



# 2015 STATISTICS



\*1,884,782

TOTAL RAISED SINCE 2007 \$10,990,351

SOCIETY
MEMBERS 63

OF DONORS 501

ACRES 16

NUMBER OF PROGRAMS SUPPORTED

PORTION
OF GIFT THAT
SUPPORTS
PROGRAMS 95%

OF ESTATE GIFTS

\$7,549,769

KNOWN ESTATE GIFTS 11



# LEADERSHIP

# GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE VISION FOR LAKE COUNTY



Dozens of our conservation partners contributed to a Forest Preserve-led effort to develop a Green Infrastructure Model and Strategy for Lake County.

# RAMSAR WETLAND OF INTERNATIONAL IMPORTANCE



Spring Bluff Forest Preserve is part of a 4,000-acre bi-state wetland complex, recognized in 2015 as a RAMSAR Wetland of International Importance. The state-endangered Blanding's turtle can now be found on this globally rare landscape, thanks to a multi-partner restoration effort led by the Forest Preserves.

# CONSERVATION

## ELIZABETH AND JAMES BRAMSEN CHALLENGE GRASSY LAKE FOREST PRESERVE



Donor and volunteer support helped us clear invasive plants from Grassy Lake Forest Preserve last year. Native plants like butterfly weed returned surprisingly quickly. We continue to raise funds to plant more native seed, shrubs and trees and to interpret this preserve's unique history. The Elizabeth and James Bramsen Challenge is providing a match to every dollar received. (Photo: Joan Sayre)

### BRINGING BACK RARE SPECIES



In 2015, more than 800 acres of Forest Preserve lands were restored to benefit people, plants and wildlife. At Grant Woods Forest Preserve, a \$617,000 donation is accelerating restoration of vital prairie and marsh habitat, which is bringing back sensitive grasslands birds such as Bobolink. (Photo: Phil Hauck)

# PEOPLE

### VOLUNTEERS



"As volunteers, we were keen on removing old growth buckthorn and restoring the vista. Now from the top of the trail, not only can you see Grassy Lake and Flint Creek flowing down to the Fox River, the sedge meadow is among the

county's top ten for diversity. To see 200- or 300-year-old oak trees free and clear of all the snarly buckthorn keeps us all going!"

—Carol Hogan, Volunteer Site Steward, Grassy Lake Forest Preserve

River stewards clean the Des Plaines River to keep it safe for all to enjoy. (Photo: Paul Klonowski)



### **GREEN YOUTH FARM IN LAKE COUNTY**



As they plant, tend and harvest a 1.25acre sustainable farm at Greenbelt Forest Preserve, high school students earn more than a paid job experience. They gain professional skills, learn about food and nutrition, and spend time with adult mentors. (Photo: Chicago Botanic Garden)

### NATURE AS A LIVING LABORATORY



Abbott Fund CDW ComEd Discover Financial Services Lake Forest Bank & Trust North Shore Gas/ Peoples Gas

Lake County corporations support award-winning education programs like Science Explorers in Nature, which turn the Forest Preserves into living laboratories for exploration.

# BRINGING THE BARD TO LAKE COUNTY

In 2015, the Lake County
Discovery Museum was
selected to be the exclusive
Illinois host for the national
traveling exhibition, First
Folio! The Book that Gave
us Shakespeare. A donation
from John I. Monroe—in
honor of his friend John
High—fully funded the
exhibition, which attracted
more than 6,000 during its
26 day run.



## **VOLUNTEERS MAKE A DIFFERENCE**

Volunteer Hours, Per Year

40,000

**Total Value of Volunteer Hours** 

\$989,600

Number of Full-Time Staff Required to Do the Same Work Provided by Volunteers

20

Number of Full Time Staff Positions
Lost Since 2008

36.57

Percentage of Staff Positions Lost Since 2008

12%



The following donors made cash and in-kind contributions between July 1, 2014 and June 30, 2015

### \$100,000 and up

### Anonymous (2)

Illinois Department of Natural Resources
National Fish and Wildlife Foundation
Youth Conservation Corps\*

### \$10,000 - \$24,999

Abbott

Citizens for Conservation

ComEd

Daily Herald\*

Friends of the Lake County Discovery Museum

Mr. Leonard A. Lauder

Mr. John I. Monroe

Mr. and Mrs. Howard B. Simpson

Waukegan Park District

### \$5,000 - \$9,999

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CDW

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\$250 - \$499

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