalanko  
Steven and Megan Shebik  
Laura Shimkus

Eric and Erica Simmons  
Ross Sprovieri  
David and Eileen Stang  
Virginia Stein  
Jennifer Stitzell

Janet Strain  
Steven Szafranski  
John and Marion Tableriou  
Terri Tarka

Diane Telander  
Theosophical Order of  
Service

James and Gail Tibensky  
Keith Tomes  
Frank and Patricia Troost  
V3 Companies, Ltd.

Vanguard Charitable  
Susan Wachowski  
Norman and Donna Wandke  
Robert Watt

West Chicago Garden Club  
Wheaton Garden Club  
Wheaton Lions Club  
Ellen Alekno Wier

Chet and Jeanette Wilszak  
Georgia Wilson  
Heather and Mark Yeager  
Charles and Sandra

Youngstrom  
Doug Zimmer

# Thank You for Being Our Friend

## **Guardians (\$250 – \$499)**

Nancy Allured  
Amazon Smile Foundation  
Julie Ames  
Judith Anderson  
Leslie and James E. Bayles,  
Jr.  
Dan and Susan Black  
BMO Wealth Management  
— Private Bank  
Robert Boden  
Ann Boisclair  
Melinda Born  
Stephen Boyle  
Anita Buchholz  
Alan and Margaret Basic  
Lisa Chessare  
Katie Coleman  
Pamela Conrad  
Glenn Domovic  
Anamari Dorgan  
Dawn Draus  
Evalee Dumas  
James Edward Tyson, Jr.  
Marcela Fanning  
Christopher Fenwick  
Robert E. Fisher  
Wendy Flaherty  
Diane Florynski  
Nathan Fogg  
Lorena Fogg  
George Washington Middle  
School  
Malina Gres  
Kathryn and Douglas Harder  
Barbara Harty  
Judith Haynes  
Daniel and Donna Hebreard  
Ken and Lulú Hertenstein  
Allan G. Hins  
Jessica Jasko  
Eric Jason  
Michael Kamys  
The Kerschen Family  
William L. Kundert  
Madeline and Kenneth  
Kwiatkowski  
DJ and Catherine LaChapelle  
Wayne Laudenbach  
Robert Lyon  
Deborah K. Mackay  
Francine Manilow  
James and Elizabeth  
McDonald  
Metea Valley High School  
Janet Mori  
Keri Myslinski

Joy Nakayama  
Bill Nieman and Rita  
Nathanson  
Martin and Sally Ozinga  
Susan A. Page  
Kevin Palmby  
Carole A. Panagakos  
Danielle Petkunas  
Eileen Rader  
Diane and Robert Reed  
Sharon Rietz  
Neil and Marilynn Ringquist  
Kristina Risvold  
Patrick J. Rivers  
Teresa L. Ryan  
Gary Schaefer  
Kim and Cheryl Schlytter  
Marlen V. Schuett  
Tom Schutz  
Sierra Club River Prairie  
Group  
David and Faith Slowinski  
Scott Smetters  
Madison Smith  
Heather Smith  
Bill and Nancy Sturgeon  
Joe and Daphne Suchecki  
Michael and Sarah Tesch  
John Tokar and Sandra  
Risvold  
The Tomczak Family  
Tina Tyson-Dunne  
Brian Urban  
Peggy Vos  
Margaret Votava  
Holly Wathan  
Jim Weil

## **Ambassadors (\$100 – \$249)**

Elizabeth A. Eichten  
Constance Allekian  
Lisa Alsen  
Thomas Althoff  
Lawrence and Sharon  
Anderson  
Darlene Anderson  
Paul and Gloria Anderson  
Robin Andrews  
The Andrusyk Family  
Nancy Arango  
David and Lisa Asaud  
Neal Lofchy and Catherine  
Ashdown  
Palvi Asher  
Noel and Linda Assad  
John and Janet Baar  
Tom and Mary Babler

William and Marjorie  
Bardeen  
Melody and Daniel Barszcz  
Marcia Basciano  
Angel Bauer  
Abby Beck  
David A. Shaw and Janice K.  
Becker  
Jennifer Bell  
Nancy Bell  
Glynis Benbow-Niemier  
John Bender  
Beth Bengston  
Susan Black  
Tim and Kate Blackwelder  
Audra and Brett Bonnet  
Nancy Borges  
Thomas and Jane Both  
Kenneth Boyd  
Verla and Kelvin Boyle  
Carol Breeden  
Andrew Brown  
Sarah Bucek  
Aaron Burgess  
Franz A. Burnier  
Hester Bury  
Ussi Camera  
Linda and Jerry Campbell  
Hal Alan Carlson  
Susan Carr  
Cathleen Carter  
Jeff Castle  
Peter Cattaneo  
Rosemary A. Check  
Roseanne Chirumbolo  
Susan Christensen  
Joseph Cleary  
Josephine Concialdi  
Alice Macha  
Peter and Kathleen Connolly  
Elizabeth Contant  
Jeff Cooke  
Deborah Cortesi  
Jane M. Cory  
Debra Cox  
Daniel Cullen  
Mark Curtis  
Edna Davidson  
George Kevin  
William C. Dawe  
Helen Demsher  
Steven and Dana Dettloff  
Brian Diamond  
Charles Diewald  
Steven Dillie  
Stephen and Martha Dome  
Kimberly Downs



# Thank You for Being Our Friend

## **Ambassadors Cont'd. (\$100 – \$249)**

Bruce Dudzik  
Andrea Duffy  
Dennis Duszak  
Mike Dyer  
Patricia Dywan  
Fred J. Eaton  
Alice Elens  
Glenna Eorgoff  
Republic Bank Of Chicago  
Debera Falcone  
Yuhong Fang  
Gail Favoriti  
Elizabeth Fikejs  
Shirley Fishwick  
Jeannine Flolo  
Michael J. Foley  
Victor Fonseca  
John and Elia Ford  
Camille Franchi  
Catherine  
Carol Frank  
Jaisal and Rima Franklin  
Lawrence Frey  
Karie Friling  
Nick Fuller  
Glenn Gabanski  
Allen and Patricia Gebala  
Joyce Giaquinta  
Paula Giroux  
Hugh Glenn  
Paula Gomora  
Carol Graczyk  
Heather Graf  
Cynthia A. Gray  
Linda and James Graziano  
Deborah Greer  
Richard and Susan Gualano  
Charles and Elizabeth  
H G A Hall  
Julie Hancher  
Kenneth and Eleanor  
Hanson  
Sean Hayden and Jacqueline  
L. Harrison  
Mary E. Hendrix  
Laura Henningson  
Les Herold  
Patricia Higgins  
Tony Ketelaar and Ellen  
Hikes  
Janet Hitzman  
Leanne Holland  
Christie Hunt  
Linda Ignace  
Daniel Jablonski  
Jefferson Jay Reiter

Catherine Johnson  
Robin Gabriel  
Susan E. Kaley  
Denis Kania  
Sandra Kappeler  
Judith and Paul A. Kasper  
Ali and Rana Keifari  
Daryl and Jane Kellenberger  
Denise Kennedy  
Jaime Kennedy  
Laurie Kieta  
Diane Kime  
Eric Kindahl  
Patrick and Amy King  
Hiroaki Kiyokawa  
Laura Kloss  
Karl and Maria Knecht  
Christine Knight  
Patrick Kolzow  
Keith and Laura Kowalewski  
Barbara Krause  
Mary K. Krigbaum  
Wanda Krill  
Barbara Kross  
Leo Krufft  
Susan Krutzler  
Cantingy Park  
Sandra Lampo  
Sharon Larson  
Angela Larson  
Roshni Lavelle  
Mark and Janet Lawrence  
Joel Lehman  
Lemont Downtown  
Raymond Lewis  
Linda Lewis  
Charles and Chris Linnell  
Lisle Women's Club  
Jean Livingston  
Mary Loggins  
Brian Long  
Joan Looi  
Laura Luc-Gorby  
Patrick Luecke  
Lisa M. Majka  
Dawn K. Malchiodi  
Virginia Mann  
Joyce Mantels  
Margaret and Robert Mark  
James Mark  
Richard Martin  
Joyce May  
Deanna McCarney  
Rebecca McDade  
Laura McElligott  
Susan McKearnan  
Thomas Meehan and Gail  
Donahue

Randy Mielke  
Melvin and Kay Miller  
Donald and Eva Miller  
Suzanne Miller  
Robert and Carol Minix  
Denise Morgan  
Patricia Motto  
Sandra Mueller  
Al Murphy  
Linda Murphy  
William Murray  
Jennifer Murtoff  
Barbara Nagengast  
Natural Communities, LLC  
Drew and Linda Neff  
Kirsten Nehf  
Bruce Nelson  
Network for Good  
Lynn Nichols  
David Nienke  
Lucy Nobrega  
Kathy  
Patricia Noska  
Marlene Nowotarski  
Emily Ohland  
Dermot O'Sullivan  
Phile and Linda Painter  
Michelle and Don Parker  
Kevin and Mary Ann Parks  
Gilda Parella  
David and Amy Pederson  
Sheila Peters  
Kurtis and Kathryn Peterson  
Torr and Ann Potterton  
Surasak Pratuangtham  
Carrie Ann Provenzale  
Janice and Robert  
Quarnstrom  
Chris Klimek and Karen  
Raisanen  
Nancy Ranieri  
Daniel Reed  
Steven Reif  
Hans and Susan Reiker  
Debby Reimer  
Jefferson and Catherine  
Reiter  
Reliquarians Society of Glen  
Ellyn  
James Rendel  
Sirimon Reutrakul  
Royden and Cynthia Rice  
Ondine Rinaldi  
Judith Robins  
Richard Roche  
Sharon Roeseler  
John and Karyn Romano  
Brian Ross

# Thank You for Being Our Friend

## **Ambassadors Cont'd. (\$100 – \$249)**

Carol Rudy  
Deborah Rummage Alan  
Swierkosz and Karen  
Russell  
Carrie Ryan  
Douglas and Laura Samuels  
Laura Scarff  
Michael and Connie Schmidt  
Schneider Electric  
Foundation  
Susan Schneider  
Kim Schoppe  
John Schroeder  
Eva Schuchardt  
Carl and Caryn Schultz  
Gayle and Phillip Schuman  
Seagraves Financial Group  
Gloria Seger  
Michael J. Shannon  
Judith Shepard  
Robert and Cindy Shields  
Mary Shrewsbury  
Jennifer and Jason Shubert  
Carolyn Shultz  
Darien Siddal  
Sharon Sifnotis  
Donald Simmons  
Robert Sinn  
Jenny Skokun  
Barbara Skonieczny  
Annette Slovick  
Adam Smith  
Shaun Sommerville  
J.R. and Elizabeth Spann  
Judith and Paul Spinelli  
Rick Splittgerber  
William Steciak  
Kristin Stephens  
Erica Sterner  
Brian and Jane Sterrett  
Edward Stevenson  
Milan Stolic  
Ms. Rochelle L. Storm  
Dennis Streicher  
Kathleen Suchan  
James Susic  
Cheryl Swanson  
Joan Swayne  
Joan Swires  
Andrew and Donna Swiston  
Ellen Tande  
Molly and Jerry S. Tavolino  
Christine Taylor  
Mary Jo Thelander  
Paul and Mary Tilton  
Layla Wheeler

Alzada J. Tipton and William  
G. Harman  
George and Francene  
Turnpaugh  
U.S. Charitable Gift Trust  
Linda Urbelis  
Joyce Vallo  
Marianne VerHalen  
Victoria  
Susan and Marcelo Virgili  
Mary Voegeli  
Ellen Volk  
Nancy Waesco  
Linda Waggoner  
Inland Real Estate Group

Kristina Waldron  
Laura Walker  
Paula Wallrich  
Benny White Elizabeth and  
Richard S. Whitney  
Ashley Wilhelm  
Thomas Williams  
Dennis and Rosemary  
Wisnosky  
Ms. Ann Woodward  
Robert and Nancy Wrobel  
Susan Wydra  
Bette Zablocki





# Memorial & Tribute Gifts

## **In Memory**

### **Tom Brandseth**

Michelle Brandseth  
Tiffany Krabel  
Carol Thorne

### **Alexis Breeze and Colby Jebidiah**

John and Marion Talberiou

### **Bald Eagle 2023-0001**

James Tibensky

### **Gwen Casten**

The Casten Family

### **Daniel "Cal" Callahan**

Joanne Adler  
John and Darlene  
Anderson  
Marge and Gary Bartlett  
Bruce and Sue Benedetto  
The Darnell Family  
JoAnn Dunbar  
The Egan Family  
Joanne and Jack Fleury  
Vic and Carol Fonseca  
Paula Gomora  
Greg and Diane Heist  
Les and Michelle Herold  
Sharon Jackson  
Wayne and Margie Janus  
Debbie and Mike Law  
Jim and Marykay Mark  
Linda and Frank McCarthy  
Cheryl Sharie and Alan  
Michalczyk  
Laura Nania and Joe D  
Lynn and Bill Nichols  
Frank Sciacca and LaVerne  
Susmarski

### **Christopher Conrad**

Pamela Conrad  
Paul and Mary Fran Tilton

### **Newenka DuMont**

Laura and Jim Folliard and  
Family  
Stan and Mary Jaworski  
Roshni Lavelle  
Linda Lewis  
Jean Sagmeister and Kevin  
Krejca

Carolyn Schultz

### **Jeff Elijah**

Myriam Villalta-Elijah

### **Susan "Sue" Fikar**

David and Lisa Asaud and  
Family  
Noel and Linda Assad  
Sharon Bliss  
June Busse  
The Keckler Family  
Charles and Chris Linnell  
Cindy and Dave Manly  
Tom Rogers  
Seagraves Financial Group:  
John, Jim, Allison, Kevin,  
Kiara, and Marilyn  
Scott and Mabel Smetters  
Jeff and Renae Wahrman

### **Carl Hoppe**

Kathleen Murphy

### **Robert H. Kelly**

Arlene Kelly

### **Martini**

Nathan Fogg

### **Michael Matthew**

Guy and Sharon Matthew

### **Robert Morris**

Michael and Robbin Limon  
Vince and Debbie Luoma  
Gilda C Parrella  
Georgia, Jennifer and John  
Wilson

### **Barby Carl Patronski**

George W. Luvisi, Jr.

### **Douglas L. Rogers**

Martha Rogers

### **ShaSha**

Martin and Sally Ozinga

### **Stephanie Stitzell**

Jennifer Stitzell

### **Guy Wachowski**

Susan Wachowski

### **Ellen Watt**

Robert Watt

### **Carole Clark Werd**

Cheryl Clark

## **In Honor**

### **Roberto Alvarado**

Helena Borenius

### **Barred Owls Luna and Neptune**

Ellen Alekno Wier

### **Coral Baran**

Tim Baran

### **NOW Foods Green Team**

The Conservation  
Foundation

### **Jane P. Shimkus**

Laura Shimkus

### **Willowbrook Wildlife Center Staff**

Anonymous  
Angel Bauer  
Christie Hunt  
Cheryl Swanson  
Angela Walters  
Dennis and Rosemary  
Macko Wisnosky



# Special Events, Programs, & More

The Friends of the Forest Preserve District hosted two informational sessions about the Willowbrook Wildlife Center master plan and opportunities for donors and community partners to support the project.

At the “Stewardship for the Birds” program, Bob Fisher, Forest Preserve District volunteer, and other DuPage Birding Club experts, introduced donors to the research behind how habitat restoration benefits bird populations at DuPage forest preserves.

The Native Plant Presale at Mayslake Peabody Estate in Oak Brook provided a ticketed opportunity to shop for native flowers, grasses, shrubs, and trees.

The “Friends Forest Tours” kicked off in August with Mike Dyer, board member of the Friends. The monthly hike continues to bring folks together to enjoy exercise and camaraderi at forest preserves.

We hosted “A Walking Tour of Springbrook Prairie Nature Preserve,” a guided hike to celebrate the 60th anniversary of the Illinois Nature Preserves system. The hike was just one of 25 hikes and other activities at dozens of nature preserves across the state.

At the “Blanding’s Turtle Sundaes & Social Hour,” Dan Thompson, ecologist with the Forest Preserve District, featured highlights from the head-start program, followed by conversation over ice cream.





# Special Events, Programs, & More

At our signature duck race, over 200 rubber ducks raced to raise funds in support of habitat restoration and native wildlife.

Donors, community partners, and fellow nature enthusiasts came together at “A Night for Nature” to raise funds for wild areas and wildlife in DuPage forest preserves.

Our Ambassadors Circle donors enjoyed a special reception at the Fall Festival at Danada. While there, we also recruited some help for the wild animals under Willowbrook Wildlife Center’s care by making snuffle mats for enrichment purposes and collecting much-needed items from the center’s wish list.

Giving Tuesday kicked off the season of giving with a \$4,000 matching challenge by the Friends of the Forest Preserve District’s board, demonstrating its commitment to caring for DuPage forest preserves and providing access to nature to all who love it.

Thanks to the generosity of two local wildlife enthusiasts and long-time donors, a \$15,000 matching challenge invited others to support the Willowbrook Wildlife Center master plan campaign.

Our annual meeting and donor reception celebrated the generosity and commitment of our donors and community partners who help to steward the forest preserves.



# 2024 Budget Plan

At its annual meeting in November 2023, the Friends of the Forest Preserve District approved a budgeted income of \$576,500 and total expenses of \$1,116,969 to contribute to the success of our Forest Preserve District's care of wild areas and wildlife and commitment to environmental sustainability.

Your donations are the primary source of revenue for the foundation, and we welcome gifts of cash, appreciated assets, IRA-qualified charitable distributions, and donor-advised fund grants.

We invite you to consider notifying us if you have included the foundation in your estate plans. We plan to recognize legacy donors each year at our annual meeting and in the annual report.

Thank you for your generosity, which makes a difference not only for DuPage residents and forest preserve visitors today but also into the future. For more information, contact Partnership & Philanthropy at 630-871-6400 or [fundraising@dupageforest.org](mailto:fundraising@dupageforest.org).



<b>Actual Fund Balance</b> (as of Dec. 31, 2023)	\$1,198,480
Budgeted Revenue from Donations, Grants, and Events	576,500
Budgeted Operational Expenses	84,869
Budgeted Expenses for Gifts That Benefit the Forest Preserve District of DuPage County	1,032,000
Anticipated Year-End Fund Balance 2024	\$658,111