
URBANWATERS

A Partnership for Restoring Urban Waterways and Revitalizing Communities

Northwest Indiana Urban Waters Meeting February 14th

Our next NWI Urban Waters meeting will be **February 14th, 9:30-noon** Central at the **PNW Portage Meeting Facility** (in the NIRPC building)



. . . yes, that's Valentine's Day! Let's celebrate our partnership's many accomplishments, welcome back our federal partners, and get 2019 off to a great start of restoring our urban waters and revitalizing our communities! To help prepare for the meeting, please send a summary of your organization's 2018 accomplishments and 2019 priorities to [Jen Birchfield](#). Your updates will provide a starting point for the discussion. Last year's work plan is available [here](#) for your review. The meeting agenda will be send next week.

Funding Opportunities

The Northwest Indiana Urban Waters Partnership may be able to provide assistance to further your initiatives by exploring grant opportunities, building partnerships, and helping you to developing competitive proposals. Contact [Jen Birchfield](#) to discuss your projects and ways we can help.

Sustain our Great Lakes

Sustain Our Great Lakes is soliciting applications for funding to restore and enhance habitat in the Great Lakes basin. Eligible applicants include non-profit organizations, educational institutions, and state, tribal and local governments. In 2019, grant funding will be awarded in four categories:

- Restoring and Enhancing Stream and Riparian Habitat
- Restoring and Enhancing Coastal Wetland Habitat
- Expanding Green Stormwater Infrastructure in Great Lakes Communities
- New Funding Opportunity: Maintaining and Enhancing Benefits of Habitat Restoration through Invasive Species Control

*Pre-proposals due February 12, 2019.

DEADLINE EXTENDED Environmental Justice Small Grants

The EJSG program awards grants that support community-driven projects designed to engage, educate, and empower communities to better understand local environmental and public health issues and develop strategies for addressing those issues, building consensus in the community, and setting community priorities. Pre-application assistance calls will be held on:

- Wednesday, February 13th (Spanish) Time: 2:00 - 3:30 PM (ET)
- Wednesday, February 20th , Time: 4:00 - 5:30 PM (ET)

*Award ceiling: \$30,000.

*Applications due: March 8th, 2019.

***NEW* Landscape Conservation Catalyst Fund**

The Conservation Catalyst Fund will distribute funding to landscape conservation partnerships across the United States and offer supplemental training and mentoring to grantees. The Landscape Conservation Catalyst Fund will focus specifically on building capacity for landscape conservation partnerships by investing in the "backbone" coordination of the collaborative process and in supporting key stepping stone activities necessary to achieve broad-based partnership support and conservation on the ground.

*The RFP will be opened on March 1, 2019.

NFWF Resilient Communities

Wells Fargo and NFWF have partnered to create the Resilient Communities program. Through improvements to natural features and enhanced community capacity, the program will help communities prepare for future impacts associated with sea-level rise, sustain appropriate water quantity and quality and enhance forest conservation. By taking advantage of natural features like wetlands, resilient shorelines, urban tree canopies, natural forests and healthy upstream watersheds, communities can accrue quality of life benefits today, enhance fish and wildlife resources and help prepare for foreseeable resilience challenges.

*Pre-proposals due February 19

*Award Range: \$200,000 - \$500,000 with 1:1 match recommended

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's Coastal Program

The USFWS is looking for project ideas to support and collaborate on through the Great Lakes Coastal Program in 2019. The USFWS's Coastal Program is focused on on-the-ground coastal habitat restoration, enhancement, and protection that benefits fish and wildlife. Details can be found in the [Coastal Program NOFO](#) (section VI).

If you have a project that may be a good fit, contact [Mike Redmer](#), Urban Opportunity Area including Chicago and Illinois/Indiana shores of Lake Michigan. If your project is selected for funding, Coastal Program staff will work with you to fully develop and implement the project.

*Award Ceiling: \$500,000. Match recommended but not required.

Projects requesting \$50,000 - \$150,000 are desirable.

*Deadline: Projects accepted on a rolling basis, preferred by February 19th.

Employment Opportunities

Save the Dunes Development Associate

Save the Dunes is seeking a part-time Development Associate to serve as the organization's point person for fundraising. The Development Associate works closely with the Executive Director as well as the Fundraising Committee to develop and execute a variety of fundraising opportunities in order to grow Save the Dunes' resources.



[Coffee Creek Watershed Conservancy Stewardship Manager](#)

The Coffee Creek Watershed Conservancy is now accepting resumes for full-time Stewardship Manager. If you know of any talented professionals that would be a good fit, please share this with them.

[Audubon Wild Indigo Coordinator in Indiana](#)

The Wild Indigo Coordinator will work with Audubon to build meaningful relationships with organizations and community members. This person will co-design and deliver culturally relevant programs and restoration activities that introduce community members to local nature preserves, engage them in learning about natural assets and their care, and build a path to stewardship and action for those individuals interested in actively caring for local, natural areas.

[SCA Hiring Calumet Conservation Corps Tree Crew](#)

The SCA is seeking [Crew Members](#), ages 18-25, and a [Crew Leader](#) (age 21+) from in and around Northwest Indiana to plant and water 1,000 trees in the communities of East Chicago, Hammond, and Gary. Crew Members will collaborate with a team to perform tree planting and watering as green stormwater infrastructure and habitat enhancement in their communities. Crew Members work outdoors seven hours a day, Tuesday through Saturday, for 36 weeks. The Crew Leader works 40 hrs/week for 38 weeks. Positions will be filled on a rolling basis.



The Tree Crew helps volunteers plant a tree.

The Northwest Indiana Urban Waters Partnership focuses on the Lake Michigan watershed in Lake, LaPorte and Porter Counties, Indiana.

Urban Waters works to connect urban communities, particularly those that are overburdened or economically distressed, with their waterways by improving coordination among federal agencies and state and local partners. The goals are to improve the Nation's water systems and to promote their economic, environmental and social benefits.