
URBANWATERS

A Partnership for Restoring Urban Waterways and Revitalizing Communities

Thanks for attending our February meeting!

Thank you to the NWI Urban Waters partners who gathered on February 14th to celebrate our partnership's many accomplishments. Partners provided feedback on priorities Urban Waters can help advance in 2019. After the meeting, federal partners met to discuss ways to work together to restore urban waters and revitalize our communities.



Over 40 NWI Urban Waters partners met on February 14 to plan for 2019.

Feedback from the meetings will be incorporated into the draft 2019 work plan to be distributed later this month.

Mark your calendar for upcoming NWI Urban Waters quarterly meetings:

- Thursday, April 18, 9:30-12 central, PNW Portage Meeting Facility
- Thursday, July 18, 9:30-12 central, PNW Portage Meeting Facility

Nominate a Force of Nature



The Chicago Wilderness Force of Nature Awards celebrate people and organizations whose conservation, restoration, advocacy, and/or educational activities are inspirational examples for others. The purpose of the awards is to recognize work that extends above and beyond the ordinary anywhere in the Chicago Wilderness region (which includes northwest Indiana). Individuals, programs, organizations and site-specific projects are eligible.

Nominate your favorite Force of Nature by March 31. More info at <https://www.chicagowilderness.org/page/AwardAcred>.

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.

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 15, 2019.

Keeping Communities Flowing Grant

The American Water Charitable Foundation helps empower communities to be strong, vibrant, healthy and environmentally friendly places to live, work and play. Grants support local 501(c)(3) public charities that connect with American Water's core focus areas: Water and the Environment, Water and Healthy Living, Environmental Education, Community Sustainability

*Award Ceiling: \$20,000

* Deadline: April 25

Partners for Fish and Wildlife

Wetland and associated upland habitat restoration and enhancement projects for conservation of native Great Lakes fish and wildlife populations, particularly migratory birds and, as appropriate, federally-listed species. Projects will be completed on privately owned lands within the Great Lakes watershed. Emphasis on, but not limited to, watersheds of Great Lakes AOC and in coastal zones.

*Award ceiling: \$100,000

*Deadline: September 30, 2019

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

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). Contact [Mike Redmer](#).

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

*Deadline: Projects accepted on a rolling basis

Webinars, Workshops, and Resources

Lessons Learned on Integrating Water Quality and Nature-based Approaches into Hazard Mitigation Plans Webinar

March 14, 1 pm Eastern

5th Annual Indiana Clean Marina Roundtable

March 19, 2019, 10 am Central
Hammond, IN

Tree Mapping Technologies for Urban Forest Management workshop

March 20th
Grand Rapids, MI
Workshop fee: \$25

Green Infrastructure Training and Certification

April 22-26

Cicero, IL

Workshop and exam fee: \$700

Contact Sarah Cardona at scardona@metroplanning.org or 312.863.6009

Sustainable Environmental/NEPA Training

University of Illinois at Chicago

April 1-5, 2019

Green Readiness, Response, and Recovery: Stewardship of natural resources in the context of disturbance webinar

April 10, 12 pm Central

River Rally 2019

June 21-24, 2019

Cleveland, Ohio

Early bird registration through April 30

Learning Through Citizen Science Report

Urban Waters Learning Network (UWLN) 2018 Report

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.