



CommuniTree Celebration at Gabis Arboretum: 10,000 Trees & Counting

Partners from the Northwestern Indiana Regional Planning Commission, the Student Conservation Association, the Wildlife Habitat Council, the US Forest Service and more, invite CommuniTree participants, sponsors and guests to join in a celebration at Gabis Arboretum of Purdue University Northwest to mark a milestone achievement: more than 10,000 trees have been planted in communities across Northwest Indiana!



The celebration will include a brief program with remarks from CommuniTree partners and communities, a tree planting and dedication, networking opportunities and an optional guided hike with Gabis Arboretum staff. Light refreshments will be served. Register at [CommuniTree10k.eventbrite.com](https://www.eventbrite.com/e/communitree-10k-trees-planting-celebration-at-gabis-arboretum)

Chicago Wilderness Alliance Congress 2022

The more than 250 organizations that make up the Chicago Wilderness Alliance will gather this November to discuss the region's most pressing conservation challenges—and what we can do together to make an impact.



Thursday, November 3, 2022
UIC Forum Pavilion, Chicago
1pm-6:30 pm

\$25 includes access to all events
*no-questions-asked scholarships available

Learn more and register [here](#).
Sponsorship opportunities available [here](#).

The Wetlands Initiative (TWI) Welcomes New Artist in Residence

All around the world, including in Northwest Indiana, wetlands support a tremendous diversity of plants and wildlife. These ecosystems also improve water quality, reduce erosion and flood damage, and even sequester carbon dioxide. Bringing these ecosystems to life through art is the focus of the new artist in residence, Lindsay Olson. View a short video about her work with TWI [here](#).



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](mailto:Victoria.Wittig) to discuss your projects and ways we can help.

[U.S. National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration \(NOAA\) 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

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

[U.S. NOAA Marine Debris Program](#)

The NOAA Marine Debris Program will award up to \$56 million to fund projects that remove marine debris to benefit marine and Great Lakes habitats and communities. This competition focuses on two priorities: removing large marine debris and using proven interception technologies to capture marine debris throughout the coastal United States, Great Lakes, territories, and Freely Associated States. View the informational webinar [here](#).

*Applications due October 5, 2022

*No match required; in-kind match encouraged

[Indiana Department of Environmental Management \(IDEM\) Community Recycling Grant](#)

IDEM's Solid Waste Management Fund is accepting applications for projects focused on education and promotion of recycling; processing of recyclable materials; waste reduction; household waster; organics management (including yard waste management and composting). For more info, contact 800-988-7901 or crgp@idem.IN.gov.

*Applications due October 6, 2022

*Award Range: \$1,000 to \$100,000

[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.S. Department of Transportation Reconnecting Communities Pilot \(RCP\) Program –](#)

[Planning Grants and Capital Construction Grants](#)

The U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) will award RCP Program grants on a competitive basis to fund projects that reconnect communities by removing, retrofitting or mitigating highways or other transportation facilities that create barriers to community connectivity, including to mobility, access or economic development. To learn more about how to apply, click [here](#).

*Applications due October 13, 2022

[Environmental Justice Data Fund \(EDJF\)](#)

EJDF is an \$8 million fund created and seeded by Google that 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. EJDF encourages grantees to leverage grant funds for matching opportunities. Preview the application [here](#) or reach with questions to ejdatafund@windwardfund.org

*Applications due October 31, 2022

*Award Range: \$25,000 to \$500,000

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

EJ TCTAC will serve as a resource for environmental and energy programs, policy development, and understanding and utilizing environmental and energy grant programs to advance environmental and energy justice. EJ TCTAC will provide training, assistance and capacity building on writing grant proposals, navigating federal systems such as Grants.gov and SAM.gov, and effectively managing grant funding. To view the full request for applications, click [here](#).

*NEW DEADLINE Applications due November 1, 2022

*Award Ceiling: \$6 million over three years

[U.S. Forest Service \(USFS\) Great Lakes Restoration Initiative \(GLRI\) Forest Restoration Grant](#)

The USFS announced GLRI funds for reforestation, ecosystem restoration and forest health improvement in the Great Lakes Basin through projects that mitigate forest insect and disease impacts; reduce runoff from degraded sites through green infrastructure; and restore and connect coastal and riparian forest habitats. More info [here](#).

*Applications due November 14, 2022

*Award range: \$50,000 to \$300,000

[USFS GLRI Cooperative Weed Management Grant](#)

The USFS announced GLRI funds for projects that detect, prevent, eradicate, and/or control invasive plant species to promote resiliency, watershed stability, and biological diversity on Federal, State, or other public or private land. More info [here](#).

*Applications due November 14, 2022

*Award range: \$25,000 to \$50,000

[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

[Volunteer Tree Planting with The Wetlands Initiative \(TWI\)](#)

TWI and partners will be hosting a volunteer tree planting at the Bethune Early Childhood Development Center in Gary, Indiana. The planting will take place on Thursday, October 6th from 9 am – 12 pm. Register via Eventbrite [here](#).

Environmental Law & Policy Center (ELPC) Conference

Great Lakes Shoreline Resilience: A Science-Policy Confluence Conference, organized by the ELPC, provides an opportunity to discuss the latest scientific data on Great Lakes water level extremes and potential policy solutions. Register via Eventbrite [here](#).

[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

Federal Grant Navigator Assistance Program

The National League of Cities launches new resource to help communities secure future grants by tracking key indicators. Learn more [here](#).

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>

Meeting ID: 998 8129 1798

Passcode: 875781

Dial by your location:

+1 646 931 3860 US

+1 301 715 8592 US (Washington DC)

+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

Find your local number: <https://purdue-edu.zoom.us/u/a0Ym0YNDS>



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
4. Partner Presentation: Overview of Indiana University Northwest's GLISTEN Program from Dr. Erin Argyilan
5. Partner Updates & Announcements

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

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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