



## ***Natural Resource Department July 2015 - PROGRESS REPORT***

### **Habitat Restoration Projects**

#### **Planning Underway for 2015/16 Winter Clearing Efforts at the following Preserves:**

Greenbelt – Grant funded  
 Singing Hills/Kettle Grove – Private Donation  
 Southern Des Plaines Woodland Restoration Sites - CIP  
     Captain Daniel Wright Woods  
     Lloyd's Woods  
     Edward L Ryerson Conservation Area  
 Grassy Lake - CIP  
 Spring Bluff - Grant Funded  
 Van Patten Woods – In-House Staff  
 Grant Woods- Private Donation  
 Cuba Marsh - CIP  
 Lakewood - CIP  
     Preserve Boundary Enhancement  
     Schreiber Bog Area  
 Wadsworth Savanna – Habitat Restoration Fund

### **Fort Sheridan Great Lakes Fish and Ecosystem Restoration Program**

Project focuses on the ecological restoration of natural Lake Michigan habitats including ravines, bluffs, lakeshore and nearshore communities.

District has received the Project Partnership Agreement (PPA) and is in the process of reviewing before signing. A cover letter is being drafted that will outline our concerns in terms of cost control for the project. Once the PPA is signed, the District will receive a request for transfer of the District's 35% cost in the next month.

The Army Corps of Engineers has developed preliminary concept designs to test against their hydrological, hydraulic and coastal sediment transfer models. Modeling indicates that submerged stone groins will not provide necessary conditions for the development of dunal habitats. The groins will have "Ts of the groin. The lake cobble is critical for the nearshore habitat for Lake Michigan fish and inv" structures made by placing large boulders on the end of the groin, with lake cobble covering the sides of the groin. The lake cobble is critical for the Nearshore habitat for Lake Michigan fish and invertebrate species.

In order to implement the project, we will likely need to access the work areas via Gilgare/Cliff Road. A staging area can be used just south of the private residence, as well as other areas associated with McCormack and Bartlett Ravines.

It is also very likely that we will have to close portions or all of the preserve while under construction.

### **Pine Dunes Forest Preserve Tollway Mitigation Project**

Public Access and Trails have been 80% completed.  
 Restoration of the wetlands has commenced.  
 Stream restoration work is underway.  
 Woody clearing is near completion.

