
URBANWATERS

A Partnership for Restoring Urban Waterways and Revitalizing Communities

Meeting Recap:

Thursday, July 11th, 10:45 am - 12:00 pm Central

Thanks to those who joined us at the July NWI Urban Waters Partnership meeting to discuss public access to waterways and natural areas in Northwest Indiana, and a special thank you to Zully Alvarado for presenting on Access Miller and other work to promote accessibility in Northwest Indiana. View the [meeting notes](#) and [Zully's slides](#). If you missed the meeting, you can still provide input by e-mailing your responses to the questions below to [Jen](#):

- What work is planned or underway to promote public access to waterways and natural areas in NWI that could benefit from Urban Waters partnership support?
 - What are the needs or challenges that aren't being addressed?
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Trail Creek Fun Float

Sunday, Jul 28, 2019, 10 am - 2 pm Central

Washington Park Beach, City Hall & 100 E. Michigan City, IN ([map](#))



Join the NW Indiana Paddling Association and the Trail Creek Watershed Partnership for the 13th annual Trail Creek Fun Float. NWIPA's signature event highlights Trail Creek, a true gem of a paddling opportunity right in our back yard. Canoeers, Kayakers, and Stand Up Paddleboarders are invited to paddle 2.5 miles upstream to Friendship Gardens and back. Paddlers launch at the Washington Park Boat Ramps. A luncheon is planned. Don't have a canoe or kayak, NWIPA will bring loaner boats. Find details at www.NWIPA.org. To see what the Fun Float is like, check out this [YouTube video](#).

CommuniTree Accepting Applications for Fall 2019 Trees

The CommuniTree Program is accepting applications for the Fall 2019 tree planting season. For complete details please visit the [Community Application page](#).



*Application deadline Friday, August 2nd

*Anticipated notice of award by Friday, August 23rd

*Anticipated tree planting & care workshop and tree pick up third week of September

Save the Date- Aquatic Invasive Species Networking Workshop

September 13, 2019 from 9am to 3pm

Mathew Bieszczat Volunteer Resource Center in Chicago.

The Aquatic Invasive Species Networking Workshop is intended to promote collaboration on Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) issues that impact organizations in the Chicago Metropolitan Area. The workshop will provide an opportunity for these organizations to come together, share information, identify opportunities and barriers, and promote collaboration on AIS outreach, management, and research. The goal of the workshop is to review the status of AIS resources in our region, connect participants with existing AIS resources, and identify future resource needs.

Please email jordanw@illinois.edu to be notified when event details and registration are sent in early August.

Featured Funding Opportunity

IDNR - Lake Michigan Coastal Program Request for Proposals

*Pre-proposal Deadline: Monday September 16, 2019, 5:00 p.m. CT

*Maximum request: Depending on project category from \$50,000 to \$150,000

*Non-federal match: 50% of the total cost of the project.

*Project Period: Beginning no earlier than August 1, 2020 and less than 18 months in duration.

The purpose of Lake Michigan Coastal Program Grants Program is to support projects that seek to improve the connection between the public and communities and the natural, cultural, and/or historical resources of Indiana's Lake Michigan watershed as well as projects that assist communities and organizations in the coordination and planning for the management or restoration of these resources in the coastal area. Proposed projects must fall under one of six categories:

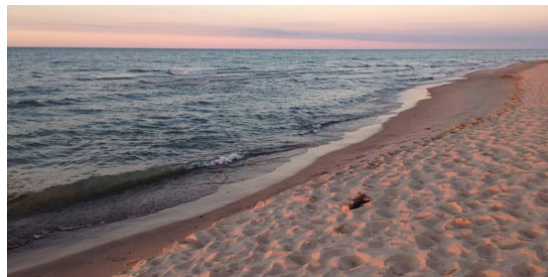


Photo from lake Michigan Coastal Program.

- Education & Outreach,

- Planning/Coordination/Management,
- Low Cost Construction,
- Land Acquisition,
- Applied Research, or
- Emerging Issues.

For additional information contact the Lake Michigan Coastal Program Grants Specialist, [Sarah Nimetz](#) or attend one of three [Pre-Proposal Workshops](#).

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.

New EPA GLRI funding for trash-free water projects in the Great Lakes

EPA expects to issue a Request for Applications (RFA) in October to solicit applications from eligible entities for GLRI grants. Once the RFA is released, applicants will have approximately 45 days to respond to the RFA. EPA anticipates that approximately \$2 million in total funding will be available, with a maximum grant amount of \$500,000 per project. Up to 12 grants could be awarded, including two larger scale projects and 10 smaller scale projects. For more information, read the [press release](#).

Partners for Places Grants

Partners for Places is a matching grant program that enhances local capacity to build equitable and sustainable communities in the United States and Canada. The fund does this by requiring local government and local foundation partnerships, and by pairing national and local philanthropic funding sources. The one-to-one matching awards support the planning and implementing of urban sustainability and green stormwater infrastructure projects.

*Applications due July 30, 2019

*Award range typically \$25,000 - \$100,000 with 1:1 match

Groundwork USA-Technical Assistance

Groundwork USA, in partnership with NPS and EPA, is accepting letters of interest from communities wishing to apply for Groundwork USA program funding and technical assistance. The selected community will be eligible for up to \$200,000 in funding and technical assistance to plan, establish and build the capacity of a Groundwork Trust organization in their community.

*Letters of interest due July 31, 2019

Great Lakes Emerging Champions Mini-Grant Program

Great Lakes Emerging Champions Mini-Grants are intended to increase green infrastructure (GI) implementation capacity in small to mid-sized communities in the Great Lakes Basin. Grants support community projects that focus on developing strategies to overcome key institutional barriers to implementing GI in communities.

*Applications due July 31st, 2019

*Award ceiling: \$15,000, Match encouraged but not required

Events, Webinars, and Resources

[Webinar: Stormwater Financing Solutions for Nutrient Reductions](#)

July 24, 2019, 1:00 - 2:00 PM EDT

[National Environmental Justice Public Teleconference Meeting](#)

August 14, 3:00 - 5:30 pm Eastern

Pre-registration required by August 9, 2019, at 11:59 p.m., Eastern

[Indiana Land Use Summit](#)

August 28, 8:30 am - 4:30 pm Eastern

Danville, IN

[Opportunity Zones and Urban Waters Fact Sheet](#) and [Maps](#)

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.