



Sustain Our Great Lakes

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PARTNERS

- Careus Foundation
- Cleveland-Cliffs
- Crown Family Philanthropies
- General Mills
- Ralph C. Wilson Jr. Foundation
- Milwaukee Metropolitan Sewerage District
- Walder Foundation
- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
- USDA Forest Service
- USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service

ABOUT NFWF

Chartered by Congress in 1984, the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF) protects and restores the nation's fish, wildlife, plants and habitats. Working with federal, corporate and individual partners, NFWF has funded more than 6,000 organizations and generated a total conservation impact of \$7.4 billion.



Brook trout

OVERVIEW

Sustain Our Great Lakes is a public-private partnership that supports habitat restoration in the Great Lakes basin. Administered by the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, the program receives funding and other support from Crown Family Philanthropies, Careus Foundation, Cleveland-Cliffs, General Mills, Ralph C. Wilson Jr. Foundation, Milwaukee Metropolitan Sewerage District, Walder Foundation, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, U.S.D.A. Forest Service, and U.S.D.A. Natural Resources Conservation Service with additional support this year from the Bezos Earth Fund. Significant program funding is provided by the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative, a federal program designed to protect, restore and enhance the Great Lakes ecosystem. In 2022, 48 grants totaling approximately \$14.8 million were awarded, leveraging approximately \$18.3 million in grantee matching contributions and generating a total on-the-ground conservation impact of \$33.1 million.

Collectively, the 48 projects receiving grants will:

- Restore more than 9 miles of stream and riparian habitat
- Reconnect 154 miles of river for fish passage
- Remove or rectify 31 barriers to aquatic organism passage
- Restore 2,400 acres of wetland habitat
- Prevent more than 645 tons of sediment from entering waterways annually
- Add 66 million gallons of stormwater storage capacity
- Improve land management using regenerative agriculture practices on 32,000 acres of farmland

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STREAM AND RIPARIAN HABITAT RESTORATION

The following projects seek to improve the quality and connectivity of stream and riparian habitat by restoring aquatic connectivity, naturalizing stream channel configuration, and improving in-stream and riparian habitat. Projects will address barriers to aquatic connectivity, reduce nutrient and sediment runoff, and improve habitat to benefit priority native fish species, such as brook trout and lake sturgeon.

Connecting Upstream Habitat for Brook Trout in Beavertail Creek (MI)

Grantee: Huron Pines Resource Conservation & Development Council

Grant Amount:..... \$250,100
 Matching Funds:..... \$368,000
 Total Project Amount:..... \$618,100

Replace three undersized road/stream crossings with appropriately sized and aligned crossing structures on Beavertail Creek to provide aquatic organism passage to upstream habitat during all lifecycle movements. Project will connect 17 miles of coldwater habitat to address aquatic habitat fragmentation and sedimentation issues for brook trout and other aquatic species.

Enhancing Stream Function and Wetlands to Improve Water Quality at Woodland Dunes (WI)

Grantee: Woodland Dunes Nature Center and Preserve

Grant Amount:..... \$235,000
 Matching Funds:..... \$350,000
 Total Project Amount:..... \$585,000

Implement stream and wetland enhancements including re-meandering of the linear channel at Forget Me Not Creek, a channelized and degraded tributary to Lake Michigan that flows through the Woodland Dunes Preserve. Project will enhance aquatic and wetland habitats, increase native species diversity, reduce sediment loading, and improve water quality at Woodland Dunes and in downstream Lake Michigan.

Improving Fish Passage and Coldwater Connectivity in Michigan

Grantee: Trout Unlimited

Grant Amount:..... \$250,000
 Matching Funds:..... \$250,000
 Total Project Amount:..... \$500,000

Replace culverts with improved structures using concepts of stream simulation design designed to span bankfull width, maintain channel morphology, and allow for aquatic organism passage. Project will improve aquatic organism passage at three road-stream crossings within the Sturgeon, Tahquamenon and Whitefish Watersheds, and improve connectivity to over 20 miles of high-quality coldwater habitat.

Improving Stream Crossings for Brook Trout in Northwest Lower Michigan

Grantee: Conservation Resource Alliance

Grant Amount:..... \$750,000
 Matching Funds:..... \$1,405,000
 Total Project Amount:..... \$2,155,000

Build on a long-term conservation partnership to improve eleven stream crossings and develop 25 individual road-stream crossing designs to reconnect coldwater habitat in high-quality northern Lake Michigan and Lake Huron watersheds containing brook trout. Project will reconnect 24 miles of upstream habitat to 16 miles of high-quality habitat lower in the watersheds, including downstream reaches, Lake Leelanau, and Lake Michigan.

Reconnecting and Monitoring Climate Resilient Brook Trout Habitat in Northeast Wisconsin

Grantee: Trout Unlimited

Grant Amount:..... \$409,300
 Matching Funds:..... \$1,015,000
 Total Project Amount:..... \$1,424,300

Remove or replace at least 10 aquatic organism passage barriers in watersheds on or adjacent to the Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest and contribute to existing programs monitoring brook trout population dynamics and movement. Project will reconnect at least 45 miles of coldwater habitat to expand resilient brook trout habitat in northeast Wisconsin's Lake Michigan watershed and build partnerships between Tribes, communities, non-profits, and agencies to strengthen conservation.

Reconnecting Brook Trout Spawning Habitat in the Muskegon River Watershed (MI)

Grantee: Muskegon River Watershed Assembly

Grant Amount:..... \$220,000
 Matching Funds:..... \$297,300
 Total Project Amount:..... \$517,300

Remove of two high priority derelict dams located in wetland habitat for brook trout in the Muskegon River Watershed. Project will reconnect of 25 miles of brook trout spawning and nursery habitat, provide access for trout to coldwater refugia, reestablish natural channel form and hydrologic flow, and increase public access for recreational water activities.

Reconnecting Coldwater Habitat for Brook Trout and Culvert Assessments in Black River (NY)

Grantee: Trout Unlimited

Grant Amount:..... \$319,600
 Matching Funds:..... \$166,800
 Total Project Amount:..... \$486,400

Project Summary Replace two priority culverts to reconnect 7.5 miles for native brook trout in the Black River watershed. Project will improve the quality and connectivity of coldwater streams in the Great Lakes and Adirondack region and complete approximately 350 culvert assessments expanding and coordinating work with local municipalities and partners to restore coldwater habitat and flood resiliency.

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Mallard ducks over Lake Michigan

Restoring Wetlands for Wildlife, Aquatic Species, and Improving Water Quality in the Root River (WI)

Grantee: Root-Pike Watershed Initiative Network
 Grant Amount:..... \$200,500
 Matching Funds:..... \$273,000
 Total Project Amount:..... \$473,500
 Reconstruct 850 feet of the ditched and eroded East Branch of the Root River in Milwaukee County to provide increased connectivity wetlands, repair detached floodplain conditions, and create microhabitat features for macroinvertebrates, forage fish populations, threatened mussel species, northern pike, and pollinators such as the rusty patched bumblebee. Project will restore hydrology, improve water quality, and increase diverse habitat conditions for species to thrive in microhabitat features.

Stabilizing and Restoring Riparian and Stream Habitat at Rush Creek (NY)

Grantee: Genesee RiverWatch
 Grant Amount:..... \$212,500
 Matching Funds:..... \$245,200
 Total Project Amount:..... \$457,700
 Restore riparian and stream habitat using toe wood construction to stabilize sections of Rush Creek, placing root wad structures, and clearing the accumulated gravel while redirecting discharge of the creek. Project will stabilize the last 2,600 feet of Rush Creek to reduce sediment and phosphorus discharges to the Genesee River.

COASTAL HABITAT RESTORATION

The following projects seek to improve the quality and connectivity of Great Lakes coastal habitat by restoring aquatic connectivity, improving wetland habitat, and controlling invasive species. Projects will restore critical habitat to benefit species of conservation concern including migratory shorebirds, waterfowl, and marsh-spawning fish such as northern pike.

Enhancing Critical Dune Habitat in Western Michigan

Grantee: Muskegon Conservation District
 Grant Amount:..... \$250,000
 Matching Funds:..... \$168,000
 Total Project Amount:..... \$418,000
 Manage hemlock forests for the invasive hemlock wooly adeligid on public lands in Muskegon and Ottawa counties in West Michigan. Project will help protect hemlocks for migratory shoreline bird, marsh bird, and waterfowl habitat.

Enhancing Lake Michigan Coastal and Riparian Habitats for Migratory Birds (WI)

Grantee: American Bird Conservancy
 Grant Amount:..... \$330,000
 Matching Funds:..... \$341,500
 Total Project Amount:..... \$671,500
 Restore and enhance wetland, forested and riparian habitats to benefit a variety of migratory waterfowl, shorebirds, land birds, waterbirds and pollinator species. Project will expand on-going restoration at eight coastal preserves located along the Lake Michigan flyway in Wisconsin, in partnership with municipal and non-profit partners, to benefit declining and imperiled bird, pollinator and plant species.

Improving Wetland Habitat Management at Harsens Island East Marsh (MI)

Grantee: Ducks Unlimited
 Grant Amount:..... \$310,300
 Matching Funds:..... \$283,000
 Total Project Amount:..... \$593,300
 Install a water control pump and control invasive species to restore the ecologically important 825-acre East Marsh coastal emergent wetland at Harsens Island. Project will result in improved management wetland management for breeding marsh birds, waterfowl and black terns.

Improving Upland and Hemi-Marsh Habitats to Support Migratory Waterfowl at Hegewisch Marsh Park (IL)

Grantee: Chicago Park District

Grant Amount:..... \$340,400
 Matching Funds:..... \$342,000
 Total Project Amount:..... \$682,400

Enhance 60 acres of mixed habitat types, including 23 acres of hemi-marsh and 37 acres of adjacent savanna, wet prairie, and vernal pools at Hegewisch Marsh Park on Chicago's southeast side. Project will improve ecological health and suitability for key species of migratory waterfowl by controlling invasive plants, establishing native plant communities, and grading marsh banks to a more natural slope.

Restoring Dune Habitat for Shorebirds at Presque Isle State Park (PA)

Grantee: Pennsylvania Parks and Forests Foundation

Grant Amount:..... \$513,000
 Matching Funds:..... \$310,400
 Total Project Amount:..... \$823,400

Restore 3 acres of dune habitat and decrease erosion and flooding to benefit shorebirds such as piping plover. Project will propagate and plant of over 30 species of native plants and improve dune sand for a more stable shoreline habitat and add protection infrastructure and wetland at Presque Isle State Park.

GREEN STORMWATER INFRASTRUCTURE

The following projects seek to reduce urban stormwater runoff and flooding to improve Great Lakes nearshore health and water quality. Projects will increase stormwater storage capacity and infiltration by installing green stormwater infrastructure, enhancing native habitat, restoring urban forests and improving public green space.

Capturing Stormwater and Adding Habitat at Cleveland Metroparks Lakefront Reservation (OH)

Grantee: Cleveland Metroparks

Grant Amount:..... \$272,500
 Matching Funds:..... \$272,600
 Total Project Amount:..... \$545,100

Install green infrastructure at Lakefront Reservation to reduce stormwater directly being discharged into Lake Erie. Project will capture 5,337,805 gallons of stormwater; include interpretive signs for public education and volunteer engagement and benefit migratory bird species along the lakefront.

Constructing Green Stormwater Infrastructure on Milwaukee Schoolyards (WI)

Grantee: Milwaukee Board of School Directors dba Milwaukee Public Schools

Grant Amount:..... \$600,000
 Matching Funds:..... \$600,000
 Total Project Amount:..... \$1,200,000

Conduct removal of over four acres of asphalt and replace with bioswales, 264 stormwater trees, native plantings, and other green infrastructure. Project will engage students and

community members and result in over 758,000 gallons of stormwater captured annually.

Enhancing Green Infrastructure and Water Quality at Mentor Lagoons Nature Preserve and Marina (OH)

Grantee: City of Mentor

Grant Amount:..... \$270,600
 Matching Funds:..... \$182,500
 Total Project Amount:..... \$453,100

Install permeable pavers and two vegetated buffers to enhance existing green stormwater infrastructure and alleviate stormwater runoff into Lake Erie. Project will expand green stormwater infrastructure at the Mentor Lagoons Nature Preserve and Marina to reduce stormwater runoff and enhance pollinator and migratory bird habitat.

Expanding Green Stormwater Infrastructure through Urban Forestry in Southwest Detroit (MI)

Grantee: The Greening of Detroit

Grant Amount:..... \$365,200
 Matching Funds:..... \$500,200
 Total Project Amount:..... \$865,400

Implement an urban forest restoration project to slow and retain stormwater runoff in the Rouge River watershed to reduce impairments and stressors of nearshore waters along the Lake Erie corridor. Project will strategically plant 500 diverse tree species in public parks and along neighborhood streets in Southwest Detroit, where many residents in the underserved majority-Latino community are affected by higher rates of poverty and greater environmental risks than in other areas of the city.

Green Infrastructure and Urban Reforestation at Ralph C. Wilson Junior Centennial Park (NY)

Grantee: City of Buffalo

Grant Amount:..... \$750,000
 Matching Funds:..... \$1,007,100
 Total Project Amount:..... \$1,757,110

Install 1,650 trees and shrubs at Ralph C. Wilson Jr. Centennial Park located in Buffalo, New York. Project will capture 132,000 gallons of water and 61,000 pounds of carbon dioxide per year while providing much needed services to the local residents by closing a nature gap in the City of Buffalo.

Increasing Stormwater Retention and Restoring Wetland Habitat along the Ottawa River (OH)

Grantee: The Nature Conservancy

Grant Amount:..... \$218,000
 Matching Funds:..... \$219,000
 Total Project Amount:..... \$437,000

Create stormwater retention areas and restore floodplain wetlands along the Ottawa River. Project will convert manicured turf floodplain into a forested wetland complex that will capture and filter an estimated 33 million gallons of stormwater remove pollutants such as phosphorous, nitrogen, and coarse sediment, and plant 5,000 trees.

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Increasing Urban Tree Canopy in Grand Rapids (MI)

Grantee: Friends of Grand Rapids Parks

Grant Amount:..... \$348,200

Matching Funds:..... \$476,700

Total Project Amount:..... \$824,900

Improve water quality, mitigate urban tree canopy loss and reduce stormwater runoff in targeted areas in Grand Rapids, Michigan. Project will plant over 1,500 trees to increase natural areas and increase ecosystem resilience in low and middle-income communities who experience less benefits from green infrastructure compared to other community residents.

Installing Green Stormwater Infrastructure for Buffalo Parks (NY)

Grantee: Open Space Institute Land Trust

Grant Amount:..... \$416,400

Matching Funds:..... \$2,670,000

Total Project Amount:..... \$3,086,400

Reduce stormwater and nutrient pollutant outflow and improve the health and resilience at two parks in Buffalo through addition of green infrastructure and tree plantings. Project will add stormwater storage capacity to capture approximately 138,000 gallons of stormwater per year and enhance neighborhood greenspace for local communities.

Reducing Runoff to Protect Priority Lake Michigan Watersheds (MI)

Grantee: Conservation Resource Alliance

Grant Amount:..... \$360,000

Matching Funds:..... \$450,000

Total Project Amount:..... \$810,000

Execute a comprehensive tree planting plan to reduce runoff and sediment nutrient loading into Lake Michigan and its tributaries in Michigan. Project will plant 15,000 trees on 450 acres of Tribal, national forest, private, and publicly accessible protected lands and build a network of staff, volunteers, youth, and landowners as stewards to grow and maintain the region's forests.

Reducing Stormwater Runoff through Community Tree Planting (MI)

Grantee: Friends of the Rouge

Grant Amount:..... \$260,000

Matching Funds:..... \$220,000

Total Project Amount:..... \$480,000

Engage communities in tree plantings to build resilience in underserved communities in southeast Michigan. Project will plant 3,000 trees that capture an estimated 2,045,000 gallons of stormwater runoff per year in communities that experience pollution from nearby heavy industry and freeways.

Saginaw Regional Tree Planning Initiative (MI)

Grantee: Saginaw Basin Land Conservancy

Grant Amount:..... \$203,400

Matching Funds:..... \$92,500

Total Project Amount:..... \$295,900

Implement the Better Branches Regional Tree Initiative on vacant lots in Saginaw to increase the tree community and canopy. Project will engage volunteers to plant 3,000 trees and enhance green infrastructure for the community.

REGENERATIVE AGRICULTURE

The following projects seek to improve water quality, soil health, biodiversity and working land resilience by providing technical assistance to landowners with a focus on accelerating the planning and adoption of regenerative agriculture principles. Regenerative agriculture is a systems approach to farming and ranching that integrates multiple principles of agricultural management for improving ecosystem function and resilience.

Accelerating Conservation Practices and Regenerative Agriculture on Working Lands (WI)

Grantee: GrassWorks

Grant Amount:..... \$349,800

Matching Funds:..... \$349,800

Total Project Amount:..... \$699,600

Engage producers in conservation and regenerative agriculture principles through partner-coordinated outreach such as workshops, peer to peer learning, and on-farm technical assistance. Project will coordinate partners to assist with the adoption of regenerative agriculture practices on 14,400 acres to reduce sediment and phosphorous losses along with improved soil health, water quality and biodiversity.



Piping plover

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Accelerating Regenerative Agriculture Technical Assistance for Water and Wildlife (MI)

Grantee: Pheasants Forever

Grant Amount:..... \$274,100

Matching Funds:..... \$275,000

Total Project Amount:..... \$549,100

Hire new technical assistance capacity in Southeast Michigan to train and work as a Regenerative Ag and Conservation Specialist. Project will directly engage at least 30 farmers to identify opportunities to simultaneously provide environmental benefits and positive economic return through implementation of regenerative agriculture practices.

Advancing Regenerative Agriculture Adoption on Women-Owned Farms through Peer-to-Peer Learning (NY)

Grantee: American Farmland Trust

Grant Amount:..... \$350,000

Matching Funds:..... \$350,000

Total Project Amount:..... \$700,000

Provide interactive, farmer-led, technical events targeting women landowners to showcase practical on-farm regenerative agriculture. Project will accelerate the implementation of comprehensive regenerative agriculture practices on over 1,200 acres on four women-owned farms in New York's Great Lakes watershed through leveraging existing peer-to-peer networks and strong technical service provider partnerships.

Farmer Woodland Owner Technical Assistance to Enhance Agroforestry and Woodland Management (MI, OH, WI)

Grantee: Michigan State University

Grant Amount:..... \$169,300

Matching Funds:..... \$180,700

Total Project Amount:..... \$350,000

Support integrated agricultural and farmer woodland and agroforestry management through collaborative extension programs that connect farmers with resource professionals to support ecosystem service markets, woodland management, agroforestry, and tree-planting practices. Project will help farmers navigate strategies for innovative uses of trees and forests to improve farm viability and increase water quality and social benefits.

Supporting Farmer-Led Efforts to Implement Regenerative Agriculture and Enhance Sustainability (WI)

Grantee: Farmers for Sustainable Food

Grant Amount:..... \$153,500

Matching Funds:..... \$160,100

Total Project Amount:..... \$313,600

Hire local conservation professionals to assist farmers in developing regenerative plans to improve the environmental impact of current farm management. Project will determine regenerative practices to reduce soil, phosphorus and nitrogen loss to local water resources with 12 farms, including eight dairy and four crop.

INVASIVE SPECIES CONTROL

The following projects seek to protect and enhance the quality of previously restored habitat through strategic invasive species control. Terrestrial and coastal invasive plants will be treated or removed through chemical and manual methods throughout the Great Lakes basin. The strategic retreatment and initial treatment of invasive species conducted by these projects is critical for control efforts to be effective in the long term and will enable the successful establishment of native plants.

Collaborative Invasive Species Control and Native Restoration in Wisconsin's Great Lakes Basin

Grantee: Glacierland Resource Conservation & Development Council

Grant Amount:..... \$375,000

Matching Funds:..... \$410,000

Total Project Amount:..... \$785,000

Implement a regional landscape-level approach to managing Phragmites and Japanese Knotweed on ecologically sensitive communities including Lake Michigan and Lake Winnebago shorelines and coastal wetlands, inland waterways and connecting wetlands and roadside ditches. Project will continue and expand control efforts and will restore 859 acres and retreat 550 acres to improve ecosystem services for the native plants and animals that depends on them.

Habitat Maintenance and Enhancement at Little Auglaize Wildlife Reserve Early Successional Forest (OH)

Grantee: Black Swamp Conservancy

Grant Amount:..... \$200,000

Matching Funds:..... \$203,000

Total Project Amount:..... \$403,000

Manage widespread infestations of invasive teasel and reed canary grass in emergent wetland in the riparian zone of the Little Auglaize River. Project will treat invasive species across 125 acres of early successional forest habitat and 5 acres of wetland on a nature preserve to enhance the development of an early successional oak-hickory forest to increase habitat availability for listed bat species, migratory birds and other locally important species.

Invasive Species Management in the Pere Marquette, Muskegon, and Lower Grand Watersheds (MI)

Grantee: Ottawa Conservation District

Grant Amount:..... \$200,000

Matching Funds:..... \$200,000

Total Project Amount:..... \$400,000

Manage invasive species in the Pere Marquette, Muskegon, and Lower Grand watersheds through new treatment and retreatment efforts including invasive bittersweet, Japanese knotweed, and Phragmites. Project will facilitate treatment of invasive species as part of a long-term plan for continued management to preserve habitat, water quality and biodiversity.

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Northern pike

Maintaining Rare Lakeplain Oak Openings Habitat through Invasive Species Management (OH) - Phase II

Grantee: The Nature Conservancy
 Grant Amount:..... \$330,000
 Matching Funds:..... \$330,000
 Total Project Amount:..... \$660,000
 Enhance habitat quality in globally imperiled Lakeplain Oak Openings natural communities in northwest Ohio. Project will improve habitat for species dependent upon Lakeplain Oak Openings through the deduction of invasive plant species that degrade habitat quality and ecosystem function, and conservation of plant and animal diversity in a global biodiversity hotspot within the Lake Erie basin.

Protecting and Enhancing the Galien River Watershed through Invasive Species Control (MI)

Grantee: Chikaming Open Lands
 Grant Amount:..... \$220,600
 Matching Funds:..... \$151,500
 Total Project Amount:..... \$372,100
 Enhance habitat through targeted invasive species control along the Galien River, which empties into Lake Michigan. Project will enhance 416 acres of natural areas throughout the watershed, benefitting resident and migratory wildlife populations, providing valuable ecosystem services to local communities, and safeguarding the Great Lakes Basin from additional invasive species.

Restoring Great Lakes Coastal Wetlands and Riverine Habitat through Invasive Species Control (MI)

Grantee: Arenac Conservation District
 Grant Amount:..... \$925,000
 Matching Funds:..... \$319,500
 Total Project Amount:..... \$1,244,500
 Manage invasive species through new treatment and retreatment for phragmites in Saginaw Bay and surrounding wetlands. Project will improve habitat quality across more than 360 acres that are home to multiple rare species and communities and provide stopover habitat for migratory waterfowl species.

Restoring Habitat and Managing Invasive Species in the Lake Superior Watershed (MN)

Grantee: City of Duluth
 Grant Amount:..... \$201,400
 Matching Funds:..... \$60,000
 Total Project Amount:..... \$261,400
 Treat invasive species and enhance habitat along the Tischer Creek and Kingsbury Creek Watersheds near Duluth, Minnesota. Project will manage invasive species on more than 250 acres to increase biodiversity, enhance habitat enhancement for birds, insects and fish and improve buffer zones to protect water quality.

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Restoring Northern Headwaters through Habitat Management (MI)

Grantee: Huron Pines Resource Conservation & Development Council

Grant Amount:..... \$239,000

Matching Funds:..... \$299,000

Total Project Amount:..... \$538,000

Improve the health of the Great Lakes through invasive species control, native plant enhancement, and increasing community awareness by focusing on the nine river systems originating in Northern Michigan's interior. Project will control invasive species, provide outreach and enhance degraded areas with native plants across all nine river systems in order to support healthier watersheds. members.

Restoring Rare Ecosystems in the Lake Michigan Watershed (IL)

Grantee: Friends of the Forest Preserves

Grant Amount:\$200,000

Matching Funds:.....\$200,000

Total Project Amount:\$400,000

Train and employ a five-member crew to conduct maintenance of invasive species control efforts with the Calumet Conservation Corps Program at Wentworth Woods and Prairie Forest Preserves. Project will increase native plant species abundance and richness across 150 acres to advance restoration of unique wetland ecosystems in the Calumet region of Illinois and advance skills and certifications for crew.

Riparian Restoration through Invasive Species Control (MI)

Grantee: Marquette County Conservation District

Grant Amount:..... \$146,700

Matching Funds:..... \$145,000

Total Project Amount:..... \$291,700

Treat and restore riparian habitat in the Lower Dead River Watershed Basin through the management of invasive butterbur,

currently found in extremely limited locations in Michigan. Project will remove the invasive butterbur to curb spread in coldwater riparian habitat along the Lower Dead River.

WISCONSIN SPECIAL INITIATIVE

The following projects seek to restore and preserve of a wide variety of habitats and natural landscapes in the region, including but not limited to prairies, grasslands, oak savannas, upland and lowland forests, wetlands and ephemeral ponds, beaches and dune systems. Projects will protect, restore and support both urban biodiversity and habitat quality in Wisconsin's Lake Michigan Watershed.

Facilitating Biodiversity and Education at Mequon Nature Preserve through Wetland Restoration (WI)

Grantee: Mequon Nature Preserve

Grant Amount:..... \$160,900

Matching Funds:.....\$80,100

Total Project Amount:..... \$241,000

Restore agricultural fields to historic wetlands and prairies, control non-native, invasive plant species threatening high-quality native habitat, and educate Milwaukee Metropolitan youth at Mequon Nature Preserve. Project will restore roughly 10 acres of wetland and 25 acres of upland habitat, reduce the coverage invasive plant species across 358 acres, engage various local school groups in restoration and monitoring, and increase stormwater storage.

Improving Bird Habitat, Water Quality and Research in Diverse Lake Michigan Communities (WI)

Grantee: Western Great Lakes Bird and Bat Observatory

Grant Amount:..... \$231,200

Matching Funds:..... \$321,100

Total Project Amount:..... \$552,300

Plant native plants, install rain gardens, educate community members, and expand the Motus Wildlife Tracking System in Lake Michigan communities of Wisconsin. Project will plant approximately 4,400 trees and support bird and pollinator habitat, water quality, research infrastructure, and community needs by implementing multi-faceted projects at eighteen locations near the Lake Michigan Coast.

Improving Wetland Habitat and Stormwater Storage in Shagbark Recreational Area (WI)

Grantee: Root-Pike Watershed Initiative Network

Grant Amount:..... \$117,800

Matching Funds:..... \$147,800

Total Project Amount:..... \$265,600

Restore the Shagbark Recreational Area in the City of Kenosha and underserved Lake Michigan watershed by replacing underperforming, mowed turf grass with climate resilient and native species boosting vegetation. Project will improve management of 44 acres to support habitat for endangered species such as the monarch butterfly, rusty-patched bumble bee, Blanding's turtle, increase stormwater storage, and develop outdoor classroom activities.



Black-crowned night heron

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Increasing Green Infrastructure throughout Milwaukee’s 30th Street Corridor (WI)

Grantee: Clean Wisconsin
 Grant Amount:.....\$200,000
 Matching Funds:.....\$188,000
 Total Project Amount:\$388,000

Work with residents to install small-scale green infrastructure practices such as rain barrels, rain gardens, and trees on homes and community areas by partnering with underserved neighborhoods in Milwaukee’s 30th St. Corridor. Project will facilitate leadership roles for community members to develop solutions for reducing stormwater runoff pollution and flood risk while improving pollinator habitat and strengthening engagement to implement community-driven plans for climate resilience.

Rehabilitating a Bioretention Facility to Improve Water Quality in the Menomonee River (WI)

Grantee: City of Milwaukee
 Grant Amount:.....\$350,000
 Matching Funds:.....\$458,400
 Total Project Amount:\$808,400

Rehabilitate a 17-year-old, 1-acre bioretention facility, test the performance of several pilot soil amendments, and plant pollinator-friendly plants in the tributary to the Menomonee River in Milwaukee. Project will improve water quality by mitigating stormwater runoff and restoring on-site sediment filtration and provide valuable feedback in designing future bioretention facilities.

Renewing Urban Canopy to Improve Community Health and Climate Resiliency (WI)

Grantee: Milwaukee Water Commons
 Grant Amount:.....\$340,000
 Matching Funds:.....\$310,000
 Total Project Amount:\$650,000

Collaborate with partners to implement an urban canopy renewal program in the vulnerable Sherman Park neighborhood to plant at least 250 trees, maintain at-risk trees, and plant whips in nearby riparian areas of the Milwaukee River watershed. Project will add 45,000 gallons of stormwater storage annually, and build community engagement for long-term equity environmental, health, and economic benefits and climate resiliency.

Restoring Reclaimed Urban Parks and Access to Green Space Across Milwaukee (WI)

Grantee: Urban Ecology Center
 Grant Amount:.....\$213,100
 Matching Funds:.....\$214,700
 Total Project Amount:\$427,800

Engage neighborhood volunteers to help maintain three public parks in Milwaukee as an urban oasis with diverse native plant communities by removing invasive species and planting plugs of native species. Project will increase biodiversity of new prairie, oak savanna, wetland, ephemeral ponds and a variety of forest ecosystems and facilitate environmental education and community access to green space.

Transforming an Urban Lot into an Educational Community Greenspace in Sheboygan (WI)

Grantee: Visit Sheboygan STEAM
 Grant Amount:.....\$211,500
 Matching Funds:.....\$475,000
 Total Project Amount:\$686,500

Transform a degraded asphalt parking lot in downtown Sheboygan, on the Sheboygan River, into an educational community greenspace with green infrastructure, restored wildlife habitat, and integrated public access features. Project will turn an urban space with 200 feet of riverfront shoreline into a recreational area with public access to greenspace, provide canopy in an urban heat island, and add approximately 764,700 gallons of stormwater storage annually.



Green heron