

Thanks to all who participated in the 2019 Earth Day Cleanup!

A few of the volunteers are shown below.



Glenbard West Key Club (Glen Ellyn) students volunteered during the Path's April 27th Cleanup!

Thanks to these groups for adopting and cleaning a stretch of the Path!

Advanced Chiropractic
Alpha Tau Omega at Elmhurst College
Boy Scout Troop 373
CDM Smith Inc.
DW Running
Elaine Dow & Family Keep on Biking
Elmhurst Bicycle Club
First Church of Lombard


Glenbard West Key Club
Metea Valley Eco Club
Molex
Monarch Landing Bike Club
Primera Engineers
Sierra Club River Prairie Group
Trinity Lutheran Church
Villa Park Pride Committee



On Saturday May 4, Geocachers cleaned up the Path along Diehl Road in Naperville.



This unknown volunteer repaired a bench along the Path! Thank You! **PLEASE REPORT MAINTENANCE ISSUES by calling the Path at 630-752-0120.**

**YOU'RE INVITED!**
DUPAGE COUNTY

**Chairman Dan Cronin's
BIKE TO WORK 2019**

Location
Illinois Prairie Path at Spring Road
Elmhurst, Illinois

Date and Time
Tuesday, June 25, 2019
Meet at 7:00 AM
Departure at 7:15 AM

What Is Bike to Work?
Bike to Work is an opportunity for DuPage residents and bicycle enthusiasts to ride with DuPage County Board Chairman Dan Cronin. The bike ride will start in Elmhurst, following the Illinois Praire Path to the DuPage County complex in Wheaton. Riders are invited to attend the County Board meeting at 10:00 AM, where the Chairman will provide a proclamation in support of active transportation.

RSVP to Sidney Kenyon, Senior Transportation Planner, at sidney.kenyon@dupageco.org



The Illinois Prairie Path Newsletter
June/Summer 2019



Illinois Prairie Path records and stories featured in upcoming digital exhibit

By Rebecca Skirvin, North Central College, Coordinator of Archives and Special Collections

What do the Chicago Academy of Natural Sciences, the Lincoln Park Zoo, the Chicago Botanic Garden, and North Central College (the home of the Illinois Prairie Path archives) have in common? Our archives all contain stories about how everyday people have worked to study and conserve Chicagoland's natural environment since the city was founded in 1833. Thanks to the efforts of the Chicago Collections Consortium, a group of libraries, archives, and museums that work together to expand access to materials on Chicago's history, members of all four institutions met in April 2018 to start planning a digital exhibit to spread the word about these remarkable groups and organizations – including the Illinois Prairie Path.



Founding IPP members Lillian Lasch and Liz Holmes, 1974 organize the Path's space.



Equestrians and pedestrians enjoy the Path.

Tentatively titled "The Wild in the City," the exhibit, which will be housed on the Chicago Collections Consortium's website, will include in-depth stories from each of the contributing institutions as well as a general timeline of environmental history in the Chicago area. Over several meetings through the summer and fall of 2018, we decided on loose themes to tie our individual stories together: advocacy, collaboration, and education. In 2019, we began choosing images for the exhibit.

The cornerstone of any good exhibit is strong visuals, so when I began to look through the Illinois Prairie Path images, I aimed to select striking images that would illustrate the three

themes. To fill out the narrative that accompanies the visuals, I read through all of the back issues of the Illinois Prairie Path newsletters and dipped into other parts of the Illinois Prairie Path records when I needed more detail. While founder May Watts gets her due in this exhibit, I wanted to focus on the many IPP members who have continued and expanded her work.

When you see the exhibit, scheduled for launch in July, you will see familiar faces and, I hope, get a fuller sense of how your work as IPP members contributed to the environmental history of Chicago and the United States as a whole. After the exhibit launch, there are events scheduled at all member institutions, including a lecture at North Central College on native people's relationship with the tallgrass prairies of northern Illinois.

More information will be coming soon.



Dr. Warren Keck of the North Central College Department of Biology leads the 1968 Fall Tour on a section of the Prairie Path in Warrenville.

DuPage County to resurface Path segments

By Sid Kenyon, Senior Transportation Planner, DuPage County



What is the plan?

This summer, the County is going to resurface about a mile and a half of screened paths in two parts of the County.

Comprehensiveness

The trail maintenance activities taking place here are what we typically perform for our screened paths. We go over screened paths with limestone screenings and, when possible, bring in a roller to press it down and slow deterioration. Every year we have a different section we address.

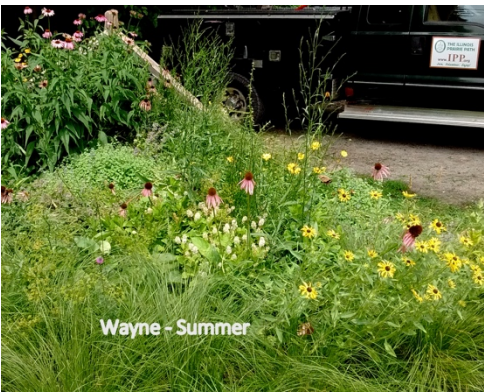
Targeted areas

Westmore to Main in Lombard was our first priority. Later this summer we will turn our attention to **Hobson Road on the Southern DuPage Regional Trail**, where we will

resurface over a mile of trail with limestone screenings.

Timeline

We get to these activities whenever we have staff and resources available. DuPage County will be using a grading tool to smooth the Illinois Prairie Path throughout the Main Stem. So our guys are often being asked to do a different activity each day. But it's safe to say that we will finish resurfacing by the end of this construction season.



Wayne - Summer



All of the native plant photos in this publication were taken by Larry Sheaffer, Path Legacy Volunteer.



Dragonfly on Little Bluestem

2019 March, April and May

THANK YOU!

Your membership and donation dollars are used to provide services and fund improvements benefitting Illinois Prairie Path members and users.

NEW MEMBERS

Bernard Bartelli
Rachel Boultinghouse
Bill Geiser
John Galati
Amy Heinz
Al Knoeck
Yvonne Landorf
William Latura
Matthew McGovern
Carol O'Neill
John and Barbara Shaw
Jake Sheehan
Eric Shivvers
Theresa Weicker & Renwick Johnson
Gene Wineinger
Bob Van Valzah

DONORS / GIFTS / GRANTS

Mark Antell
Mr. and Mrs. Bruce Dresser
Erik and Amy Gfesser
Kent Gladish
Patrick Henkel
Trees for Trails - Quinto B. Jensen
James and Christine Kukla
Scott Kulat
Randall Miller
Mike Oswald
James Robinson
Mike Oswald
John Rutledge
Deborah Stuber
John & Barbara Yep



Visit the May Watts Reading Garden at the Morton Arboretum

Copyright 2019 The Morton Arboretum

Are you thinking about an outing this summer? How about visiting a beautiful garden, dedicated to **May T. Watts**, the founder of our Illinois Prairie Path? *Here is a description provided by The Morton Arboretum:*

"An intimate garden named in honor of May Theilgaard Watts, naturalist, a long-time educator, ecologist, and environmentalist at The Morton Arboretum, is tucked away next to the Arboretum's Sterling Morton Library, just west of the Visitor Center. It is ideal for reading or browsing through one of the library's many fine books or reading one of your own.

The May Watts Reading Garden is open seven days a week, during the growing season, April through October. The garden can be entered from the Sterling Morton Library. Or, when the library is closed on Sunday and Mondays, you can reach the garden through the entrance gate on the north side.

The garden was designed by Watts and librarian Mary Moulton and contains intriguing and unusual plants. They include May T. Watts hosta (*Hosta* 'May T. Watts'), Orange Meadowbrite™ coneflower (*Echinacea* 'Art's Pride'), and, against the library's walls, magnificent espaliers of dawn redwood (*Metasequoia glyptostroboides*) and ginkgo (*Ginkgo biloba*)."

Morton Arboretum / 4100 Illinois Route 53 / Lisle, IL 60532 - Phone: 630-968-0074

The Morton Arboretum, in Lisle, Illinois, is a public garden and outdoor museum with a library, herbarium, and program in tree research including the Center for Tree Science. Its grounds, covering 1,700 acres, include cataloged collections of trees and other living plants, gardens, and restored areas, among which is a restored tallgrass prairie. The living collections include more than 4,100 different plant species. There are more than 200,000 cataloged plants.

June 2019 / Stay Connected: www.ipp.org, info@ipp.org, Facebook, or 630-752-0120