

URBANWATERS

A Partnership for Restoring Urban Waterways and Revitalizing Communities

Next Northwest Indiana Urban Waters Meeting:



October 3rd, 2019 - 9:00am to 12:00pm Central
[NIRPC, 6100 Southport Road, Portage, IN](#)

The tentative agenda includes presentations on the Great Lakes One Water partnership and the LaPorte County Health Department's point of sale septic system ordinance.

Tree Planting & Maintenance Workshop

The CommuniTree Program is offering a free tree planting and maintenance workshop on Wednesday, September 18th, 9 a.m. - 12 p.m. CST at [NIRPC](#). This half-day workshop is geared toward non-forestry professionals who find themselves occasionally responsible for planting or maintaining trees in their communities. E-mail jexl@nirpc.org by Monday, September 16th to register.



Congratulations to NWI Partners on Grant Awards!

Five Star and Urban Waters

Northwest Indiana Urban Wilderness Paddles Water Quality Monitoring

Grantee: Dunes Learning Center

Project Description: Connect 3,500 students and teachers with their local waterways and the Lake Michigan watershed through canoe experiences, guided hikes and volunteering. Project will engage students in restoring 4 acres by removing invasive species, bank stabilization and native seed collection and dispersion.



Photo credit Dunes Learning Center.

Sustain our Great Lakes

Restoring Wetlands and Controlling Invasive Species in the Calumet

Region

Grantee: The Nature Conservancy

Project Description: Protect and enhance habitat values of previously restored wetland and upland habitat through invasive species control in the Calumet region of Southern Lake Michigan. Project will retreat 425 acres for invasive species and expand invasive control on 70 acres, contributing to a multistakeholder effort to restore and manage declining wetland birds and expand ongoing monitoring of birds, water quality and vegetation throughout the Calumet region.

Managing Invasives on Recently Restored Wetlands in the Indiana Dunes Conservation Area

Grantee: Shirley Heinze Land Trust

Project Description: Preserve, restore and manage high quality wetland and upland habitats in and adjacent to the Indiana Dunes National Park through invasive species control. Project will control and manage invasive species on 200 acres that have undergone restoration in recent years.

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.

Community Development Block Grants

Rural communities have many pressing needs that require outside financial assistance. Through the Office of Community and Rural Affairs, Indiana requests federal funds to help rural communities with a variety of projects to include sewer and water systems, community centers, health and safety programs, and many others. These funds help communities improve their quality of life and ensure the health and safety of their citizens.

*Applications due October 4, 2019

*Award Ceiling and match vary by project type

IDEM Pollution Prevention Program

Proposals should strive to increase pollution prevention, water and energy conservation, and source-reduction activities through demonstration projects and measurable results. For example, proposals that address material substitution, product reformulation, process changes, or in-process recycling of wastes are types of projects that are eligible for grant funding.

*Applications due November 1, 2019

Award range: \$10,000 to \$25,000 with 1:1 match

Next Level Trails

Next Level Trails will invest \$90 million toward the development of regionally and locally significant trails throughout Indiana. As part of Governor Holcomb's broader infrastructure program, Next Level Trails (NLT) is designed to incentivize collaborative efforts to accelerate trail connections.

*Applications due November 1, 2019

*Award Range: \$200,000 - \$5 million with 20% match

Learn to be a Leader in Watershed Management

If you're interested in water quality and watersheds, consider applying for the 2019 Indiana Watershed Leadership Academy. Training includes three face-to-face group sessions and distance learning between January to May, 2020. For more information or to apply, visit <https://engineering.purdue.edu/watersheds/academy.html>



IWLA logo

Academy Fee: Includes lodging and food for overnight and one-day workshops, plus all course materials.

- Full cost: \$1,250
- Soil and Water Conservation District & nonprofit staff and board members, self-funded participants: \$750
- Additional scholarships may be available for applicants upon request

Enrollment deadline: November 8, 2019

Events

Brunswick Park Tree Planting

September 14th; 9 AM - Noon
Brunswick Park- Clark Road Gary, IN

Native Plant and Pollinator Workshop

September 12, 2019, 6 p.m. to 7 p.m.
Hobart, IN

Urban Forestry Symposium

September 12-13
Martinsville, IN

Harding Park Tree Planting

September 21st; 9 AM - Noon
Harding Park- 163rd Pl. Hammond

Indiana Dunes Visitor Center Tree Planting

September 24th; 12:30 PM - 3:30 PM
Indiana Dunes Visitor Center - 1215 North State Road 49, Porter, IN

Outdoor Adventure Fest

October 4-6
Multiple locations throughout Northwest Indiana

Partners in Community Forestry Conference

November 20-21, 2019
Cleveland, OH

Webinars and Resources

[Webinar: Centering the Community in Resilience Plannin](#)

September 12, 1 pm - 2 pm EDT

[Webinar: Back to Life: Successful Stream and Wetland Restoration](#)

September 17, 1 pm to 2 pm EDT

[Webinar: SepticSmart Week 2019: Promoting Best Practices for Community Involvement](#) (featuring Amanda Lahners, LaPorte County Health Department)

September 18, 12 pm - 2 pm CDT

[Webinar: Introduction to SWAT](#)

September 24, 1 pm to 3 pm EDT

[Nominate a River Hero](#)

Deadline: October 1

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.