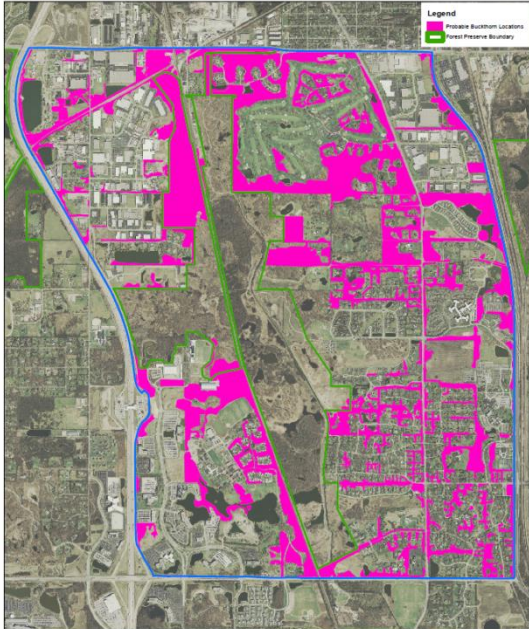




**Natural Resource Department
June 2016 – PROGRESS REPORT**

Eradicate Buckthorn Pilot Project



MIDDLEFORK SAVANNA FOREST PRESERVE AND SURROUNDING LANDS
BUCKTHORN ERADICATION PROJECT
Probable Buckthorn Locations

The Forest Preserve internal group has met and developed a draft plan that was share with our external group which includes:

- Forest Preserve Staff
- City of Lake Forest
- US Forest Service
- Lake Forest Open Lands
- Morton Arboretum

The Plan has been reviewed and approved.
We are developing a survey for the land owners in the pilot area.
We are exploring grant opportunities.
We have received private donations.
We are working with Knollwood Golf Club and other large-scale land owners.

Implementing Conservation at Home at Ryerson Woods



Ryerson Conservation@Home Pilot Project

Contacting 530 households within Riverwoods and Lincolnshire.
Working with the Riverwoods Preservation Council.
Collaborating with the Village of Riverwoods.
Participated in the April 30th Preservation Council’s Arbor Fest.

To Date:
34 property owners responded to the offer of a free appointment.
30 property owners scheduled an appointment.
11 appointments were completed.

Adopt A Turtle

We have started our “Adopt a Turtle” program and already have 19 people who have adopted turtles and their names are:

You Come Push It	Zadie	Indiana Jones
Boo	Bierhaus	Daly I
Daly II	Shieldashala	Shelly
Gamera	Oscar	Oliver
Mrs. Melissa Zientara	Boxie II	Peanut
Hammie		



Three turtles’ names have yet to be determined. So far, \$2,400 has been raised through the program.

Greenbelt Coastal Habitat Restoration Project



A year-long high school mentoring program (20 students) associated with Lake Forest Open Lands (LFOLA) Center for Conservation Leadership has “adopted” Greenbelt’s restoration project for focused volunteer stewardship efforts with scheduled workdays and field trips this coming year in collaboration with Audubon Chicago Region and Lake Forest Open Lands Association.

Nursery

There is development of natural plant beds for seed collection. Kelly has started establishing natural plant beds, scattered around Rollins Savanna, to grow native plants for seed collection. This allows for expansion of the nursery without increasing bed space and regular care. Plants grow in a native condition, and this is a good way to re-establish species missing from the flora at Rollins Savanna. This effort would be expanded to other preserves where we have an active stewardship presence.

Volunteers

Volunteers helped plant 4500 oak trees at various locations that were donated by *Living Lands and Waters*. A volunteer planting of milkweed plants at Middlefork Savanna occurred for the second year.

Regular On-Going Projects

District Wide Invasive Species Control project is underway and will continue through the summer. Wildlife Monitoring has been up and running since the first of April and will continue through late summer. Vegetation monitoring for the deer management program is underway. Small Invasive Tree and Shrub Control Program is wrapping up. Ecologists are monitoring clearing projects for follow-up herbiciding of resprouts. The nursery has installed shade cloth cover for the woodland beds.