

***Natural Resources Department
September 2016 – PROGRESS REPORT***

Middlefork Savanna

In 2014, the District applied for and received funding from the Chi-Cal Rivers Fund Grant to perform habitat restoration at Middlefork Savanna. The District is partnering with City of Lake Forest and Lake Forest Open Lands Association on this grant. Work began this summer to restore wetlands adjacent to the Middle Fork of the North Branch of the Chicago River. YCC members installed nearly 25,000 wetland plant plugs, and District crews are removing nearly one mile of drain tiles that are draining wetlands previously farmed. Along the streambank, contractors have installed native wetland sod to reduce erosion and provide native plant habitat.



Fort Sheridan

Work under the direction of the U.S. Army Corp of Engineers continues at Fort Sheridan. Invasive species management is ongoing. A late summer controlled burn is planned. Stream restoration work is nearly complete in Jane's Ravine with rock step pools and limestone retaining walls installed. Work along the lakeshore should be starting soon.



Des Plaines River Dam Removals – Wright Woods and MacArthur

The contractor started removal of the low head dam at Wright Woods on August 1 and is on schedule to be completed by the end of the week of August 22nd. Removal of the MacArthur-Hollister dam will follow immediately afterward and will also take 3-4 weeks. Project completion is estimated to be by the end of September.

