

Save the Date

The Next Urban Waters Partnership Meeting is October 20th

Northwest Indiana
Urban Waters
Partnership
Meeting
Thursday, October 20th
9:30 - 11:30am (CT)

Join the Zoom Meeting

https://purdue-edu.zoom.us/j/99881291798? pwd=aXR6aGtjUDhVc1VxdUtsZUtGWlpiZz09

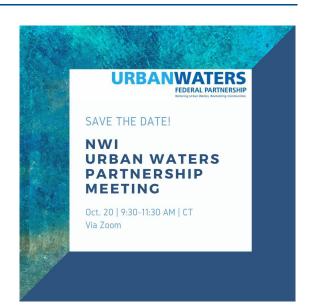
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Please bring updates and announcements to the meeting! Agenda (with working titles):

- 1. Welcome
- 2. Introductions
- 3. Partner Presentation: Native Mussel Project Update from the Indiana Dunes National Park Resource Team
- Partner Presentation: Overview of Indiana University Northwest's GLISTEN Program from Dr. Erin Argyilan
- 5. Partner Updates & Announcements

Questions? Please reach out to <u>Victoria Wittig</u>, your Northwest Indiana Urban Waters Ambassador.

City of Whiting to Plant 5,000 Trees

The City of Whiting recently announced plans to plant 5,000 trees in the next five years through a collaborative effort with partners including the Northwestern Indiana Regional

Planning Commission (NIRPC), the Student Conservation Association, BP America, USDA Forest Service, Indiana DNR Urban Forestry Program, Northern Indiana Public Service Company, the Wildlife Habitat Council, Urban Waters Federal Partnership, among others. Several of these organizations are core partners in the CommuniTree Program locally administered by NIRPC. Read more here.



Above: A community event in a Whiting neighborhood during the announcement of a new tree planting project.

Pokagon Band of the Potawatomi to Conduct Traditional Harvesting at IDNP

Pictured right is wild rice (*Zizania palustris*) flourishing in a restored innerdunal pond within IDNP.



LMCP Launches Indiana Coastal Atlas

The Indiana Department of Natural Resources Lake Michigan Coastal Program (LMCP) recently launched a new online tool that provides coastal communities with a one-stop-shop for information about coastal resources. Called the "Indiana Coastal Atlas," this powerful tool provides information about Indiana's coastal area with maps, pictures and text. Explore the Indiana Coastal Atlas here.



Above: A screenshot of the Indiana Coast Atlas webpage featuring a pond and wetland area

Funding Opportunities

The Northwest Indiana Urban Waters Partnership may be able to provide assistance to advance your initiatives by exploring grant opportunities, building partnerships, and helping you develop competitive proposals. Email Victoria Wittig to discuss your projects and ways we can help.

Cleveland-Cliffs Foundation

The Cleveland-Cliffs Foundation provides grants to 501(c)3 organizations for projects that support education, improve the environment, and/or support healthy and vibrant communities. Potential grantees can request an invitation to submit a full proposal by submitting a letter of inquiry on their <u>online grants system</u>. Assistance is available by email at community@clevelandcliffs.com

*Applications due September 1, 2022

U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) Cooperative Matching Funds

The USGS provides Cooperative Matching Funds to municipal, state, and regional partners to support projects that focus on restoring and revitalizing urban waters. Contact USGS Supervisory Hydrologist, David Lampe by email at **dclampe@usgs.gov** with questions and for more information about how to apply.

*Applications due September 2, 2022 *Award Range: \$75,000 to \$100,000

U.S. National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Transformational Habitat Restoration and Coastal Resilience Grants

This funding supports transformational projects that restore habitat for the nation's fisheries and protected resources, while also strengthening the resilience of coastal communities and ecosystems. Eligible projects help restore coastal ecosystems; support clean drinking water and industries like boating, fishing and tourism; and/or other restoration projects that include natural infrastructure to reduce damage from flooding and storms. More info here.

*Applications due September 6, 2022

Partners for Places Mini Grants

The Funders Network and the Urban Sustainability Directors Network have announced a fifth round of grants from the Partners for Places (P4P) fund. P4P supports building collaborative partnerships that advance equitable, sustainable climate action or green stormwater infrastructure projects. P4P addresses frontline community priorities by applying a racial equity approach to collaborative relationship building, planning and implementation. To learn more, click here.

*Applications due September 15, 2022

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Youth Engagement, Education, and Employment Grants

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (US FWS) is providing grants to engage diverse youth in wildlife conservation and public land management. To learn more about this opportunity, click here.

*Applications due September 15, 2022

*Award Range: \$2,000 to \$2 million; Match required

Environmental Justice Data Fund (EJDF)

EJDF aims to help frontline communities that have been historically underserved and disproportionately impacted by climate change and environmental injustice. EJDF will consider a range of approaches to using data to advocate for environmental justice at the local and regional level through. To view the recent webinar recording, click here.

*Applications due September 16, 2022

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Coastal Program 2022

This voluntary, community-based program provides technical and financial assistance to coastal communities, conservation partners, and landowners to restore and protect fish and wildlife habitat on public and private lands. Ideal projects will strive to increase coastal resiliency by improving the ability of coastal ecosystems to adapt to environmental changes and supporting natural and nature-based infrastructure projects that protect and enhance coastal habitats.

- * Applications due September 22, 2022
- * Award Ceiling: \$200,000; No match required

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Environmental Justice Thriving Communities Technical Assistance Centers (EJ TCTAC) Program

^{*}Award Range: \$1 to \$15 million

^{*}Award Range: \$25,000 to \$500,000

U.S. NOAA Coastal Habitat Restoration and Resilience Grants for Underserved Communities

Through this funding, NOAA will engage underserved communities in habitat restoration activities that promote resilient ecosystems and communities. This funding will provide capacity for communities participate fully in developing future habitat projects. Projects selected may include capacity building and restoration activities. More info here.

*Applications due October 5, 2022

Indiana Department of Natural Resources Lake Michigan Coastal Program (LMCP) Grants

The LMCP is now accepting pre-proposals for their 2023 grant cycle. Pre-proposals are sought for projects that protect and restore habitats, address water quality concerns, implement coastal resiliency measures, acquire "high-quality" land parcels or support environmentally responsible communities. For more information and pre-proposal guidance, click here.

*Pre-proposals due October 7, 2022

<u>U.S. Department of Transportation Reconnecting Communities Pilot (RCP) Program – Planning Grants and Capital Construction Grants</u>

*Applications due October 13, 2022

Indiana Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF) Loan Program

Indiana's Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF) Loan Program provides low-interest-rate financing to construct water quality protection projects, including sewer line extensions to existing unsewered properties. Click here to access the application. Contact Jacob Schmicker for more information by email (jschmicker@ifa.in.gov) or phone (317) 232-4396.

Partner Opportunities & Resources

"Watershed Moment Reminds Me to Protect Watersheds"

The August column in the Northwest Indiana Times by Susan Mihalo of The Nature Conservancy, a long-time NWI Urban Waters Partner, is focused on watersheds. Read more on the Northwest Indiana Times website here.

Local Infrastructure Hub's Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) Application Bootcamp

2022 Indiana Water Summit

^{*}Applications due October 4, 2022

^{*}Award Ceiling: \$6 million over three years

^{*}Award Range: \$75,000 to \$1 million

The 5th Annual Indiana Water Summit will take place September 7-8, 2022 at the Athenaeum in downtown Indianapolis. It will focus on advancing regional water planning and exploring critical statewide water conservation and protection efforts. To view the draft agenda, click here. To register, click here.

2022 Indiana Association for Floodplain and Stormwater Management (INAFSM) Conference

The INAFSM will host its 26th Annual Conference, September 14-16, 2022 at the Century Center in South Bend. This year's Conference will offer several concurrent sessions for floodplain and stormwater management. To view the schedule, click here. To register, click here.

*Registration open until September 8, 2022

Indiana Watershed Leadership Program

The Indiana Watershed Leadership Academy is designed for anyone with watershed management responsibilities that is interested in building their leadership capacity. Please contact Sara Peel (speel@purdue.edu) if you have questions about enrolling. To view the application form, click here.

*Enrollment Deadline: November 4, 2002

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.

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

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