



**FOREST PRESERVE
FOUNDATION**

Conservation Cup

6th annual
Forest Preserve Foundation
Golf Outing
Thursday, September 14, 2017
George W. Dunne National Golf Course ♦ Oak Forest, IL

PRESENTED BY



JPMORGAN CHASE & CO.





Conservation Cup

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Sept. 14, 2017

GREETINGS

As Board President of the Forest Preserves of Cook County, I welcome you to the Forest Preserve Foundation's 6th annual Conservation Cup.

We are fortunate to have the Forest Preserves throughout Cook County. The Preserves offer our region critical green space that supports stormwater management and cleaner air and reduces our carbon footprint. The Preserves provide people of all ages with a chance to explore nature, to golf, picnic, hike, bike or just relax.

We are working to engage more people—youth, families and community members—in the Forest Preserves. We want everyone in Cook County to understand the pleasure and the value the Forest Preserves add to our quality of life.

The Foundation fills a critical role by forging public-private partnerships. Together with donors like you, these partnerships help us realize the vision of the Forest Preserves of Cook County. The funds we raise help us extend our capacity and programming.

We are proud of all the Foundation has achieved to date. In the short period of six years, it has granted more than \$750,000 cumulatively to the Forest Preserves and its partners. These funds support programs that allow many county residents to participate in recreation and conservation activities in the preserves.

The Foundation has an ambitious vision to grow and make an even bigger impact. Donors like you can help realize this vision. Thank you for your support today.

Congratulations to the Forest Preserve Foundation on its 6th annual Conservation Cup golf tournament.

Sincerely,

Toni Preckwinkle
President



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PRESIDENT

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Sept. 14, 2017

Thank you for joining us for the Forest Preserve Foundation's 6th annual Conservation Cup here on the beautiful grounds of the George W. Dunne National Golf Course, part of the Forest Preserves of Cook County.

The Forest Preserves exist in part to relieve the stress of our increasingly urban world. We want everyone throughout Cook County to see the Preserves as a destination for a quick getaway, a day trip or even an overnight stay.

The Foundation is a vital partner to the Preserves. Its financial support allows more people to access the Preserves' beautiful natural spaces. Your support of the Conservation Cup helps underwrite resources for those who otherwise may not have access to the Preserves.

We hope that after this event, you will continue to seek out the Forest Preserves as a resource throughout the year. Bring your families to walk a trail, host a company picnic, or spend the night at one of our campground sites. We look forward to seeing you every season in the Forest Preserves of Cook County.

Sincerely,

Arnold Randall
General Superintendent
Forest Preserves of Cook County



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Forest Preserve Foundation

"I was able to move up from volunteer to crew member to leader."

"When we came the first day, the preserve was full of invasive species. Now we can see the forest floor."

"I learned about career opportunities in my own community."

Dear Friends,

When we hear young people who are part of the Conservation Corps share comments like those, we know the Forest Preserve Foundation's work changes lives. As we've gone about implementing our strategic plan over the last year, we remain ever committed to our core mission: expanding the programming that engages youth and families in the Forest Preserves of Cook County.

Understanding the role nature plays in the health of individuals and communities, in 2017 we provided a grant to fund the design and installation of nature-based sculptures at the Forest Preserve General Headquarters, Thatcher Woods Pavilion and Trailside Museum. Another grant supported a Conservation Corps crew that spent six weeks this summer doing conservation and restoration work in the Dan Ryan Woods. Visit our new website to read stories that illuminate our work and the impact it is having on the well-being of the preserves and the people who maintain and visit them.

Your participation in the 6th Annual Conservation Cup allows us to be a vital philanthropic partner to the Forest Preserves. Since the Foundation started, we have invested more than \$750,000 into programs that broaden the Forest Preserves experience.

The Conservation Cup is the largest special event hosted by the Foundation. It brings together Cook County business and civic leaders who are helping youth and families deepen their awareness of and appreciation for the Forest Preserves, encouraging them to become stewards for the health and future of the preserves. Each year, financial services corporations, engineering and law firms, and environmental services companies sponsor our sold-out event. Seventy percent of our sponsors are national companies.

We especially thank our executive event sponsor, BMO Harris Bank, and title sponsors JP Morgan Chase, CSX Transportation and Billy Casper Golf. Their leadership and support ensure that the Conservation Cup is a success year after year. As always, the net proceeds from the Cup are directed toward grants that further our mission.

We warmly welcome you to the 6th annual Conservation Cup. Thank you for joining us today and supporting our mission. Have a terrific day on the course!

Sincerely,

Tom Livingston and Shelley A. Davis

Program Grants Awarded in 2017

The **Forest Preserve Foundation** engages people with nature. Since 2012, the Foundation has granted over **\$750,000** in support of nature-based recreation and conservation in the Forest Preserves of Cook County.

Conservation Corps employs high school-age youth and young adults from underserved communities in hands-on stewardship projects throughout the preserves. Crews restore natural habitats by removing invasive plant species, improving trails, collecting field data, and providing outreach to communities. Participants cultivate critical job skills, learn plant identification and skills for native habitat restoration, and gain knowledge about potential careers in environmental fields.



Volunteer Recognition celebrates the spirit and impact that volunteers have on making the forest preserves healthy and vibrant. Volunteers are recognized for their service and the considerable time that they commit to enhancing the forest preserves.

I Love My Preserves is a program for residents who feel a special affinity for a specific preserve and want to help it continue to thrive. The Foundation helps direct gifts to benefit restoration, education and other initiatives at specific sites.

Memorial Tree and Bench Program offers residents the opportunity to honor a special person or occasion by planting a tree or installing a bench in the Forest Preserves of Cook County.

Public Art at Gateway Sites are unique art pieces that celebrate the role of the Preserves in the Oak Park/River Forest community. They are constructed of natural materials that will naturally decay over time to become part of the landscape. The program encourages teen and community engagement in developing and building public art pieces that celebrate their connection with nature.



Nature Play connects young people to nature by offering elements of fun, discovery and adventure in a nature-based setting. Nature play sites were

installed in Dan Ryan Woods on Chicago's South Side and Camp Bullfrog in the Willow Springs area.

Bird the Preserves program connects diverse communities to the preserves through programs and activities that establish the Forest Preserves as premiere birding destination in the Chicago Wilderness region.

Special Thank You's

...for leadership and generosity...

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Office of the Deputy Superintendent
Department of Resource Management
Department of Conservation and Experiential Programming
Department of Permits, Concessions and Volunteer Resources



Video Contributors

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Student Conservation Association

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Communications/Graphic Design

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NATURE DOES THE INVITING.
WE JUST ORGANIZE THE OUTING.



At the Forest Preserve Foundation, we support the programs and activities that give everyone access to the natural treasures of Cook County. With your support, these efforts will make life better for us all.

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