

# URBANWATERS

*A Partnership for Restoring Urban Waterways and Revitalizing Communities*

## Next NWI Urban Waters Partnership Meeting July 20th!

We hope to see you at the next NWI Urban Waters Partnership quarterly meeting July 20, 2018 at 9:30 am Central at the [Purdue Northwest Meeting Facility](#) in Portage.

The [agenda](#) includes presentations from the Calumet Collaborative on Conservation Action Planning projects in NWI, the Porter County SWCD on their educational programs, and discussion with EPA on emergency planning in NWI and communicating with communities.



A NWI Urban Waters Partnership meeting

## GET INVOLVED!

### Come Join Indiana's New Watershed Steward Program



# IMWS

Indiana Master Watershed Steward

The Indiana Master Watershed Steward program is looking for people with a keen interest in the environment, a willingness to learn, and most importantly, a strong desire to make a difference in the community. Whether you are a teacher, an accountant, a construction worker, a homemaker, a retiree, or you name it, YOU can become a Master Watershed Steward in Indiana!



Volunteers clean up a NWI Indiana beach.

**\*To become a certified Master Watershed Steward, you must complete 40 hours of training and 50 hours of volunteer service.**

**\*Classes will meet weekly between September 8 and November 17, 2018 at the Douglas Center, 100 N Lake Street, Gary, Indiana.**

## Featured Funding Opportunity

### National Coastal Resilience Fund

The National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF) will award up to \$30 million in grants in 2018 to create, expand and restore natural systems in areas that will both increase protection for communities from coastal storms, sea and lake level changes, flooding, and coastal erosion *and* improve valuable habitats for fish and wildlife species.



Photo of the Lake Michigan Shoreline from NFWF

Contiguous areas of natural habitat such as coastal marshes and wetlands, dune and beach systems, oyster and coral reefs, and coastal forests and rivers and streams -- maintained at a significant size for the habitat type -- provide communities with enhanced protection and buffering from the growing impacts of sea-level rise, changing flood patterns, increased frequency and intensity of storms, and other environmental stressors. NFWF identifies these types of natural areas as "Resiliency Hubs" - areas where natural resource restoration efforts will have the greatest impact for human community resilience, as well as for fish and wildlife - and have prioritized these areas that provide dual benefits under this program.

NFWF will invest in projects in two focus areas: 1) Project Planning and Design and 2) Project Implementation.

This program is funded by and closely coordinated with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) and will include input from other federal agencies and outside experts.

\*Applications due August 7.

\*Award Range: \$100,000 - \$3,000,000 with 1:1 match

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## Funding Opportunities

*The Northwest Indiana Urban Waters Partnership may be able to provide assistance to further your initiatives by exploring grant opportunities, building partnerships, and helping you to developing competitive proposals. Contact [Jen Birchfield](#) to discuss your projects and ways we can help.*

### **\*NEW\* Natural Climate Change Solutions Grant Program**

The US NCS Accelerator will identify and provide funding to an initial set of three to five early-stage projects with significant potential to unlock landscape-scale deployment of natural climate solutions, including reforestation, improved

forest management, and other opportunities for restoring degraded lands to maximize climate change mitigation and associated co-benefits. After the 18-month demonstration phase, TNC intends to identify the most promising projects, which may then be eligible for more significant funding. U.S.-based non-profit conservation organizations with approved IRS 501(c)(3) status are eligible to apply.

\*Award Range: \$50,000 - \$300,000

\*Submissions due July 22.

\*E-mail [NCSaccelerator@tnc.org](mailto:NCSaccelerator@tnc.org) to request the application.

### **IISG College Program Small Research Grants**

The Illinois-Indiana Sea Grant College Program (IISG) has funds to invest in promising research projects relevant to southern Lake Michigan and surrounding coastal communities. For 2018, IISG will invest in projects that would benefit from "seed" or "completion" funds. Projects should focus on one or more of the following topic areas: Aquaculture; Aquatic Invasive Species; Coastal Restoration; Contaminants (Legacy or Emerging); Crude Oil Transport; Ecosystem Resiliency; Fisheries; Land Use Planning; Sustainable Communities; Tourism and Recreation; Water Quality; Water Supply.

\*Award ceiling: \$10,000 with 50% match

\*Proposals due July 23, 2018

### **NOAA Great Lakes B-WET Grant Competition**

NOAA's Office of National Marine Sanctuaries (Great Lakes Region) is seeking proposals under the Great Lakes Bay Watershed Education and Training (B-WET) Program. Great Lakes B-WET supports programs that provide place-based, hands-on environmental education about issues affecting the Great Lakes watershed for students and related professional development for educators. Successful projects provide Meaningful Watershed Educational Experiences ([MWEE](#)). [NOAA's B-WET Program](#) is a place-based education program with seven regions.

\*Proposals due July 27

\*Award range \$25,000 - \$75,000

### **Partners for Places Grant Program**

Partners for Places is a successful matching grant program that improves U.S. and Canadian communities by building partnerships between local government sustainability leaders and place-based foundations. National funders invest in local projects developed through these partnerships to promote a healthy environment, a strong economy and well-being for all residents. In addition to the general grant program, Round 13 also includes dedicated funding to support green stormwater infrastructure projects that advance water-related sustainability goals.

\*Investments between \$25,000 and \$150,000 with 1:1 match

\*Proposals due July 31, 2018

### **Great Urban Parks Campaign Green Stormwater Infrastructure Grants**

The National Recreation and Park Association has grant funds available to support green stormwater infrastructure projects in parks as part of the Great Urban Parks Campaign. Funding will support projects that positively

affect environmental and social change in underserved communities and empower residents to be actively engaged in projects that address community needs and meet local stormwater goals. The principal applicant must be a park and recreation agency or affiliated 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. If the applicant is not a park and recreation agency, the applicant is required to submit a letter of support for the project being proposed from the park and recreation agency director.

\*Applications due August 3.

\*Award Range: \$150,000 - \$300,000 with no match requirement

### **LWCF Outdoor Recreation Legacy Partnership Program**

Grants to acquire and/or develop public lands for outdoor recreation purposes consistent with the purposes of the LWCF. Lands should be located within or serve jurisdictions delineated by the Census Bureau from the 2010 Census as "urbanized areas," and located in or directly accessible to communities that are underserved in terms of parks and recreation resources and where there are significant populations of people who are economically disadvantaged.

\*Applications due September 14, 2018

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## **Upcoming Events and Webinars**

### **Webinar: Growing the Managers of Tomorrow's Sustainable Urban Forests**

July 18, 2018

### **Webinar: Community Canopy - Private Property Tree Distributions**

July 19, 2018

### **2019 Cycle Coastal Grants Pre-proposal Workshops**

Multiple dates in July and August

Multiple locations throughout NWI

### **Webinar: Recent Changes in Lake Michigan's Lower Food Web**

July 24, 2018

### **Great Lakes Restoration Initiative Public Engagement Session**

August 7, 2 p.m. - 4 p.m.

Chicago, IL

### **Healing Our Waters Great Lakes Restoration Conference**

October 17-18, 2018

Detroit, MI

*The Northwest Indiana Urban Waters Partnership focuses on the Lake Michigan watershed in Lake, LaPorte and Porter Counties, Indiana.*

*Urban Waters works to connect urban communities, particularly those that are overburdened or economically distressed, with their waterways by improving coordination among federal agencies and state and local partners. The goals are to improve the Nation's water systems and to promote their economic, environmental and social benefits.*

