



Friends of the Forest Preserve District of DuPage County

2022 Year in Review



Message From Our Leadership

Dear Friends,

In 2022, the Friends of the Forest Preserve District received gifts from over 1,000 individuals, corporations, and organizations, and granted \$282,887 to the Forest Preserve District to support green energy projects, wildlife care, natural areas restoration, education, Blanding's turtle species recovery, master plan projects and initiatives, and recreation/preserve improvement projects.

Our events throughout the year helped contributors engage more deeply with the mission of our Forest Preserve District. Thank you to everyone who joined us for our events.

We are grateful to our Friends' board of directors, who dedicate their time and expertise to the organization, contribute financially, and steward resources entrusted to the nonprofit to advance the District's mission. We recognize that many of our donors are also volunteers who contribute their time to conservation, wildlife care, education, and recreation. More than 5,000 people donated 60,000 hours by volunteering with the Forest Preserve District. We also appreciate the District's staff who dedicate their careers to caring for the forest preserves on behalf of all DuPage residents and educating visitors about how to live in harmony with nature.

Please enjoy this summary about the impact of your donations for our forest preserves and an acknowledgment of our donors and partners.

Nature is for everyone. DuPage forest preserves provide access to nature close to home, free of charge. Your generosity helps ensure that current and future generations will benefit from healthy ecosystems, which are an important part of healthy communities.

Sincerely,

Diane Addante
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Executive Director

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“Increasingly the evidence suggests that people benefit so much from contact with nature that land conservation can now be viewed as a public health strategy.” — Richard Louv

Grants

Willowbrook Wildlife Center
Master Plan Phase II Improvements

U.S. Representative Sean Casten announced a \$2 million award in federal funding to construct and increase energy efficiency at the new 27,000-square-foot net-zero designed wildlife rehabilitation clinic and visitor center. The Illinois Department of Natural Resources awarded a \$400,000 Open Space Lands Acquisition and Development grant for outdoor recreational improvements.

Mayslake Hall Exterior
Revitalization Project

The Public Museum Capital Grants Program, the Illinois Department of Natural Resources, and the Illinois State Museum awarded a \$750,000 capital grant to help repair structural deficiencies and improve drainage and accessibility.

Pratt’s Wayne Woods
Forest Preserve

The Illinois Department of Natural Resources awarded a \$200,000 Recreational Trails Program grant.

Rare Species Management

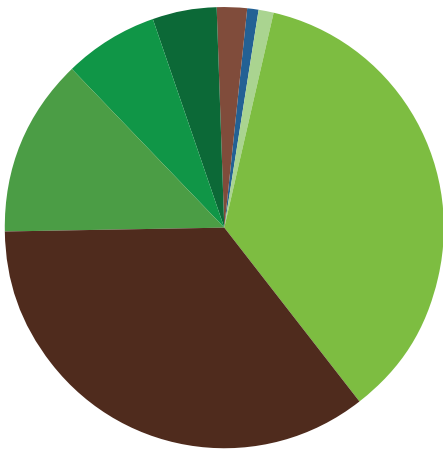
A \$100,000 cooperative agreement between the Forest Preserve District and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service will support the preservation of rare plant species.



Donations

The Friends of the Forest Preserve District of DuPage County 501(c)(3) helps the community support the Forest Preserve District’s mission. Over 1,000 donors contributed. The Friends provided \$282,887 to the Forest Preserve District for the restoration of habitat, preservation of native plants and animals, and environmental sustainability in DuPage forest preserves.

Friends Support in 2022



- Green Energy Endowment 36%
- Wildlife Rehabilitation 35%
- Habitat Restoration 13%
- Educational Programs 7%
- Greatest Needs 5%
- Blanding’s Turtle Head-Start Program 2%
- Mayslake Hall Exterior Rehabilitation Project 1%
- Recreational Amenities & Improvements 1%

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The Following Were Honored With Gifts of \$250 or More

Suzanne Boryscka
Michael Brandseth
Duke
Amelia, Jake, and Ryan
Michael Matthew
Memorial Fund
Oswego mourning dove
and friends
Ella Rose
Amy and Jerry Tavalino

Special Events & Programs

The Friends hosted the Native Plant Presale and A Night for Nature (both ticketed) special events. Other engagement opportunities for Ambassadors Circle donors and Community Partners donors included the annual meeting, a hospitality reception at the Fall Festival at Danada, a breakfast with Blanding's turtle hatchlings in the head-start program, a ribbon-cutting for the ADA kayak launch at Blackwell Forest Preserve, and groundbreakings for the Mayslake Hall Exterior Revitalization Project and Willowbrook Wildlife Center Master Plan Phase II Improvements Project.

To discover more about our upcoming events and giving opportunities, visit dupageforest.org/friends.

