Illinois Clean Energy Community Foundation
Natural Areas Land Acquisition Grants
2002-2012

Updated as of February 2018
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Project Name</th>
<th>County</th>
<th>Acres</th>
<th>Type of Acquisition</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Protecting Agency(s)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2002</td>
<td>Sunnyside Park Water Quality Project, DuPage County</td>
<td>DuPage</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>Fee simple acquisition</td>
<td>Wetland and forested floodplain habitat along the East Branch DuPage River in Bloomingdale</td>
<td>DuPage County Department of Development and Environmental Concerns</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Potawatomi Woods Forest Preserve, DeKalb County</td>
<td>DeKalb</td>
<td>300</td>
<td>Fee simple acquisition</td>
<td>Forested floodplain along the South Branch of the Kishwaukee River protected by the Natural Land Institute</td>
<td>DeKalb County Forest Preserve District</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Richard R. and Jean W. Graber Grasslands Land and Water Reserve, Jasper County</td>
<td>Jasper</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>Fee simple acquisition / Registered Illinois Land and Water Reserve</td>
<td>Grassland habitat part of the larger 4,101-acre bi-county protected area</td>
<td>Illinois Audubon Society</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Piasa Creek Watershed Project, Jersey County</td>
<td>Jersey</td>
<td>94</td>
<td>Fee simple acquisition</td>
<td>Multiple parcel acquisition of wetland and stream buffer habitat along Mississippi River tributary</td>
<td>Great Rivers Land Trust</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Garfield Farm addition, Kane County</td>
<td>Kane</td>
<td>94</td>
<td>Fee simple acquisition</td>
<td>Restored prairie and wetland habitat that buffer existing natural areas</td>
<td>Campton Historic Agricultural Lands</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Kankakee Sands addition, Kankakee County</td>
<td>Kankakee</td>
<td>137</td>
<td>Fee simple acquisition</td>
<td>Multiple parcel acquisition of savanna and wetland habitat near the Indiana border</td>
<td>The Nature Conservancy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Camp River Trails, LaSalle County</td>
<td>LaSalle</td>
<td>67</td>
<td>Easement acquisition / Registered Illinois Land and Water Reserve</td>
<td>Upland and floodplain forest, seeps and sandstone bluffs along the Fox River protected by the The Conservation Foundation</td>
<td>Girl Scouts of Whispering Oaks Council</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Ryan Wetland and Sand Prairie, Lee County</td>
<td>Lee</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>Fee simple acquisition / Registered Illinois Land and Water Reserve</td>
<td>Sand bottom wetlands and prairie</td>
<td>Lee County Soil and Water Conservation District</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Kyte River Bottoms Land and Water Reserve, Ogle County</td>
<td>Ogle</td>
<td>235</td>
<td>Fee simple acquisition / Registered Illinois Land and Water Reserve</td>
<td>Forest at the confluence of the Kyte and Rock Rivers near Oregon</td>
<td>Natural Land Institute</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Hidden Oaks Conservation Area, Will County</td>
<td>Will</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>Fee simple acquisition / Registered Illinois Land and Water Reserve</td>
<td>Forest and wetland meadow along the DuPage River protected by the Forest Preserve District of Will County</td>
<td>Village of Bolingbrook</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Blackberry Maples Forest Preserve addition, Kane County</td>
<td>Kane</td>
<td>66</td>
<td>Fee simple acquisition</td>
<td>Sugar Maple woods containing Great Blue Heron rookeries and marsh, prairie and fen habitat</td>
<td>Kane County Forest Preserve District</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Boone Creek Conservation Area addition, McHenry County</td>
<td>McHenry</td>
<td>327</td>
<td>Fee simple acquisition</td>
<td>Wetlands and oak/hickory woodlands protected by the McHenry County Conservation Foundation</td>
<td>McHenry County Conservation District</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Shawnee National Forest addition, Union County</td>
<td>Union</td>
<td>152</td>
<td>Fee simple acquisition</td>
<td>In-holding along the Hutchins Creek Valley in the Illinois Ozarks protected by The Nature Conservancy</td>
<td>U.S. Forest Service</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Evans-Judge Preserve addition, Will County</td>
<td>Will</td>
<td>168</td>
<td>Fee simple acquisition</td>
<td>Savanna, wetlands and floodplain along the south bank of the Kankakee River near complex of protected sites</td>
<td>Forest Preserve District of Will County</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**2003**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project Name</th>
<th>County</th>
<th>Acres</th>
<th>Type of Acquisition</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Protecting Agency(s)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Big Muddy Wetlands addition to Shawnee National Forest, Jackson County</td>
<td>Jackson</td>
<td>191</td>
<td>Fee simple acquisition</td>
<td>Restored wetland habitat along the Big Muddy River protected by Ducks Unlimited</td>
<td>U.S. Forest Service</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chautauqua Bottoms Preserve, Jackson County</td>
<td>Jackson</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>Fee simple acquisition</td>
<td>Forested floodplain of Little Crab Orchard Creek in Carbondale</td>
<td>Green Earth, Inc.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prairie Ridge State Natural Area addition, Jasper County</td>
<td>Jasper</td>
<td>196</td>
<td>Fee simple acquisition / Registered Illinois Land and Water Reserve</td>
<td>Grassland habitat protected by Illinois Audubon Society, northwest of 2002 acquisition</td>
<td>Illinois Department of Natural Resources</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Blackberry Maples Forest Preserve addition, Kane County</td>
<td>Kane</td>
<td>66</td>
<td>Fee simple acquisition</td>
<td>Sugar Maple woods containing Great Blue Heron rookeries and marsh, prairie and fen habitat</td>
<td>Kane County Forest Preserve District</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Boone Creek Conservation Area addition, McHenry County</td>
<td>McHenry</td>
<td>327</td>
<td>Fee simple acquisition</td>
<td>Wetlands and oak/hickory woodlands protected by the McHenry County Conservation Foundation</td>
<td>McHenry County Conservation District</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beaver Island addition to Middle Mississippi River National Wildlife Refuge, Randolph County</td>
<td>Randolph</td>
<td>243</td>
<td>Fee simple acquisition</td>
<td>Forested island on the Mississippi River protected by Ducks Unlimited</td>
<td>U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shawnee National Forest addition, Union County</td>
<td>Union</td>
<td>152</td>
<td>Fee simple acquisition</td>
<td>In-holding along the Hutchins Creek Valley in the Illinois Ozarks protected by The Nature Conservancy</td>
<td>U.S. Forest Service</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Evans-Judge Preserve addition, Will County</td>
<td>Will</td>
<td>168</td>
<td>Fee simple acquisition</td>
<td>Savanna, wetlands and floodplain along the south bank of the Kankakee River near complex of protected sites</td>
<td>Forest Preserve District of Will County</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
19 **Bluff Spring Fen Nature Preserve and buffer,**
Cook County
89 acres, fee simple acquisition; 77 acres donated outright / A portion of the land (74 acres) is dedicated as Illinois Nature Preserve Diverse wetland complex near the Fox River in Elgin
Forest Preserve District of Cook County

20 **Swift Prairie Forest Preserve** addition,
DuPage County
2 acres, fee simple acquisition / dedicated Illinois Nature Preserve Buffer
Prairie and wetlands buffering Swift Prairie Nature Preserve near Addison
Forest Preserve District of DuPage County

21 **West Chicago Prairie Forest Preserve** addition,
DuPage County
3 acres, fee simple acquisition / dedicated Illinois Nature Preserve Buffer
Wetlands to expand and buffer Truitt-Hoff Nature Preserve
Forest Preserve District of DuPage County

22 **Kolar Savanna,** creation of **Iroquois Sands Land and Water Reserve,** Iroquois County
44 acres, fee simple acquisition / registered Illinois Land and Water Reserve
Black oak savanna next to two state-owned INPC sites
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

23 **Hoover Forest Preserve,** Kendall County
140 acres, fee simple acquisition
Bluffs, ravines and wetlands along the Fox River
Kendall County Forest Preserve District

24 **Plum Island Sanctuary,** LaSalle County
46 acres, fee simple acquisition / enrolled Illinois Natural Heritage Landmark
Island in the Illinois River across from Starved Rock providing a foraging base and rest area for bald eagles
Illinois Audubon Society

25 **James Family Woods connector parcel,**
Livingston County
6 acres, fee simple acquisition
Forested habitat along Indian Creek that provides access to Fugate Woods near Fairbury
Prairie Lands Foundation

26 **Wightman Lake addition to Marshall State Fish and Wildlife Area,** Marshall County
415 acres, fee simple acquisition
Restored wetland and bottomland hardwood habitat along the Illinois River protected by Ducks Unlimited
Illinois Department of Natural Resources

27 **Fox Bluff Conservation Area,** McHenry County
60 acres, fee simple acquisition
Oak woodland along the Fox River, part of a larger project to purchase the 113-acre former Camp Algonquin protected by McHenry County Conservation Foundation
McHenry County Conservation District

28 **Salt Lick Point Land and Water Reserve,** Monroe County
440 acres, easement acquisition / registered Illinois Land and Water Reserve
Hilltop prairie, bluffs and forests overlooking the Mississippi bottomlands, protected by Illinois Audubon Society
Village of Valmeyer

29 **Clear Creek Knolls addition to Nachusa Grasslands,** Ogle and Lee County
973 acres, fee simple acquisition; 287 acres, easement donation
Grassland, savanna and woodland habitat
The Nature Conservancy

30 **Monticello’s Sangamon River Land and Water Reserve,** Piatt County
153 acres, fee simple acquisition / registered Illinois Land and Water Reserve
Riparian habitat along the Sangamon River
City of Monticello

31 **Rockwood Island addition to Middle Mississippi River National Wildlife Refuge,** Randolph County
613 acres, fee simple acquisition
Island and side-channel habitat protected by HeartLands Conservancy
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

32 **Harlem Hills Nature Preserve** addition,
Winnebago County
4 acres, fee simple acquisition / dedicated Illinois Nature Preserve Buffer
Gravel hill prairie in Loves Park protected by Natural Land Institute
Illinois Department of Natural Resources
### 2005

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| 33  | **Newburg Village Conservation Area**, Boone County  
103 acres, fee simple acquisition  
Wetland habitat along the Kishwaukee River  
Boone County Conservation District | 37  | **Kankakee Sands** addition, Kankakee County  
98 acres, fee simple acquisition  
Black oak and dry savanna near previous acquisitions at Kankakee Sands  
The Nature Conservancy |
| 34  | Pluechans’s Slough addition to **Sanganois State Fish and Wildlife Area**, Cass County  
335 acres, fee simple acquisition  
Part of 452-acre wetland complex connecting bottomland forest to backwater lake habitat at the confluence of the Sangamon and Illinois Rivers, protected by Ducks Unlimited  
Illinois Department of Natural Resources | 38  | **Shady Rest Land and Water Reserve**, Piatt County  
28 acres, fee simple acquisition / registered Illinois Land and Water Reserve  
Upland and floodplain forest along the Sangamon River  
Piatt County Forest Preserve District |
| 35  | **Wapello Land and Water Reserve**, Jo Daviess and Carroll County  
79 acres, fee simple acquisition / registered Illinois Land and Water Reserve  
Mesic prairie and upland forest along Apple River  
Jo Daviess Conservation Foundation | 39  | **Big Grand Pierre Land and Water Reserve**, Pope County  
334 acres, fee simple acquisition / registered Illinois Land and Water Reserve  
Wooded in-holding at Shawnee National Forest protected by Illinois Audubon Society  
Illinois Department of Natural Resources |
| 36  | **Cache River State Natural Area** addition, Johnson County  
40 acres, fee simple acquisition  
Upland forest protected by the Trust for Public Land  
Illinois Department of Natural Resources | 40  | **Rockwood Island addition to Middle Mississippi River National Wildlife Refuge**, Randolph County  
599 acres, fee simple acquisition  
Bottomland forest and wetlands protected by HeartLands Conservancy  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service |

### 2006

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| 44  | **Cypress Creek National Wildlife Refuge** addition, Alexander County  
244 acres, fee simple acquisition  
Wetlands along the Cache River protected by Shawnee Resource Conservation and Development, Inc.  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service | 47  | **Oakland Nature Preserve**, Jackson County  
12 acres, fee simple acquisition  
Woodlands that buffer high-quality prairie and wildlife corridor in Carbondale  
Green Earth, Inc. |
| 45  | Mahoney addition to **Des Plaines Riverway**, DuPage County  
9 acres, fee simple acquisition / dedicated Illinois Nature Preserve  
Forested habitat along the Des Plaines River  
Forest Preserve District of DuPage County | 48  | **Grunwald Farm Forest Preserve**, Kane County  
160 acres, fee simple acquisition  
Woodland, wetland and fen habitat along Blackberry Creek near 2003 acquisition, part of a larger project to create a new 224-acre preserve  
Kane County Forest Preserve District |
| 46  | Anderson Savanna addition to **Iroquois Sands Land and Water Reserve**, Iroquois County  
22 acres, fee simple acquisition / registered Illinois Land and Water Reserve  
Black oak savanna connecting two state-owned INPC sites to Indiana's Willow Slough State Fish and Wildlife Area protected by Friends of the Kankakee  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service | 49  | **Reservation Woods**, Kendall County  
12 acres, fee simple acquisition  
Woodland habitat at the center of a 100-acre forest protected by The Conservation Foundation  
Forest Preserve District of Kendall County |
| 50  | **Funks Grove**, McLean County  
453 acres, fee simple acquisition / registered Illinois Land and Water Reserve  
Old-growth forest, portions of Timber Creek, and prairie grove along Sugar Creek, part of a larger 1,100-acre protected natural area  
Sugar Grove Foundation | 51  | Cranfill addition to **Coffeen Lake State Fish and Wildlife Area**, Montgomery County  
320 acres, fee simple acquisition  
Restored prairie, wetland and forest providing pheasant and quail habitat, protected by Pheasants Forever  
Illinois Department of Natural Resources |
| 52  | Rockwood Island addition to **Middle Mississippi River National Wildlife Refuge**, Randolph County  
31 acres, fee simple acquisition  
Bottomland in-holdings protected by HeartLands Conservancy  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service |
| 53  | **Nieman Marsh**, Winnebago County  
38 acres, fee simple acquisition/easement  
Deep marsh, sedge meadow and wetlands, northeast of Pecatonica  
Natural Land Institute / Ducks Unlimited |
| 54  | Kropp-Schulenberg Prairie addition to **Riverview Farmstead Preserve**, Will County  
10 acres, fee simple acquisition  
Prairie and woodland habitat extending the DuPage River Greenway  
Forest Preserve District of Will County |
Between 2002 and 2006, ICECF awarded grants to support the acquisition of 7,911 acres and 737 acres of conservation easements, which generated additional donations of 110 acres outright and 339 acres of conservation easements.

The map shows the locations of the 54 sites protected.

19 of the sites contain an Illinois Natural Areas Inventory (INAI) site. INAI sites designate high-quality natural areas.

19 of the sites have additional or special protection through registration as a Land and Water Reserve, dedication as a Nature Preserve or enrollment as a Natural Heritage Landmark with the Illinois Nature Preserves Commission. Established in 1963, the Commission preserves and protects natural areas and endangered species.
2007

55 **Piscasaw Fen Conservation Area**, **Boone County**
80 acres, fee simple acquisition
Sedge meadow, wetland and fen habitat
Boone County Conservation District

56 **Boyle Woods**, **Cass County**
50 acres, fee simple acquisition
Old-growth forest and mesic upland habitat
Friends of the Sangamon Valley

57 **Plucheman’s Slough addition to Sanganois State Fish and Wildlife Area**, **Cass County**
80 acres, fee simple acquisition
Part of 452-acre wetland complex connecting bottomland forest to backwater lake at confluence of Sangamon and Illinois Rivers, protected by Ducks Unlimited Illinois Department of Natural Resources

58 **Sangamon River Forest Preserve**, **Champaign County**
160 acres, fee simple acquisition
Floodplain forest and oak savanna, south of Fisher
Champaign County Forest Preserve District

59 **Lovetts Pond State Natural Area addition**, **Jackson County**
60 acres, fee simple acquisition
Wetland habitat, near Shawnee National Forest, protected by The Nature Conservancy Illinois Department of Natural Resources

60 **Palisades Preserve**, **Jersey County**
420 acres, fee simple acquisition / dedicated Illinois Nature Preserve
Oak and hickory forest, hill prairie and limestone cliffs overlooking the Mississippi, Missouri and Illinois River confluences, protected by Great Rivers Land Trust Lewis and Clark Community College Foundation

61 **Casper Bluff Land and Water Reserve**, **Jo Daviess County**
52 acres, fee simple acquisition / registered Illinois Land and Water Reserve
Oak savanna, hill prairies and bluffs overlooking the Mississippi River
Jo Daviess Conservation Foundation

62 **Kankakee Sands addition**, **Kankakee County**
43 acres, fee simple acquisition
Multiple parcel acquisitions of black oak savanna near previous acquisitions at Kankakee Sands
The Nature Conservancy

63 **Millbrook South Forest Preserve**, **Kendall County**
301 acres, fee simple acquisition
River corridor and woodlands along the Fox River
Kendall County Forest Preserve District

64 **Silver Creek addition to Fel-Pro RRR Conservation Area**, **McHenry County**
58 acres, fee simple acquisition / dedicated Illinois Nature Preserve
Oak savanna and wetland fen habitat along Silver Creek
McHenry County Conservation District

65 **Tawny Oaks addition to Singing Woods**, **Peoria County**
28 acres, fee simple acquisition
Woodlands, meadows and rare hill prairies contiguous with larger 1,100-acre state-dedicated Nature Preserve
Peoria Park District

66 **Cypress Creek National Wildlife Refuge addition**, **Pulaski County**
145 acres, fee simple acquisition
Cache River wetlands protected by American Land Conservancy
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

67 **Milan Bottoms Preserve**, **Rock Island County**
93 acres, fee simple acquisition
Mississippi floodplain forest near Mark Twain National Fish and Wildlife Refuge
Natural Land Institute

68 **Protected Mississippi River Bluffs, St. Clair County**
5 acres, fee simple acquisition
Bluff habitat buffering adjacent forest, near 2005 site
St. Clair County Greenspace Foundation

69 **Cave Spring Cave Natural Heritage Landmark**, **Union County**
68 acre, fee simple acquisition
Woodland in-holding in Shawnee National Forest
protected by The Nature Conservancy
U.S. Forest Service

70 **Stone Bridge Forest Preserve**, **Winnebago County**
27 acres, fee simple acquisition
River corridor and riparian habitat along Kinnikinnick Creek
Winnebago County Forest Preserve District

71 **Hidden Oaks Conservation Area addition**, **Will County**
3 acres, fee simple acquisition
Forest and meadow in-holding, near 2002 site
Bolingbrook Park District

2008

72 **Kishwaukee Valley Conservation Area**, **Boone County**
40 acres, fee simple acquisition
Wetlands and Kishwaukee River floodplain
Boone County Conservation District

73 **Patton Woods addition to Middle Fork River Forest Preserve**, **Champaign County**
5 acres, fee simple acquisition
Historic oak/hickory forest including some old-growth remnants, near the Middle Fork of the Vermilion River
Champaign County Forest Preserve District

74 **Pyles Fork Preserve**, **Jackson County**
135 acres, fee simple acquisition
Forested floodplain along tributary of Crab Orchard Creek connected to public park in Carbondale, protected by the American Land Conservancy Green Earth, Inc

75 **Palisades Preserve buffer**, **Jersey County**
334 acres, fee simple acquisition
Oak/hickory forested bluffs and ridge-top prairies overlooking the Mississippi River, contiguous with 2007 acquisition
Great Rivers Land Trust

76 **Horseshoe Mound**, **Jo Daviess County**
40 acres, fee simple acquisition
Oak savanna and grassland on top of 240-foot geologic mound east of Galena
Jo Daviess Conservation Foundation

77 **Brunner Family Forest Preserve**, **Kane County**
146 acres, fee simple acquisition
Fen, seeps, bluffs and woods along a one-mile stretch of the Fox River, part of a larger project to purchase 700-acre farm connecting two existing forest preserves
Kane County Forest Preserve District

78 **Arlington Wetlands**, **Madison County**
74 acre, fee simple acquisition / easement
Wetlands near confluence of Illinois and Missouri Rivers
Madison County Government Planning and Development Department / HeartLands Conservancy

79 **Yonder Prairie**, **McHenry County**
40 acres, fee simple acquisition / dedicated Illinois Nature Preserve
Wet prairie habitat, part of the 103-acre protected core of the diverse West Woodstock Prairie
The Land Conservancy of McHenry County
2008 continued

80 Waller Tract, McLean County
90 acres, fee simple acquisition
Forest, wetland and grassland connected to park-land
surrounding Evergreen Lake and managed by
Prairielands Preservation Foundation
City of Bloomington

81 Grove Creek Forest Preserve, Stephenson County
7 acres, fee simple acquisition
Buffer habitat along Grove Creek connected to 71 acres
of prairie in Winnebago County (Project 83), protected by
the Natural Land Institute
Winnebago County Forest Preserve

82 Donohue Grove Preserve addition, Will County
71 acres, fee simple acquisition
Mature oak/hickory forest bisected by Fork Creek
Forest Preserve District of Will County

83 Grove Creek Forest Preserve, Winnebago County
67 acres, fee simple acquisition
Dry and mesic prairie bisected by Grove Creek,
protected along with the 7 acres in Stephenson County
(Project 81) to create a new preserve
Winnebago County Forest Preserve District

84 Kilbuck Bluffs Forest Preserve, Winnebago County
59 acres, fee simple acquisition
Floodplain forest along the Kilbuck Creek and
Kishwaukee River
Winnebago County Forest Preserve District

85 Ottertail Marsh, Winnebago County
131 acres, easement acquisition
Floodplain forest, sloughs, wetland and marsh habitat
along one-mile stretch of Sugar River, west of Rockton
Private Landowner / Natural Land Institute

2009

86 Plucheman's Slough addition to Sanganois State
Fish and Wildlife Area, Cass County
40 acres, fee simple acquisition
Part of 452-acre wetland complex connecting bottom-
land forest to backwater lake habitat at confluence of
Sangamon and Illinois Rivers, protected by
Ducks Unlimited
Illinois Department of Natural Resources

87 Sangamon Bay easement, Cass County
412 acres, easement acquisition
Wetland and floodplain forest habitat near
Plucheman's Slough
Private Landowner / Ducks Unlimited

88 Apple River Canyon State Park addition, Jo Daviess County
139 acres, fee simple acquisition / registered Illinois
Land and Water Reserve
Oak/hickory forest, grasslands and dolomite bluffs along
one mile of Apple River, protected by the Natural Land
Institute, which generated Land and Water registration
of an additional 85 acres of adjacent hardwood forest
owned by Boy Scouts camp
Illinois Department of Natural Resources

89 Eagle's Nest Land and Water Reserve, Jo Daviess County
118 acres, fee simple acquisition / registered Illinois
Land and Water Reserve
Woodland and wetland habitat along the county's
southern stretch of the Apple River
Jo Daviess Conservation Foundation

90 Kankakee Sands addition, Kankakee County
40 acres, fee simple acquisition
Multiple parcel acquisition of black oak savanna
habitat connecting previously protected land
The Nature Conservancy

91 Franklin Creek Headwaters, Lee County
86 acres, fee simple acquisition
To-be-restored prairie and 1,000 feet of exposed cliffs
and woods along Franklin Creek, connecting Franklin
Grove to the state natural area and Nachusa
Grasslands via public trail
Franklin Creek Conservation Association

92 Rocky Fork Creek Corridor, Madison County
34 acres, fee simple acquisition
Multiple parcel acquisition of riparian habitat, part of
Network to Freedom Underground Railroad site
Great Rivers Land Trust

93 Sweeney Woods, McLean County
77 acres, fee simple acquisition
Restored floodplain forest, creating 115 acres of
contiguous habitat along the Mackinaw River
Parklands Foundation

94 Forest Glen Preserve addition, Vermilion County
108 acres, fee simple acquisition
Restored prairie in-holding protected by
Pheasants Forever
Vermilion County Conservation District

2010

95 Ipsen Road Conservation Area, Boone County
186 acres, fee simple acquisition
Bottomland hardwoods, floodplains and wet meadows
near BCDD's LIB Conservation Area
Boone County Conservation District

96 Point Pleasant Wetland addition to Middle Fork
River Forest Preserve, Champaign County
40 acres, fee simple acquisition
To-be-restored wetland and upland prairie in the
northeast corner of the county
Champaign County Forest Preserve District

97 Dolton Avenue Prairie, Cook County
24 acres, fee simple acquisition
Wet and wet-mesic prairie connected, via the planned
Cal Sag Trail, to a string of other Illinois Natural Areas
Inventory sites including the Calumet City Prairie
Forest Preserve District of Cook County

98 Kankakee Sands addition, Iroquois County
24 acres, fee simple acquisition
Multiple parcel acquisitions of black oak savannas
and sand Flatwoods near Iroquois Sands
Land and Water Reserve
Friends of the Kankakee

99 Galena Gateway Park, Jo Daviess County
100 acres, fee simple acquisition / easement
Savanna, grassland and to-be-restored bluffland prairie
at the eastern entrance to the City of Galena, stretching
from Horseshoe Mound (2008 grant) to the Galena
River, protected by Jo Daviess Conservation Foundation
City of Galena / JDCF

100 Cache River State Natural Area addition, Johnson County
40 acres, fee simple acquisition
Forested wetlands along the Cache River protected by
American Land Conservancy
Illinois Department of Natural Resources
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Site Name</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Acquisition Details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>101</td>
<td>Forever Fields</td>
<td>Knox County</td>
<td>1,000 acres, fee simple acquisition</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Grassland connected to existing Pheasant Habitat Area</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Pheasants Forever, IDNR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>102</td>
<td>Orland Prairie addition to Nachusa Grasslands</td>
<td>Ogle County</td>
<td>347 acres, fee simple acquisition</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Woodland and grassland habitat, near 2004 acquisition</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>The Nature Conservancy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>103</td>
<td>Sand Ridge Prairie</td>
<td>Ogle County</td>
<td>83 acres, fee simple acquisition</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Sand prairie near Kyte River Bottoms, south of Oregon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Prairie Preservation Society of Ogle County</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>104</td>
<td>Loy Prairie Land and Water Reserve</td>
<td>Marion County</td>
<td>216 acres, fee simple acquisition</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>To-be-restored prairie buffering Twelve-Mile Prairie INAI</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>site and connected to Prairie Ridge State Natural Area</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Illinois Audubon Society</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>105</td>
<td>Kidd Lake Marsh State Natural Area addition</td>
<td>Monroe County</td>
<td>94 acres, fee simple acquisition</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Prairie marsh and wetland habitat in bottomlands below Fults Hill Prairie Nature Reserve, protected by Heartlands Conservancy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Illinois Department of Natural Resources</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>106</td>
<td>White Rock, Monroe County</td>
<td>Monroe County</td>
<td>476 total acres, fee simple acquisition / registered Illinois Land and Water Reserve (168 acres) / dedicated Illinois Nature Preserve (306 acres)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Upland forest, hill prairies and limestone glade, overlooking the Mississippi bottomlands</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Heartlands Conservancy, Clifftop</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>107</td>
<td>Lockport Prairie Nature Preserve, Will County</td>
<td>Will County</td>
<td>264 acres, fee simple acquisition / dedicated Illinois Nature Preserve</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Rare dolomite prairie on the Des Plaines River</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Forest Preserve District of Will County</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>108</td>
<td>Stone Bridge Forest Preserve addition</td>
<td>Winnebago County</td>
<td>10 acres, fee simple acquisition</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Woodlands along Kinnikinnick Creek, connected to 2007 acquisition</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Winnebago County Forest Preserve District</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>109</td>
<td>Jenkins/Van Zelst Marsh addition</td>
<td>Woodford County</td>
<td>237 acres, fee simple acquisition</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Restorable marsh, wetland fen, floodplain forest and upland bluff forest overlooking Illinois River Valley on Upper Peoria Lakes, protected by Ducks Unlimited</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Illinois Department of Natural Resources</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>110</td>
<td>Wetlands Reserve Enhancement Program enrollment</td>
<td>Woodford County</td>
<td>83 acres, easement acquisition</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Wetlands in Upper Peoria Lake protected by Ducks Unlimited in coordination with the Natural Resources Conservation Service Private Landowner / USWREP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>111</td>
<td>Piscasaw Fen Conservation Area addition</td>
<td>Boone County</td>
<td>137 acres, fee simple acquisition</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Multiple parcel acquisition of oak savanna, forested wetlands and riparian corridor, adding to 2007 acquisition</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Boone County Conservation District</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>112</td>
<td>Embarras Ridges Land and Water Reserve</td>
<td>Coles County</td>
<td>141 acres, fee simple acquisition</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Land and Water Reserve</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Upland forest spread across broad ridges and steep ravines adjacent to Warbler Woods Nature Preserve Grand Prairie Friends</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>113</td>
<td>Prairie Oaks Forest Preserve, DeKalb County</td>
<td>DeKalb County</td>
<td>43 acres, fee simple acquisition</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Restored natural area with oak savanna, wetland, fen, stream and forest habitat in northern DeKalb County DeKalb County Forest Preserve District</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>114</td>
<td>East Branch Forest Preserve addition</td>
<td>DuPage County</td>
<td>10 acres, fee simple acquisition</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>In-holding to large (500+ acres) preserve in Glendale Heights that is part of the East Branch DuPage River greenway</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Forest Preserve District of DuPage County</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>115</td>
<td>Kankakee Sands</td>
<td>Iroquois County</td>
<td>13 acres, fee simple acquisition</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Black oak savannas and sand flatwoods, part of project to connect Iroquois County State Wildlife Area and Willow Slough State Fish and Wildlife Area Friends of the Kankakee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>116</td>
<td>William G. Wells Nature Preserve Buffer addition to the Dokum Mskoda Sedge Meadow Nature Preserve, Lake County</td>
<td>Woodford County</td>
<td>8 acres, fee simple acquisition / dedicated Illinois Nature Preserve Buffer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Acquisition of buffer parcel critical to the dedication of the adjoining 93-acre Nature Preserve by Illinois Nature Preserves Commission Conserve Lake County</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>117</td>
<td>Hurd addition to Franklin Creek State Natural Area, Lee County</td>
<td>Peoria County</td>
<td>40 acres, fee simple acquisition</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Private in-holding to Franklin Creek State Natural Area containing hardwood forest, a segment of the creek and exposed bedrock cliffs protected by Franklin Creek Conservation Association Illinois Department of Natural Resources</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>118</td>
<td>Winding Creek Conservation Area addition</td>
<td>McHenry County</td>
<td>43 acres, fee simple acquisition</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Oak savanna in-holding along the Nippersink Creek in northern part of the county</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>McHenry County Conservation District</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>119</td>
<td>Chillicotho Bottoms, a site of the Middle Illinois River Project</td>
<td>Peoria County</td>
<td>232 acres, fee simple acquisition</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Part of a multi-parcel grant that protected 1,882 acres of wetland habitat along the Illinois River in two priority locations - from Henry to Peoria and from Bath to Beardstown Ducks Unlimited</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>120</td>
<td>Deer Run Forest Preserve addition</td>
<td>Winnebago County</td>
<td>81 acres, fee simple acquisition</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Upland forest and to-be-restored prairie in-holding and buffer habitat along the Kishwaukee River Winnebago County Forest Preserve District</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>121</td>
<td>Pecatonica Woodlands Preserve</td>
<td>Winnebago County</td>
<td>145 acres, fee simple acquisition</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>70 acres, easement acquisition</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Bottomland forest, sedge meadow and open slough habitat along the Pecatonica River</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Natural Land Institute</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Between 2007 and 2011, ICECF awarded grants to support the acquisition of 7,459 acres and 781 acres of conservation easements, which generated additional donations of 93 acres of conservation easements.

The map shows the locations of the 67 sites protected.

24 of the sites contain an Illinois Natural Areas Inventory (INAI) site. INAI sites designate high-quality natural areas.

12 of the sites have additional or special protection through registration as a Land and Water Reserve, dedication as a Nature Preserve or enrollment as a Natural Heritage Landmark with the Illinois Nature Preserves Commission. Established in 1963, the Commission preserves and protects natural areas and endangered species.

Map Legend

- **2007**
- **2008**
- **2009**
- **2010**
- **2011**

0 12.5 25 50 75 100 Miles
122 **Ballard Farm Conservation Area, Boone County**

295 acres, fee simple acquisition

Multiple parcel acquisitions of wetland and stream habitat as part of a larger plan to protect and acquire land in the Kishwaukee River Watershed. The first, a 213-acre parcel of forested land, lies at the confluence of the Beaver Creek and Kishwaukee River, just north of the Ipsen Conservation Area. The second, an 82-acre parcel, consists of upland oak savanna and glacial bluffs overlooking wet meadow habitat along the Piscasaw Creek.

*Boone County Conservation District*

123 **Middle Fork River Forest Preserve addition, Champaign County**

5 acres, fee simple acquisition

Riparian forest and floodplain habitat adjacent to the Middle Fork River Forest Preserve (near 2010 acquisition). The wooded natural area adds to the District’s 4.6 miles of protected land on the Middle Fork of the Vermillion River, which is a high-quality, biologically rich stream, and connects it to additional lands of conservation interest.

*Champaign County Forest Preserve District*

124 **Kankakee Sands connector parcels, Iroquois County**

32 acres, fee simple acquisition

Multiple parcel acquisitions of black oak savanna, sand prairie, remnant flatwoods and restorable flatwoods as part of a larger project to connect Iroquois State Wildlife Area, Hooper Branch Savanna Nature Preserve and Willow Slough Fish and Wildlife Area -the first two of which are in Illinois and the latter in Indiana. The target parcels contain 243 native plant species as well as several species of concern, including 8 state-listed plants and 2 state-listed animals, the regal fritillary butterfly and ornate box turtle. The regal fritillary (*Speyeria idalia*) can be found in tall-grass prairies or wet grassy areas in the central U.S., however, due to habitat loss and fragmentation is now listed as threatened in Illinois.

*Friends of the Kankakee*

125 **Kankakee Sands Ecosystem Preserve additions, Kankakee County**

331 acres, fee simple acquisition

Multiple parcel acquisitions of black oak savanna and sand prairie habitat as part of the larger project to expand the bi-state preserve spanning 34,000 acres across Indiana and Illinois. These parcels are connected to land previously acquired by TNC and include multiple INAI sites. The Kankakee Sands Ecosystem Preserve contains the highest concentration of high-quality black oak savannas in the Midwest.

*The Nature Conservancy*
This booklet shows the location of land purchased with the help of 126 Natural Areas Land Acquisition grants awarded between 2002 and 2012. It was originally published in May of 2013 and has been updated to reflect current property names and to adjust for actual acres purchased. There was a decrease from the original estimate to the actual total acres protected as several projects were in progress at the time of printing. One was not completed altogether and a few other purchased less acres (and therefore received a smaller grant payment) than planned. The information presented here is current as of February 2018.

The sites range from privately-owned preserves that are open to the public, to county forest preserves and conservation areas, to national forests and wildlife refuges. A small number are private conservation easements. Noted as “additions,” many projects purchased land that was added to existing preserves and wildlife areas. Others acquired property to create new preserves. All had some connection to previously protected land at the time of purchase and many sites have been expanded upon since the grant awards were made. Four of the grants are represented by two dots each as they added land to two different natural areas.

The 126 grants awarded represent a total commitment of $47.7 million by the Foundation, which leveraged an estimated $95.5 million in matching funds from grantees and other sources. Altogether the projects have acquired and protected over 20,000 acres of natural areas and wildlife habitat.

The project sites are organized by year and listed alphabetically by county in the following format:

1. **Name of Natural Area, County**
2. **Acres Protected by Grant Project, type of acquisition / Additional Protection** (i.e. easement, Illinois Land and Water Reserve registration, etc.)
3. **Habitat, Location and Grantee (if other than current owner)**
4. **Landowner / easement holder**

**Line 1** lists the current name of the property.
**Line 2** lists the total number of acres protected by the grant project, not the total number of acres included in the preserve or natural area at the time of publication. The type of acquisition describes how the grantee acquired the land. Additional protection refers to actions taken to restrict the future use of the land, ensuring the permanent protection of its natural habitat. Some natural areas have been voluntarily enrolled, contingent upon approval of the Illinois Nature Preserves Commission (INPC), into the Illinois Nature Preserves System and are so described as either dedicated Illinois Nature Preserves, registered Land and Water Reserves or enrolled Natural Heritage Landmarks. Others are subject to an easement agreement between the landowner and a private land trust that permanently restricts the use of the land to protect the conservation value.

**Line 3** describes the habitat protected. The Grantee is listed in color after the words “protected by,” if different from the current owner. Some grantees have transferred property purchased with grant support to another conservation organization or agency to own and manage (subject to a conservation easement or deed restriction that protects the wildlife habitat in perpetuity).

**Line 4** lists the current landowner and easement holder. Grantee organization(s) are in color.

---

**Land Acquisition** is the main focus of the Foundation’s Natural Areas program, with grant funds awarded to help cover the direct cost, or sales price, of the land, as in the case of the 126 projects protecting natural areas at the 130 sites featured in this document. In addition to these sites, Foundation grants have assisted with the creation of the Openlands Lakeshore Preserve, the donation of conservation easements protecting an estimated 930 acres of natural habitat in McHenry County and the completion of a limited number of capacity building and planning projects designed to ultimately facilitate the acquisition and protection of natural areas.

---

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name of Natural Area</th>
<th>County</th>
<th>Acres Protected</th>
<th>Type of Acquisition</th>
<th>Additional Protection</th>
<th>Habitat, Location and Grantee</th>
<th>Landowner / Easement Holder</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Amboy Marsh, Lee County</td>
<td>272 acres</td>
<td>Fee Simple Acquisition</td>
<td>Swamp White Oak</td>
<td>Illinois Audubon Society</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Willow Branch Conservation Area, Macon County</td>
<td>65 acres</td>
<td>Fee Simple Acquisition</td>
<td>Corridor Reserve</td>
<td>The Nature Conservancy</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>McHenry County Conservation District</td>
<td>100 acres</td>
<td>Fee Simple Acquisition</td>
<td>Hotchkiss Prairie</td>
<td>The Nature Conservancy</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coral Woods Conservation Area</td>
<td>100 acres</td>
<td>Fee Simple Acquisition</td>
<td>Swamp White Oak</td>
<td>The Nature Conservancy</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LCF Sangamon River Corridor Reserve, Piatt County</td>
<td>108 acres</td>
<td>Fee Simple Acquisition</td>
<td>Floodplain forest</td>
<td>The Land Conservation Foundation</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


**Back Cover (left-right):** Kankakee Sands area; Evans-Judge Preserve (2003) - Forest Preserve District of Will County; Sandhill Crane at Yonder Prairie (2008) - Scott Kuykendall; Prairie Oaks (2011) - Dekalb County Forest Preserve District; Horseshoe Mound Park (2008) - Richard Mattas
Current property names and acreage information for grant project sites are as of February 2018