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The Illinois Prairie Path Newsletter

Summer / Fall 2010

Facelift to Original Prairie Path Trailhead in Maywood

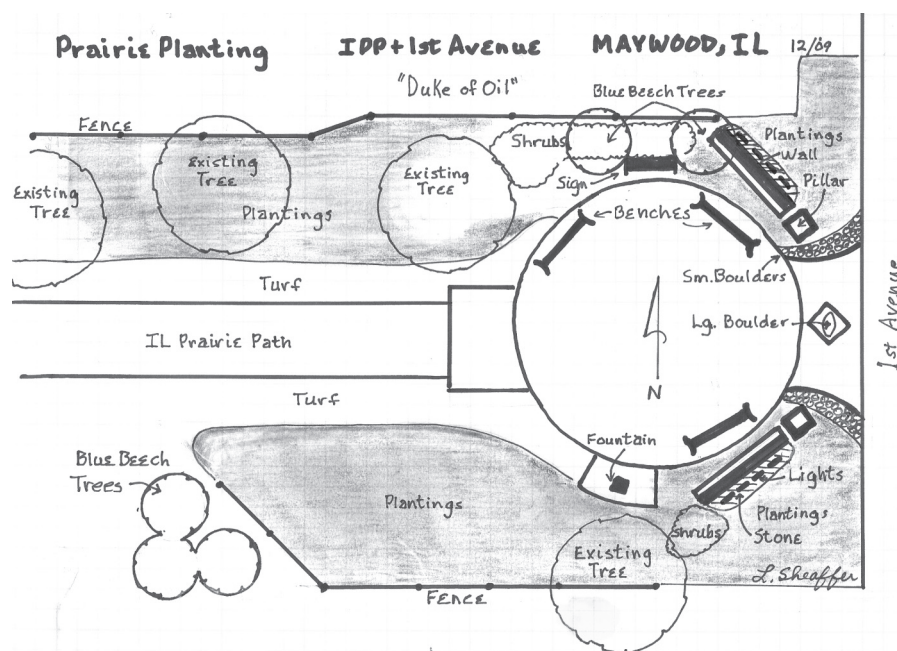
By Larry Sheaffer, prairie consultant

Four lanes of heavy traffic rush along First Avenue in a commercial district of Maywood, right past the original trailhead of the Illinois Prairie Path (IPP) in Cook County. This noisy, busy place is probably not the type of setting that most people picture when they think of the IPP.

Several years ago the Proviso East High School Ecology Club attempted to make the stark site more attractive. With financing and supervision from The Illinois Prairie Path not-for-profit corporation (IPPC), club members planted prairie flowers and grasses in the first one hundred feet on both sides of the Path. Afterward, The IPPC continued to maintain it.

But the only obstruction between the planting and the traffic was a low cable barrier. With inadequate screening, no drinking water, and no benches, the entry-way did not invite trail enthusiasts to use this portion of the IPP nor to linger there if they did.

Two years ago The IPPC Board of Directors and the Village of Maywood began a project to bring



Projects start with a plan. Above is one of the prairie landscape drawings for the IPP Maywood project.

more distinction and utility to this location. The Village received a grant to install a more fitting entrance structure. They hired Hancock Engineering to design and install it and worked with The IPPC to include trail amenities of benches and a drinking fountain. The IPPC dedicated one bench to former longtime IPPC Board Member and former Mayor of Maywood, Leonard Chabala,

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The Illinois Prairie Path Newsletter

This newsletter is published by
The Illinois Prairie Path
Board of Directors

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Meetings: The Illinois Prairie Path Board of Directors meetings are held in Wheaton at 7:30PM on the first Tuesday of each month except August and November. Members are always welcome to attend. Contact Ray Bartels at rbartel399@comcast.net or (630) 606-8851 for the location.

The Illinois Prairie Path 2010 Board of Directors

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Teach-In at Path Cleanup in Glen Ellyn

By Jean Mooring, IPPc board member

Around 9:00 AM on April 24, 2010, during the setup of the sign-in station for the IPP cleanup in Glen Ellyn, the weather was cool (mid sixties), misty, and threatening to rain. The still air posed no problem with wind while volunteers set up an IPP folding screen display on a table. Board Member Susan Terwedow brought ornamental balloons; she attached three green and three white, the IPP official colors, to a wood post holding the IPP logo sign and six multi-colored balloons to a second table provided by the Glen Ellyn Environmental Commission. This table had a sign-in sheet, IPP maps and newsletters, and a new addition this year—a garlic mustard display of little pots of garlic mustard plants and a small easel holding a laminated information page. Birds, animals, and mowing machines have spread the seeds of this noxious alien weed all along the Prairie Path, and it is rapidly crowding out our beautiful native flowers.

Bonnie Gahris of Glen Ellyn brought the display, explained the encroachment issue to volunteers as they signed in and then showed everyone how to efficiently pull these weeds. Most importantly, she demonstrated how to bag the plant to prevent its seeds from falling to the ground and sprouting. The IPP table happened to be set up right in the middle of one

of the worst garlic mustard infestations along the entire Path, just west of the Glen Ellyn Library.

About fifty volunteers turned out in Glen Ellyn, including individuals, family groups (lots of children), and representatives from the Glen Ellyn Library, Glen Ellyn Rotary, Glen Ellyn Runners, and the Glenbard West Key Club. A cute mother-“tween daughter” team listened to the lecture. We learned that the mom picks up trash year-round, a trait the daughter finds somewhat embarrassing. Because the Path in Glen Ellyn was already quite clean this spring, the daughter seemed pleased to hear that her cleanup task involved weeding rather than the daily ritual of trash pickup.

By the morning’s end, the enthusiastic volunteers had cleared the entire field of garlic mustard and had collected about twenty-five bags of weeds. DuPage County Trail Coordinator Deborah Jan Fagan stopped by, observed the pile of bags filled with garlic mustard, congratulated the volunteers and promised that the County would haul the bags away for disposal. They were gone the next day.

Thank you, Glen Ellyn volunteers, for a job well done.



Three volunteers take part in the cleanup in Glen Ellyn

Thanks, Clean-Up Volunteers

By Jean Mooring, Dick and Nancy Wilson, and Diana Lund, IPPc board members

On the last Saturday in April, The Illinois Prairie Path not-for-profit corporation organized a multitude of cleanup efforts along the Illinois Prairie Path, coordinating efforts with Villa Park's Pride Commission, Glen Ellyn's Environmental Commission and Wheaton's Environmental Improvement Commission, to name a few. Board members manned sign-up tables, such as Jean and Paul Mooring in Glen Ellyn, Dick and Nancy Wilson at North Avenue of the Elgin Branch, Alan Berge-son at the Batavia Spur, Nancy Becker in Hillside, Lennel Grace and Marcius Scaggs in Maywood and Bellwood, and Erik Spande in Winfield (the largest effort/turnout). The volunteers showed up in numbers. Singles, families, groups blanketed the Path from Maywood to Wheaton to Aurora, Batavia, Geneva, and Elgin, and like a cleaning tornado, picked the path clean and in some places, weeded. We are so very grateful to all volunteers. The Path began another season in beautiful shape.



Summer / Fall 2010

Winfield Earth Day Cleanup 2010

By Erik Spande, IPPc board member

This year was the fortieth anniversary of Earth Day, and the 2010 Winfield Earth Day Cleanup lived up to this milestone. For the last few years we've been building the cleanup as we get more volunteers and have expanded our work areas from the IPP to the forest preserve and to Winfield as a whole. The IPPc has been very fortunate to have partnered



Winfield Earth Day Cleanup logo

with the Village of Winfield and with the Forest Preserve District of DuPage County, which has enthusiastically supported our volunteers by supplying a forest preserve ranger to help us with safety and recycling.

For 2010, Tim Pressley, a Winfield area graphic artist, created a Winfield Earth Day logo. It captures some of the key themes for our cleanup—walking trails,



A crowd congregates under the big tent, hosted by Comcast Cares, at the kickoff of the Winfield Earth Day Cleanup.

nature, and open spaces. We proudly used this logo on posters, T-shirts, and flyers.

What made this year's cleanup a truly special event were new partnerships with Central DuPage Hospital (CDH) and cable company Comcast. In particular, Comcast invited Winfield volunteers for its annual volunteer appreciation celebration, called "Comcast Cares," in a big tent on the Forest Preserve's Kline Creek living history farm. This special event included breakfast for volunteers and appreciative speeches from US Congressman Peter Roskam, state representatives, Forest Preserve officials, and local public servants. CDH and Comcast even gave volunteers T-shirts and reusable grocery bags as thank-you gifts.

Despite the threat of rain and thunderstorms, we had over a hundred people turn out for the cleanup. I, The IPPc coordinator, gave Winfield teams a safety kick-off briefing and the ranger handed out equipment and supplies. We asked volunteers to separate recyclable materials from trash and sent them on their way. At noon, a Comcast representative invited the volunteers back to the big

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Path closed, a common sight along the IPP this summer. Volunteer Bridge visible in the distance.



Construction crew reused the old iron truss from Volunteer Bridge in Wheaton for the new bridge. Deck now has a slight grade to it.

Below: The new bridge in Wayne is a vast improvement over walking up and down stairs and crossing the EJ&E/Canadian National railroad tracks without a signal.



New Prairie Path Bridges in Wheaton at Mile Marker Zero and in Wayne over EJ&E/Canadian National Railroad

Machines sit idle during a construction strike that lasted about three weeks this summer and delayed the opening of the new bridge in Wheaton. Note the new T-shaped piers that hold the new section of bridge.



Two column supports hold the new bridge in Wayne, which is between Smith and Army Trail roads.



A cyclist rides over the Wayne bridge. Notice how high the railings are. The bridge also has a new type of deck surface that benefits equestrians.

Help Us Reduce Illegal Signage along the Prairie Path in DuPage County

By Ray Bartels, IPPc president

Over the past few years there has been an increase of illegal signage along the IPP in DuPage County, including political flyers, real estate signs, business or event promotion signs, and yard sale notices. Violators have nailed their signs to trees, pounded wooden or metal stakes into the ground and attached signs to the stakes, stapled brightly-colored flyers to poles, or taped flyers over information in display cases.

Anything posted along the Path in DuPage County must have the County's approval by permit. The County does not permit political, promotional, or commercial signage. Instead, the allowed signage usually involves regulation of the Path.

Along the IPP in DuPage County there are many display cases. The ones funded and maintained by The IPPc are County-approved. In other words, the County issued work permits for their construction as well as for the literature inside. Municipalities own some of the other permitted display cases, such as the one in Lombard with a Lombard map or the one next to the Elmhurst Great Western Prairie with information about prairie plants.

Many permitted events occur along the trail throughout the year, such as a 5K run, a charity walk,

or an IPPc workday event. As part of the permit, the County also grants permission for the posting of signs during these events.

The IPPc's concern surrounds the illegal signage along the IPP because it takes away from the beauty of the trail itself, not to mention weathered, left-behind signs which can end up becoming litter. The impact is felt by all trail users. Many want to enjoy their walk, jog, or bike ride immersed in nature, a rest from the stressors of life, a time away from electronics and advertising and other people's agendas.

If you happen to spot illegal signage along the trail in DuPage County, please contact DuPage County at (630) 407-6883 or call The IPPc at (630) 752-0120. The County will then remove these signs and talk with the responsible groups who usually don't realize the violation. We appreciate all the help we can get in keeping our trail clean from attention-grabbing advertisements.

IPPc Receives Bequest

By Jean Mooring, IPPc board member

The Illinois Prairie Path Board of Directors announces that we have received a generous bequest from a longtime Glen Ellyn resident who had retired to Menlo Park, California several years ago. Muriel Hubka and her husband Emil and children lived near Churchill Woods Forest Preserve, one of the most beautiful habitats in the Glen Ellyn area, and loved the animals, birds, and flowers that thrive there. The Hubka family also enjoyed the Prairie Path as shown by the message from their financial advisor which accompanied the bequest: "Muriel and her family felt your organization provided positive and beneficial services to our communities, country, and the world at large. They are grateful for your existence and thankful to

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Save the Date

THE ILLINOIS PRAIRIE PATH 46th ANNUAL MEETING

Sunday, November 7 at 2 p.m.

Lombard Community Building
433 E. St. Charles Road
(SE corner of Grace &
St. Charles Road)

For more information call Bob Sobie at (630) 858-1730 or Ray Bartels at (630) 606-8851 or send an e-mail to BobSobie@aol.com.

St. James Farm Master Plan

By Andrea Hoyt, office of planning director for the Forest Preserve District of DuPage County

In 2000, through a life-estate agreement with renowned philanthropist and equestrian Brooks McCormick, the Forest Preserve District of DuPage County acquired St. James Farm Forest Preserve in Warrenville and in 2007, formally took possession of the preserve. This 607-acre Winfield estate includes horse stables, indoor and outdoor horseback riding arenas, bull and cow barns, various cottages, a fishing pond, fountains, sculptures, trails, and pin-oak-, red-maple- and black-walnut-lined paths called alleés, modeled after French landscape architecture.

The estate sits to the east of Winfield Road, to the south of Cantigny and to the north and south of Butterfield Road. The Main Farm and the East Farm are north of Butterfield, and the South Farm is on the road's south. The IPP follows the East Farm perim-

eter, crosses under Butterfield Road and then follows the South Farm perimeter. Currently, St. James Farm has two access points from the IPP into the East Farm area. The South Farm area is not open to the public yet.

Since the District's acquisition, the Office of Planning has been formulating a master plan for the new preserve. From property research, data collection, and stakeholder input gathering, the Office drafted a conceptual master plan with three phases. In October 2009, the Office of Planning presented this plan at a public open house and posted it on Web site http://www.dupageforest.com/Conservation/ForestPreserves/St_James_Farm.html, giving the public a month for review and comment.

The District received 115 submissions, of which 37 percent were trail-related issues. District staff reviewed the comments, made appropriate modifications to the plan, and presented it to the Forest Preserve District's Board of Commissioners. On April 6, 2010, the board gave their approval.

The highlights of the plan's phases are:

Phase 1 involves the addition of a main parking lot, an upgrade of the main entrance off of Winfield Road, improvements to primarily the Main Farm buildings and area (such as natural area restoration work), and improvements to preserve paths on the north of Butterfield Road. An additional path will be

created to link to the north (Mack Road and Cantigny).

Phase 2 involves East Farm upgrades to parking and restrooms, and South Farm upgrades to multi-purpose trails and restoration of prairie and woodland areas.

Phase 3 includes parking for Galusha House on the South Farm, upgrades to the East Farm barn, and restoration of an alfalfa field on the north side.

Phase 1 is expected to take seven years to complete, Phase 2 eight years and Phase 3 5 years, all at a cost of 34.5 million dollars.

The master plan's proposed multipurpose trail system connects to both sides of St. James Farm via the existing Butterfield Road underpass, passes through rolling, mature woodlands, restored prairie and meadow areas, and wetland and riparian habitats. It connects to the Illinois Prairie Path, to a neighborhood and middle school to the south, and to other forest preserve trails that lead to Herrick Lake, Blackwell, and Warrenville Grove forest preserves. Bicycle parking is available in the main farm area. When considering trail alignments, the Office of Planning has made an effort to utilize historic trail alignments and alleés of trees and to use existing on-site sculptures as focal points.

Currently, the District is work-

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change of address

DuPage County Trail Maintenance Task Force: ComEd Work Continues

By Deborah Jan Fagan, chief planner and county trail system coordinator

The annual meeting of the DuPage County Trail Maintenance Task Force focused on continuing work with Commonwealth Edison to better manage vegetation along the trail system so that conflicts with power lines are avoided. Following are highlights of accomplishments over the last year.

Standing Stump Removal and Replacement Program

Recall that as a result of concerns regarding ComEd's maintenance trimming in 2009, DuPage County and ComEd formulated a plan to remove selected trees, referred to as "standing stumps," and to replace them with native shrubs which can grow up to twelve feet. By September 2009, ComEd completed the removal work along portions of the Illinois Prairie Path (IPP) in Glen Ellyn, Wheaton, and Lombard and of the Great Western Trail (GWT) in Lombard, Glen Ellyn, Glendale Heights, Carol Stream, and Winfield. In October, the Task Force, the DuPage County Board Environmental Committee, and the DuPage County Board Transportation Committee approved a replanting plan, and by December, ComEd replanted 750 new native shrubs. A summer 2010 inspection of the shrubs—arrowwood viburnum, red and black chokeberry, red twig dogwood, fragrant sumac, gray dogwood, St. John's wort, spicebush, and hazelnut—indicated that almost all appeared established.

West Chicago and Timber Ridge Prairie Restoration Projects

During discussions in the spring of 2009 between ComEd and DuPage County regarding ComEd power lines and compatible vegetation, ComEd suggested undertaking focus area demonstration projects. These projects would meet three goals. The management of vegetation would be compatible with power lines, would support the natural environment, and would follow the DuPage County Trail Maintenance Policy guidelines. Working closely with DuPage County and the Forest Preserve District, ComEd funded and implemented an approved restoration plan at sites along the IPP Geneva Spur at West Chicago Prairie and the GWT at Timber Ridge Forest Preserve. The two new areas

- provide approximately 2.75 square miles of new prairie area;
- promote views of major forest preserve prairies;
- preserve existing native vegetation and remove invasive plants to foster expansion of native species;
- allow trail users to experience unique environments along the trail system, such as unique wetland areas and the Illinois Nature Preserve at West Chicago Prairie;
- provide cluster breaks (visual breaks) of new plants at Timber Ridge Prairie along the north trail border;
- provide increased visibility of existing and proposed path connections, such as Glasshagel Fields, the future West Branch DuPage River Trail/Timber Ridge Trail extension, and the West Chicago Prairie nature walking path.

At the initial inspection, inspectors observed various plants sprouting: wild geranium, blue flag iris, red trillium, mayapple, New England aster, spiderwort, foxglove beard tongue, wild hyacinth, yellow

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Maywood Facelift

Continued from page 1

instrumental in dealing with governmental agencies to create the Cook County section of the IPP.

Completed in the spring of 2009, two lighted walls inscribed “Illinois Prairie Path, Village of Maywood” lie next to two grand obelisks and welcome path users into a courtyard. Inside, four benches sit atop a forty-foot paved medallion. At the edge of the medallion is a drinking fountain. An enormous improvement, the beautification indicates the significance of the site, separates the Path from the street and provides a comfortable resting spot for Path users. In the process, however, the installation destroyed the Proviso East prairie planting.



A southeast view of the courtyard showing a bench on the medallion with some greenery behind it.

In the fall of 2009, The IPPc, along with the Village of Maywood, decided to proceed with landscaping the area with native trees, shrubs, and low-growing vegetation. Rather than planting a natural looking mix, like all of the IPP prairie designs up to this point, they wanted something more formal, more garden-like,



An entrance sign, “Illinois Prairie Path, Village of Maywood,” next to an obelisk.

with same-flowers and same-grasses clumped together. They thought this arrangement would be easier to maintain and would be more visually appealing to the general public.

Given these parameters, Larry Sheaffer, who has been designing, planting and maintaining prairies for The IPPc for thirty years, drew up a landscape plan that included the areas between the street and the walls, around the medallion, and down both sides of the Path. He presented his diagrams and plant selections to The IPPc Board, the Maywood Environmental Commission, and the Maywood City Council, and they all approved it.

This process demonstrated a new partnership with the Village of Maywood. To begin the project, the Water Reclamation District delivered several yards of biosolids (processed sludge) to the site, and staff from the Maywood Street Department spread it over the most disturbed areas. The IPPc placed decorative stones between the lights and the walls, small boulders on both sides of the entrance (to keep bikes off the plants), and a large boulder on the

Path between the obelisks (to discourage vehicular entrance from First Avenue). Sheaffer purchased several dozen daffodil and tulip bulbs, some blue beech trees, and two types of shrubs—New Jersey tea and fragrant sumac—from Possibility Place Nursery and planted them.

In the spring of 2010, Sheaffer obtained approximately a thousand plugs of grasses and flowers from Country Road Greenhouses and The Natural Garden. Loretta Brown, a commissioner of the Village of Maywood Environmental Beautification Commission and head of the Maywood Garden Club, who also represented the City and was involved during the entire planning process for the project, enlisted volunteers to do the actual planting. In preparation, Sheaffer got mulch from the Public Works Department of Bellwood, placed it around the individual plant areas and dug holes for plants using long-handled bulb planters. Unfortunately, a heavy rain, so common this year, washed soil into the holes.

On Saturday, May 15, about a dozen very knowledgeable May-

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Looking west, photo captures fountain on left, a bench, the edge of the medallion, and some of the new prairie plants.

Winfield Cleanup

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tent for lunch, and later Forest Preserve staff gave a tour of the 1890s Kline Creek farm.

And the story does not end here. Several dozen box lunches were left over from the event. In the spirit of Earth Day, the Winfield volunteers decided these meals shouldn't go to waste. Delighting the Forest Preserve and Comcast representative, the volunteers took the food to the Midwest Shelter for Homeless Veterans in Wheaton. The shelter staff expressed their gratitude in receiving top-quality fresh food for its deserving clients.

The 2010 Winfield Earth Day Cleanup would not have been possible without the dedication of civic-minded Winfield resi-



On the Illinois Prairie Path, IPPc Board Member Erik Spande and Tom Konopka stand by a pile of debris collected during the Winfield Earth Day Cleanup

dents. As new volunteers, corporate, civic, and governmental partners joined in, the cleanup's scope and meaning increased, reinforcing that we all treasure our public resources. Coming together in such an exemplary way fittingly honored the fortieth anniversary.

Please pass this extra membership card on to a friend or perhaps consider passing along IPP membership information through The IPPc's Winfield Riverwalk Donation Program on page 12.



The Illinois Prairie Path

P.O. Box 1086, Wheaton IL 60187

630-752-0120 www.ipp.org

Membership:

- ☐ I am applying for a new membership
☐ This is a gift membership from _____

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|-----------------------------------|------------|---------------------------------------|----------|-------------------------------------|---------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Society | \$1,000.00 | <input type="checkbox"/> Patron | \$100.00 | <input type="checkbox"/> Supporting | \$50.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Lifetime | \$500.00 | <input type="checkbox"/> Sustaining | \$75.00 | <input type="checkbox"/> Family | \$30.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Donor | \$250.00 | <input type="checkbox"/> Organization | \$50.00 | <input type="checkbox"/> Individual | \$20.00 |

All contributions are tax deductible



Maywood Facelift

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wood Garden Club members, three local Master Gardeners from the University of Illinois Extension, a few enthusiastic volunteers from The IPPc, and two hardworking students from the Proviso East Ecology Club re-dug holes, planted vegetation and watered most of the plants.

With the abundance of rain this growing season, the planting has needed one watering and some weeding. The new prairie is progressing well, with some plants blooming already this summer. The traffic noise is still present, of course, but the area has a totally different appearance and atmosphere. Now bicyclists and hikers stop here, make use of the benches, drink or fill their water bottles at the fountain and send us appreciative comments. The best compliment, though, is feeling the community come alive again in a place that once felt less habitable.

Task Force/ComEd Update

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coneflower, wild bergamot, nodding wild onion, meadow anemone, great Angelica, butterfly weed, common lake sedge, sawtooth sunflower, prairie sunflower, Illinois rose, cup plant, prairie dock, feathery false Solomon's seal, starry false Solomon's seal, prairie cord grass, waxy meadow rue, Culver's root, and American vetch. As work continues, more species should sprout.

ing on the design and construction of the main entrance off of Winfield Road and parking lot at the main farm area, which will greatly increase public access to the preserve. Staff has coordinated the entrance location with Illinois Department of Transportation's Route 56 widening project for a seamless design and construction process.

The District is applying to the state for an Open Space Lands Acquisition and Development grant that would contribute funding toward the proposed picnic area and parking lot off of Mack Road and trail connections to Cantigny Golf Course and the intersection of Winfield and Mack roads. The District also previously applied to the Department of Transportation for a Recreational Trails Program (RTP) grant that would contribute funding toward a trail loop near the main farm area that connects to the Illinois Prairie Path. The RTP grant is expected to be awarded sometime soon. Donations are always appreciated and can be made by contacting Director of Fundraising and Development, Kathi Wagner at (630) 933-7097.

St. James Farm is open daily through November one hour after sunrise until one hour after sunset. Archery, hiking, bicycle riding, horseback riding, catch-and-release fishing, and picnicking are encouraged. Quail-wagon rides are sometimes available to the public for a small fee.

Master Plan Summary

North Half

- Main farm—main interpretive area with historic stables, barns, and support buildings
- East farm—special-event area with show stable, picnic pavilion, dressage and jumping arenas
- Chamossaire picnic area—picnic shelter, restrooms, and parking
- Catch-and-release fishing pond
- North farm (near Mack Road)—trailhead and picnic area, and stream restoration

Circulation, Parking, and Trails

- Main entrance from Winfield Road and parking near main farm
- Entrance from Hoy Avenue and trailer access from Mack Road utilizing the trail for special event trailer access
- Multipurpose trail loop through woodlands accented with existing sculptures with connections to Illinois Prairie Path and other local and regional trails
- Separate pedestrian trails in main and east farm areas

South Half

- Prairie and wetland restoration
- Multipurpose trails with connections to local and regional trails
- Galusha House historical interpretation

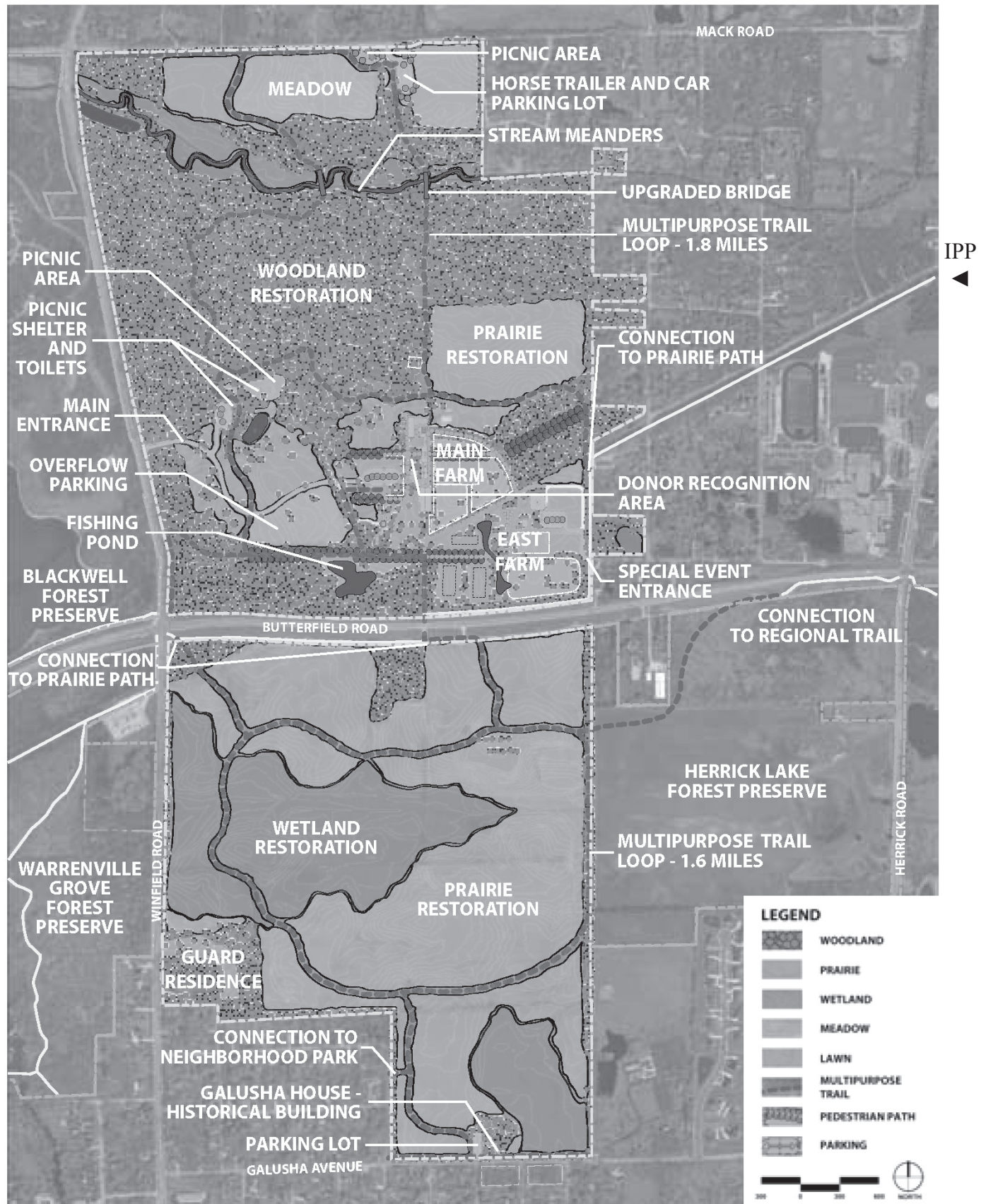
Got a Question?



**Just call us at
630-752-0120
(Voice Mail)**

We all look forward to exploring the new trails and enjoying the amenities that St. James Farm will offer.

Right: January 2010 draft of St. James Farm master plan. North is at the top of the drawing. The Illinois Prairie Path starts in the upper right quadrant, follows the edge of the East Farm, goes under Butterfield Road and then follows the north edge of the South Farm until it crosses Winfield Road.



IPPC's Winfield Riverwalk Donation Program

By Erik Spande, IPPC board member and Winfield Riverwalk Committee member

The ambitious Winfield Riverwalk project, run by the Winfield Riverwalk Committee, involves the creation of a multi-use path near the West Branch DuPage River in the Winfield area. Sections of the Riverwalk in the Forest Preserve will be integrated into the natural surroundings, while the section near the Winfield Town Center will have a more urban feel. This path will connect to the IPP Geneva Spur and extend to Warrenville, forming a north-south link in the DuPage County trail system.

In 2010, the committee reached several milestones in the first phase of the project:

- Completed the conceptual work that outlines where the path will go, its purpose, and the look-and-feel themes (see Web site <http://www.villageofwinfield.com/index.aspx?nid=290>).
- Worked with partner the Forest Preserve District of DuPage County, who agreed to host most of the Riverwalk on their land.
- Reached agreement with Central DuPage Hospital, which has granted the Riverwalk an easement to use their land near downtown Winfield.
- Applied for and officially received a 501 (c) (3) non-profit organization status under name Advocates of the Riverwalk.

They now need to raise approximately \$300,000 to pay for engineering the core of the Riverwalk from Highlake Road to Geneva Road. They already have generous pledges of support from the Forest Preserve and CDH. But they still need to raise the remaining \$80,000, all tax deductible.

To help this worthy cause with benefits to multiple communities and trail users, The IPPC has created the Riverwalk Donation Program. In this program, IPPC members can give a gift membership for a non-IPPC member or a non-member can become an IPPC member by filling out the IPPC's Riverwalk Donation Program form and sending us the form and a donation (see pages 13 and 14). The IPPC will then donate twice this new membership fee to the Winfield Riverwalk—up to a maximum of \$10,000.

If, instead, you are interested in donating directly to Riverwalk, then contact Riverwalk Chair Gary Bernard at (630) 462-6074.

Stearns Road Project Update

By Mike Sullivan, regional planning liaison, Kane/Kendall Council of Mayors

The Elgin Branch of the Illinois Prairie Path will continue to be open during the remainder of the Stearns Road construction, which is expected to end around mid-December. In order to keep the IPP open in the area of IL 25/Stearns Road/Dunham Road, there are two sets of steps that lead up to and down from IL 25. These steps are not recommended for horses, but are manageable for someone with a bicycle. At the IL 25 crossing, push buttons and walk signals now aid pedestrians and cyclists to safely cross the street.

Bequest

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the people who work for them.”

Muriel's daughter, Sue Hubka Gallen, member of the Glenbard West Class of 1968, says, “My parents loved riding their bikes on the Prairie Path and used it often. Later in life, my husband and I took our two little boys riding. It was such a great experience for them since we have nothing like it in California where we live.”

The IPPC Board of Directors is honored to receive this expression of appreciation of our work and intends to use this gift on special projects. An example of putting the gift to good use might be to rebuild the weathered overlook at one of our favorite places along the Prairie Path, Wheaton's Lincoln Marsh.

The Illinois Prairie Path not-for-profit corporation's



Donation Program

The Winfield Riverwalk Project

The Winfield Riverwalk project is a proposed pathway along the West Branch DuPage River that will offer recreation, education, and health opportunities for Winfield residents and outdoor enthusiasts, and Riverwalk will promote the Winfield community and area businesses. The Riverwalk is sponsored by the Advocates of the Riverwalk non-profit organization and the Village of Winfield, and has the support of the Forest Preserve District of DuPage County, DuPage County, and Central DuPage Hospital (CDH).

The planning phase of Riverwalk is complete, and the next hurdle is completing the engineering work so the path can be built. The Forest Preserve has set aside funds for sections of Riverwalk on Forest Preserve property. In addition, CDH has been very generous to offer \$80,000 to Riverwalk, where they will match contributions one-for-one.

Double Your Money - and then Double It Again

The Illinois Prairie Path not-for-profit corporation (IPPC) founded the IPP in 1965 and continues to work with DuPage County and other organizations as a tireless advocate for trails, recreation, and alternative transportation. The IPPC fully supports the Winfield Riverwalk as a wonderful extension of our world-class trail system.

And The IPPC will financially support the Riverwalk. From now until November 7, 2010 (the date of our annual meeting). The IPPC will donate to Riverwalk a sum equal to DOUBLE the fee for any new IPPC member level up to \$100 (patron level) that supports the Riverwalk. The IPPC has allocated a maximum of \$10,000 to this goal.

But it gets better. CDH has offered to match \$80,000 that the Advocates of the Riverwalk is able to raise from businesses, individuals, or organizations for Riverwalk engineering. The IPPC will give its donation to the Advocates of the Riverwalk, which can then use the funds toward the \$80,000 it needs to raise to qualify for the generous CDH match. This effectively means that an IPPC membership is doubled twice: once by the IPPC and then by CDH. This program is an outstanding way to support The IPPC, acknowledge the generosity of CDH, and also provide critical resources to the Riverwalk project.



www.ipp.org

*****Winfield Riverwalk Donation Program application on next page*****

I can elect to join The IPPc or provide a gift membership for a friend or family member to participate in The IPPc's Winfield Riverwalk Donation Program.

Remember that each membership level will be DOUBLED as a gift from The IPPc to the Advocates of the Riverwalk for the Winfield Riverwalk project.

New IPPc members will also receive a color IPP map.

The ILLINOIS PRAIRIE PATH not-for-profit corporation MEMBERSHIP FORM

Yes! I want to support the Winfield Riverwalk, The IPPc, and acknowledge the generous support of the Central DuPage Hospital!

_____ I am applying for a NEW membership, and I want The IPPc to DOUBLE my membership fee and give this money to the WINFIELD RIVERWALK.

_____ I am applying for a NEW GIFT membership with The IPPc, and I want The IPPc to DOUBLE the membership fee and give this money to the WINFIELD RIVERWALK.

The IPPc membership level I wish to participate at is:

- _____ Individual (\$20 - for a **\$40** gift to the Riverwalk, equaling **\$80** with the CDH match)
- _____ Family (\$30 - for a **\$60** gift to the Riverwalk, equaling **\$120** with the CDH match)
- _____ Supporting (\$50 - for a **\$100** gift to the Riverwalk, equaling **\$200** with the CDH match)
- _____ Sustaining (\$75 - for a **\$150** gift to the Riverwalk, equaling **\$300** with the CDH match)
- _____ Patron (\$100 - for a **\$200** gift to the Riverwalk, equaling **\$400** with the CDH match)

If this is a gift membership, this gift is from: _____

Contact information for the new IPPc member or gift member

Name: _____

Street: _____

City and State: _____ ZIP: _____

Phone: () _____

E-mail: _____



www.ippc.org

Note: The IPPc will keep your e-mail address and personal information for our internal records only. This information will not be released or sold to any other outside party

Make checks payable to ILLINOIS PRAIRIE PATH. Give this form to an IPPc representative, or mail to:
The Illinois Prairie Path
P.O. Box 1086
Wheaton, IL 60187

Illinois Prairie Path Store

Show Your Support For The Illinois Prairie Path! Enjoy the IPP in style with our long sleeve, polo or t-shirt styles, all with the distinctive IPP logo. Our denim and polo shirts feature an embroidered logo with green and white thread above the left breast area. For a current shirt inventory, go to www.ipp.org/GUI/ipp_store.htm.

Shipping and handling for shirt orders is:
\$4 + \$1 for each shirt ordered.



NEW

This 100% cotton serene green T-shirt has a deeper green logo on front & IPP map & logo on back. Sizes S, M, L, XL, 2XL, and 3XL. **\$15** plus S&H.

This 100% cotton polo (medium brown) features an embroidered IPPc logo (green and white thread) with three wood-tone buttons. Sizes S, M, L, XL, and 2XL. **\$25** plus S&H.

SALE



CLOSEOUT

The 7.26 oz. 100% cotton long sleeve denim shirt is available in both natural (light khaki) and light blue denim colors. It features wood-tone buttons, double-needle stitching and a button-down pocket. **\$25.00** plus S&H. Sizes M & XL in blue. Only XL left in natural.

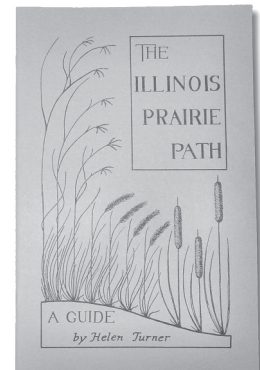
Illinois Prairie Path Color Map 7th Edition. Only **\$6** - includes postage and shipping. (Note: new members are sent one free map when they join The IPPc)

- Full color illustrations and photos
- Large 18" x 24" size (folds to 3½" x 9") on tear- and water-resistant paper
- Includes suburb/street detail of the 62-mile trail from Cook County west to Kane County
- Discover 26 points of interest along the IPP and 14 recommended bike routes
- Details train stations, prairies, parking lots, rest rooms and drinking fountains
- Learn more about The IPPc's management, its history and its founder May Watts. Published by The Illinois Prairie Path not-for-profit corporation.



The IPPc Patch shows you care. 3 x 2½ in. The patch can be yours for **\$1.50** each. Includes shipping.

IPP Guidebook—by Helen Turner. This 32-page guidebook contains information about the history, geology, trees, flowers, birds and animals of the Illinois Prairie Path. Cost: **\$5** per copy includes shipping.



Name _____ Phone _____ E-mail _____
Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Item(s) Requested _____ Size _____ Amount Enclosed \$ _____

Send this order form and check to: The Illinois Prairie Path, P.O. Box 1086, Wheaton, IL 60187



www.ipp.org

The Illinois Prairie Path Newsletter
P.O. Box 1086
Wheaton, IL 60187

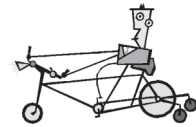
Nonprofit Organization
U.S. Postage
PAID
Carol Stream, IL 60188
Permit No. 621

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

DATED MATERIAL



Prairie Path Trail Etiquette



Regulations to Protect People, Animals and Power Lines:

- Cyclists and equestrians should give an audible warning when overtaking another user by calling out “passing on the left.”
- Users should make an effort to stay to the right when traveling on the Path.
- Cyclists should not travel at excessive speeds.
- Care should be given when approaching horses to avoid “spooking” them.
- Cyclists (really all users) should stay on the surfaced portion of the path and not damage native vegetation and landscaped areas.
- Cyclists should wear helmets at all times.
- Pets must be leashed and you must clean up after them.
- No motorized vehicles, not even golf carts, are allowed (county law). Power-assisted wheelchairs *are* allowed.
- No firearms, kites, or remote controlled toys.
- No hunting.
- No alcoholic beverages or controlled substances.
- We provide trash containers at many intersections—please use them.
- Camping is not allowed on the Path. The Path is adjacent to several county forest preserves. For camping information call the DuPage County Forest Preserve District, 630-933-7200, or Kane County Forest Preserve District, 630-232-5980.