

Reminder: The Northwest Indiana (NWI) Urban Waters Partnership Meeting is this Thursday, April 20

**NWI Urban Waters
Partnership Meeting
Thursday, April 20, 2023
9:30-11:30am CDT**

Join the Zoom Meeting

Meeting ID: 923 6848 7778

Passcode: 630183

Dial in by your location

+1 305 224 1968 US

+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

+1 301 715 8592 US (DC)

Find your local number:

<https://purdue->

[edu.zoom.us/j/adh4go6n2X](https://purdue-edu.zoom.us/j/adh4go6n2X)



**Please bring updates & announcements to
share with partners at the meeting!**

Agenda

1. Welcome
2. Introductions
3. Partner Presentation: "Lake Michigan Coastal Hazards and Coastal Community Resilience," Joe Exl & Jenny Orsburn, Indiana Department of Natural Resources Lake Michigan Coastal Program
4. Partner Presentation: "The Gem of Chicago Wilderness: Ecology and Restoration of the Greatest (a Great) Ecological Region of the U.S.," Dr. Spencer Cortwright, Indiana University Northwest
5. Partner Updates & Announcements

Questions? Please reach out to [Victoria Wittig](#),
the Northwest Indiana Urban Waters Ambassador.

Save the Dates for the next two 2023 NWI Urban Waters Partnership Meetings

Thursday, July 20, 9:30-11:30am CDT location TBD

Thursday, October 19, 9:30-11:30am CST location TBD

We want to hear from you! The NWI Urban Waters Core Team is exploring moving back to an in-person meeting format for quarterly meetings of the NWI Urban Waters Partnership and we want to know works best for our partners. Please complete a <1

minute survey to share your preferences for in-person, hybrid or virtual meeting formats.

You may complete the survey directly through the Survey Monkey Link [here](#). We look forward to hearing from you!

US Forest Service Urban & Community Forestry Program Notice of Funding Opportunity

The Urban and Community Forestry Inflation Reduction Act Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) has been announced. The U.S. Forest Service is making up to \$1 billion available in Urban and Community Forestry competitive grants for investments that:

- Increase equitable access to urban tree canopy and associated human health, environmental, and economic benefits in disadvantaged communities,
- Broaden community engagement in local urban forest planning,
- Improve community and urban forest resilience to climate change, pests, and storm events through best management and maintenance practices.

Funding Criteria:

- Proposal deadline is June 1, 2023 at 11:59 p.m. ET
- \$100,000 minimum and \$50 million maximum funding request
- 5-year grant agreement
- All federal grant funds are to be matched at least equally (dollar for dollar) with non-federal match. Match waivers are available for proposals that deliver 100% of the funding/program benefits to disadvantaged communities.
- Organizations must have an active registration and Unique Entity Identifier (UEI) from SAM.gov to apply. Creating a first-time registration may take several weeks or more to complete, so apply for SAM registration early.

IRA-UCF Grant Application Webinars: Please register early to receive the link.

Tuesday April 18, 1-2:30 pm ET: <https://usfs.zoomgov.com/meeting/register/vJlftu-pqDMtH07EzAdmMFzNbmeCPf1Ymkg>

Tuesday April 25, 2-3:30 pm ET: https://usfs.zoomgov.com/meeting/register/vJltd--qqzosGkQg4dlrg4f2F-QXv8_YFmw

These will be recorded and posted to the grant application website, along with a Pre-grant award guide (pdf).

Grant application website <https://IRAUCFGrants.urbanandcommunityforests.org>

More resources:

<https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/search-grants.html>

<https://www.fs.usda.gov/managing-land/urban-forests>

Questions:

For questions related to the NOFO proposal requirements or information contained within the NOFO, such as dates, page numbers, and clarification of discrepancies, email SM.FS.UCF_IRA@usda.gov.

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

NWI Urban Waters | Northwest Indiana, Lake, Porter, & LaPorte Counties, IN 46360

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