



**Forest Preserves of Cook County Conservation & Policy Council Meeting**  
**April 16, 2025 ▪ 8:45 am (site tour) ▪ 10 am to noon (meeting) ▪**  
**noon – 1 pm (special seed bank tour)**

The tour of Chicago Botanic Garden's begins at 8:45 am.

Meeting will be held from 10 am to noon at the Chicago Botanic Garden, 1000 Lake Cook Road, Glencoe, IL in the Regenstein Center's Burnstein Hall

Special tour of the seed bank will be held after the meeting from 12-1 pm

**Public Comments.** *Members of the public who wish to testify must register at least 24 hours before the scheduled start of the meeting. Register by sending your name and organization (if applicable) to [Sharon.Williams3@cookcountyil.gov](mailto:Sharon.Williams3@cookcountyil.gov). Written-only comments provided 24 hours prior to the start of the Council meeting will be made part of the meeting record and available to all Council members. Anyone wishing to submit written public comments should send comments via email to [Sharon.Williams3@cookcountyil.gov](mailto:Sharon.Williams3@cookcountyil.gov).*

**Accommodations.** *The meeting will be held inside the Regenstein Building; this is an accessible building. To request an accessible tour of the grounds, live-captioning or other accommodations, please send an email to [michelle.uting@cookcountyil.gov](mailto:michelle.uting@cookcountyil.gov) at least 48 hours prior to the meeting.*

### **Next Century Conservation Plan Vision**

*The people of Cook County will celebrate and nurture our thriving woodlands, prairies and waters as world-class treasures that sustain our great metropolis.*

## **A G E N D A**

- 8:45 am *Please join us for a pre-meeting tour of the nursery and production greenhouses with Dr. Andrea Kramer (Senior Director of Restoration, Chicago Botanic Garden) and Iza Redlinski (Deputy Director of the Forest Preserves' Department of Resource Management) to learn about the collaborative Seed Amplification project.*
- We will meet in Parking Lot #2 at 8:45am and take a tram to the Science Center. Please dress for the weather. Upon completion of the tour, the tram will take everyone back to the Regenstein Center for the meeting.*
- 10:00 am **1.** Welcome (Mark Templeton, Chairperson, Conservation & Policy Council)
- 2.** Land Acknowledgement
- 3.** Nature Spotlight (Dr. Kay Havens, Chicago Botanic Garden Seed Bank)
- 10:10 am **4.** Approval of Minutes (See Attachment 1)

## 5. Public Comments

10:15 am 6. Chairman's report

10:30 am 7. Discussion with Interim General Superintendent Eileen Figel

10:40 am 8. Seed Amplification Initiative (Andrea Kramer & Iza Redlinski) (See Attachment 3)

11:10 am *Break*

11:20 am 9. Climate Resiliency & Sustainability: Solar Initiative (Renee Patten) (See Attachment 4)

11:50 am 10. Updates from Strategic Partners

12:00 pm 11. Adjourn

12:05 pm *Special tour of the Chicago Botanic Garden's Seed Bank with Andrea, Iza, and Dr. Kay Havens, Chief Scientist & Negaunee Vice President of Science (a tram will take us to the Dixon National Tallgrass Prairie Seed Bank in the Daniel F. and Ada L. Rice Plant Conservation Science Center and then will return to Parking Lot #2 at 1 pm.)*

## Attachments

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1. Minutes for Meeting of 1.30.25
2. 2025 Council Proposed Priorities
3. Seed Amplification Background (Provided as a separate document due to file size)
4. Climate Resilience & Solar Initiative Background
5. Chicago Botanic Garden Update and Science One-pagers (Supporting Resilient Landscapes; Preventing Extinctions; Training the Next Generation)
6. Recent Media Highlights (Provided as a separate document)