



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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McHenry County Conservation Foundation Awarded \$25K Fairways Foundation Grant for Glacial Park Prairie Restoration

McHenry County Conservation Foundation was awarded a \$25,000 grant from the Fairways Foundation to assist with restoration efforts of 21 acres at McHenry County Conservation District's Glacial Park site in Ringwood, IL.

Funds provided by the Fairways Foundation will be combined with a previous Enbridge Fueling Futures investment to purchase the rich and diverse native seed mix necessary to convert land from current row crop production to high quality prairie grassland. This project ties together several hundred acres of restored and managed land within Glacial Park and supports the conservation of numerous threatened or endangered species, including the Blanding's turtle, monarch butterfly, and the rusty patched bumblebee. The restoration work will decrease sedimentation runoff into the North Branch of Nippersink Creek, one of the highest quality streams in the state of Illinois. The land conversion will also improve the ability of this area to recharge groundwater, which is where McHenry County residents receive 100% of their drinking water.

Encompassing 3,439 acres, Glacial Park is one of the largest contiguous areas of publicly managed land in McHenry County. More than 85,000 people visit the site annually to experience numerous recreational opportunities and to take in breathtaking views.

The Fairways Foundation is a stand-alone not-for-profit organization dedicated to safeguarding our environment, supporting conservation-based projects; big and small, as well as educational events for professionals, newcomers to the field and for future minds. Environmental stewardship is not an initiative. It's a long-term investment into our future and the future of our industry. The Fairways Foundation directly funds local and global projects that advance the conservation of our natural resources. These projects will help to preserve the environment we live in whilst encouraging education and stewardship not only within our own industry but also within wider communities. For more information, visit www.thefairwaysfoundation.com.

McHenry County Conservation Foundation works to obtain grants and gifts in support of the work of the McHenry County Conservation District, directing nearly all of its budget to conservation projects and environmental education programs that go beyond what government funding alone can provide. Grants and donations to the organization help ensure that McHenry County's public lands, water, and wildlife are preserved to benefit our way of live and that of future generations. McHenry County Conservation

Foundation is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. To learn more
visit <http://www.mchenryconservation.org> or call (815) 678-4532, ext. 8204.

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