

# URBANWATERS

*A Partnership for Restoring Urban Waterways and Revitalizing Communities*

## Northwest Indiana Urban Waters Meeting:

**Thursday, January 23, 9:30 am - noon Central**  
Purdue Northwest Meeting Facility (in the NIRPC building)  
[6100 Southport Road, Portage, IN](#)



The focus of the January 23rd meeting will be reviewing 2019 accomplishments and gathering partner input for the 2020 NWI Urban Waters work plan.

January 23rd is also National Pie Day! Of course, we'll be celebrating!

## Chi-Cal Rivers Fund Awards to Improve Waterways

CHICAGO (November 14, 2019) - Chi-Cal Rivers Fund partners today announced eight projects selected to receive \$1.25 million in grant funding to improve and enhance waterways in the Chicago-Calumet region. These investments will enhance fish and wildlife habitat, reduce stormwater runoff, and improve access to and use of natural areas and greenspace for communities. The grants will generate \$1.85 million in matching contributions, for a total conservation impact of \$3.1 million. Read the [full announcement](#).



SCA Calumet Tree Conservation Corps Crew member, Ryan Bennett plants trees with students.

### **Congratulations to our partners for these awards for NWI projects!**

#### Duck Creek Tributary Restoration and Stabilization (IN)

*Grantee:* Delta Institute

*Description:* Restore a 0.2 mile section of Duck Creek through stream bank restoration and riparian buffer installation as part of a phased approach. Project will improve water quality, enhance instream and riparian habitat quality, and reduce local flooding by increasing infiltration capacity

#### Calumet Tree Conservation Corps (IN)

*Grantee:* The Student Conservation Association

*Description:* Reduce stormwater runoff and create urban habitat by planting 500 new trees in northwest Indiana. Project will build upon previous investments and continue to improve water quality at a regional scale while engaging the community and volunteers.

## Funding and Support 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.*

### **EPA Environmental Education Grants**

The purpose of the Environmental Education Local Grants Program in Region 5 is to support locally-focused environmental education projects that increase public awareness and knowledge about environmental and conservation issues and provide the skills that participants need to make informed decisions and take responsible actions toward the environment.

\*Award Range: \$50,000 to \$100,000 with 25% match

\*Application Deadline: January 6, 2020

### **Community Forestry and Open Space Conservation Grant Program**

Grants to establish community forests through fee simple acquisition of private forest land from a willing seller. Eligible lands are located adjacent to coastal wetlands or are hydrologically connected with Great Lake water levels and are private forest, at least five acres, and at least 75 percent forested.

\*Application Deadlines: January 6, 2020 (to State Forester), February 6, 2020 (to USFS)

\*Award Ceiling: \$600,000 with 50 percent match of the total project cost (non-federal, cash or in-kind)

### **Five Star & Urban Waters Restoration Grant Program**

The program seeks to develop community capacity to sustain local natural resources for future generations by providing modest financial assistance to diverse local partnerships focused on improving water quality, watersheds and the species and habitats they support. Projects include a variety of ecological improvements along with targeted community outreach, education and stewardship.

\*Award Range: \$20,000 to \$50,000 with 1:1 match

\*Proposal Deadline: January 30th, 2020

### **Environmental Justice Collaborative Problem-Solving Cooperative Agreement Program**

The Environmental Justice Collaborative Problem-Solving Cooperative Agreement Program provides funding to support community-based organizations in their efforts to collaborate and partner with local stakeholder groups as they develop and implement community-driven solutions that address environmental and/or public health issues for underserved communities.

\*Applications due: February 7, 2020

\*Award ceiling: \$120,000 with no match required or considered

### **2020 National Fish Passage Program**

The National Fish Passage Program is a voluntary program that provides direct technical and financial assistance to partners. Activities that restore fish

passage also support the modernization of country's infrastructure such as road culverts, bridges and water diversions. Example project types include dam removals, culvert replacements, and the installation of fishways.

\*Award range: \$500 - \$2,000,000 with 1:1 match on a regional basis not necessarily project basis

\*Applications due: September 30, 2020

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## Events and Webinars

### [Webinar: Utility Action for Climate Resilience in Cities](#)

December 3, 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM CST

### [Webinar: Every Drop Counts- Assessing and Evaluating Water Efficiency in Capital Improvement Projects](#)

December 4, 1:00 PM ET

### [Stormwater Landscape Maintenance Workshop](#)

Noblesville, IN

December 5th

### [Webinar: Climate for Cities: Increasing the Capacity for Cities to Effectively Plan for Climate Change](#)

December 16th from 1PM - 2PM CT

### [Webinar: What Happens When Permeable Pavements Freeze?](#)

December 19, 10:00 am - noon CST

### [Indiana Arborist Association Annual Conference](#)

Indianapolis, IN

January 21-23, 2020

## Resources

### [Article: The Upkeep of Green Stormwater Infrastructure](#)

### [Closing the Water Access Gap in the US: A National Action Plan](#)

### [The NPS River Access Planning Guide](#)

### [EPA 2019 Annual Environmental Justice Progress Report](#)

*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.*