



**FOREST PRESERVE DISTRICT OF COOK COUNTY  
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

**Virtual Meeting**

**BOARD AGENDA**

**Tuesday, April 13, 2021, 10:00 AM**

**PUBLIC TESTIMONY**

Authorization as a virtual public speaker shall only be granted to those individuals who have submitted in writing, their name, email address, phone number, subject matter, and organization (if any) to the Secretary 24 hours in advance of the meeting. Duly authorized virtual public speakers shall be sent a link to virtually attend the meeting and will be called upon to deliver testimony at a time specified in the meeting agenda. Authorized public speakers who are not present during the specified time for public testimony will forfeit their allotted time to speak at the meeting. Public testimony must not exceed three minutes; the Secretary will keep track of the time and advise when the time for public testimony has expired. After each speaker has completed their statement, they will be removed from the meeting. Once removed, you will still be able to follow the proceedings for that day at:

<https://www.cookcountyil.gov/service/watch-live-board-proceedings> Persons authorized to provide public testimony shall not use vulgar, abusive, or otherwise inappropriate language when addressing the Board; failure to act appropriately; failure to speak to an item that is germane to the meeting, or failure to adhere to the time requirements may result in expulsion from the meeting and/or disqualify the person from providing future testimony. Written comments will not be read aloud at the meeting, but will be posted on the meeting page and made a part of the meeting record.

**OFFICE OF THE GENERAL SUPERINTENDENT****21-0142****Presented by:** ARNOLD RANDALL, General Superintendent**PROPOSED REAPPOINTMENT****Appointee(s):** Commissioner Dennis Deer**Position:** Member**Department/Board/Commission:** NeighborSpace Board of Directors**Effective date:** 7/1/2021**Expiration date:** 6/30/2023

**Summary:** In 1997, the Forest Preserves of Cook County (the "Forest Preserves") entered into an agreement with the City of Chicago and the Chicago Park District to form NeighborSpace, a not-for-profit that owns, leases and insures small parks, gardens, natural areas, river edges, and scenic landscapes in the City of Chicago. A Forest Preserves Commissioner, the General Superintendent, and an additional Forest Preserves staff member sit on the Board of Directors of NeighborSpace along with representatives of the

City of Chicago and the Chicago Park District.

Commissioner Deer has served on the NeighborSpace Board of Directors as the Forest Preserves Board of Commissioners representative since January 2018.

**21-0223**

**Presented by:** ARNOLD RANDALL, General Superintendent

**EASEMENT REQUEST**

**Request:** Requesting authorization for the Forest Preserves of Cook County (the “Forest Preserves”) to grant a permanent easement and a temporary easement to Illinois Department of Transportation (“IDOT”) at IL Route 7 (Southwest Highway) and 131st Street in the Groundhog Slough forest preserve for less than 0.2 acres for roadway improvements.

**Reason:** Permanent and temporary easements are needed at the northwest corner of Southwest Highway and 131st Street as part of a larger drainage improvement project between 131st and 135th Streets. This road segment has experienced severe flooding due to inadequate drainage infrastructure. Stormwater would be conveyed via new storm sewers and improved ditches to Mill Creek and the Cal Sag Channel. The proposed drainage improvements will allow for more effective management of the water levels at McGinnis Slough, which drains via storm sewer to the ditch along Southwest Highway.

A small permanent easement is needed on Forest Preserves land adjoining the roadways for slight roadway widening, installation of traffic signal equipment, an underground drainage culvert, and a roadside ditch. A Forest Preserves sign will need to be relocated.

A small temporary easement is also needed for period of five (5) years to construct the improvements.

The area for the permanent easement is 0.078 acres and the area for the temporary easement is 0.064 acres. IDOT indicates that 0 trees are expected to be removed for this project.

**Easement Fee:** \$6,800.00, including \$5,900.00 for permanent and \$900.00 for temporary easements

**Tree Mitigation Fee:** N/A

**Concurrence(s):**

The Chief Financial Officer has approved this item. Final easements are subject to legal review and approval.

**District(s):** 17

21-0229

**Presented by:** ARNOLD RANDALL, General Superintendent

**PROPOSED INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT**

**Department:** Department of Planning and Development

**Other Part(ies):** Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago (MWRD)

**Request:** Permission for the Forest Preserves of Cook County (the "Forest Preserves") to enter into an Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) with the MWRD

**Goods or Services:** Green infrastructure partnership for repaving of a Forest Preserves parking lot in unincorporated Cook County, adjacent to Westchester and LaGrange Park. MWRD will contribute the lesser of \$420,000.00 or 50.00% of the total construction cost, as a reimbursement to the Forest Preserves, for the Possum Hollow Woods Green Infrastructure Parking Lot Retrofit project

**Agreement Number(s):** N/A

**Agreement Period:** Thirty (30) years

**Fiscal Impact:** Local match (including contingency) not to exceed \$554,560.00 (FY2021: \$125,813.00 and FY2022: \$428,747.00).

**Accounts:** Positive \$420,000.00 Grant Revenue 51010.560019. Forest Preserves match at time of contract award: Professional Services 51029.520830, 51009.520830; and Land Improvements 51029.560019, 51009.560019, 51030.560019, 51051.560019 and future Construction & Development accounts.

**District(s):** 17

**Summary:** As part of its Green Infrastructure Partnership Opportunity Program, the MWRD proposes to contribute the lesser of \$420,000.00 or 50.00% of the total construction cost, to retrofit an existing access and parking area near Salt Creek to reduce direct discharge of stormwater runoff to the Creek and corresponding downstream flooding and improve water quality. The project includes replacement of over one acre (46,476 s.f.) of existing asphalt with porous unit paving and restoration of almost another acre (39,699 s.f.) of existing asphalt to natural open space. An accessible access path to the existing picnic

shelter and interpretive signage will also be included in the project.

The Forest Preserves will be responsible for maintaining the project, including the permanent posting of required signage. In addition to the costs described above, the proposed agreement includes provisions that could result in additional future costs to the Forest Preserves that are unknown at this time. The MWRD will have the right (including any necessary right of access) to conduct its own annual inspection of the constructed project. The Forest Preserves will be required to comply with applicable standards or provisions in MWRD's Purchasing Act and Affirmative Action Ordinance, as well as MWRD's applicable labor requirements. The agreement also contains requirements with respect to MWRD's Veteran's Business Enterprise Contracting Policy. The final agreement is subject to legal review and approval.

**21-0190**

**Presented by:** ARNOLD RANDALL, General Superintendent

**PROPOSED CONTRACT AMENDMENT**

**Department(s):** Department of Resource Management

**Vendor:** Openlands, Chicago, Illinois

**Request:** Authorization for the Forest Preserves of Cook County (the "Forest Preserves") to extend contract

**Good(s) or Service(s):** Agreement for the continued preservation, maintenance, management, and restoration of the Deer Grove East O'Hare Modernization Mitigation Account ("OMMA") site through 2023

**Original Contract Period:** 6/7/2016 - 6/6/2021

**Proposed Contract Period Extension:** 6/7/2021 - 12/31/2023

**Total Current Contract Amount Authority:** N/A. Services are being provided by Openlands at no direct cost to the Forest Preserves

**Original Approval:** 6/7/2016

**Previous Increase(s):** N/A

**This Increase Requested:** N/A

**Estimated Fiscal Impact:** N/A. The Forest Preserves may provide in-kind staff support for the planning, implementation, and monitoring of projects.

**Accounts:** N/A

**Contract Number(s):** N/A

**Concurrences:**

The Chief Financial Officer has approved this item. Final amendment is subject to legal review and approval.

**District(s):** 14

**Summary:** The Forest Preserves is requesting to extend its stewardship and restoration agreement with Openlands to facilitate the continued preservation, maintenance, and management of the Deer Grove East OMMA site for an additional two and one-half (2 1/2) years. The original agreement was approved by the Forest Preserves' Board of Commissioners on June 7, 2016, per Board Item No. 16-0230.

Additional time is being requested in order to continue projects needed to sustain and build upon the successful restoration efforts undertaken at Deer Grove East during the initial large-scale habitat enhancement project, which concluded in 2016. All work on the initial project and subsequent management at the site have been paid for by Openlands using OMMA funds, which provide mitigation of off-site wetland impacts resulting from the O'Hare Modernization Program. The cumulative value of the work provided to-date by Openlands under this stewardship agreement, and anticipated to be provided under the proposed extension, is valued at up to \$885,000.00. This agreement calls for no direct cost to the Forest Preserves.

**21-0194**

**Presented by:** ARNOLD RANDALL, General Superintendent

**PROPOSED CONTRACT**

**Department(s):** Department of Planning and Development

**Vendor:** Space Haus, Chicago, Illinois

**Request:** Authorization for the Forest Preserves of Cook County (the "Forest Preserves") to enter into and execute

**Good(s) or Service(s):** Professional services to design building and exhibit renovations for Crabtree Nature Center located in Barrington Hills

**Contract Value:** \$173,800.00

**Contract Period:** 4/13/2021 - 4/12/2023

**Estimated Fiscal Impact:** \$173,800.00 (with \$112,500.00 to be reimbursed by IDNR grant)

**Accounts:** Professional Services 51010.520830 and 51009.520830

**Contract Number(s):** #7400008940 for RFQ #21-80-09 issued under Solicitation #21-80-006316

**Concurrences:**

The Chief Financial Officer has approved this item. Final agreement is subject to legal review and approval.

The Vendor has met the Minority- and Women-owned Business Enterprise Ordinance Provisions via direct participation.

**District(s):** 15

**Summary:** The Crabtree Nature Center was established in 1970 and is in need of renovation to update exhibits and signage as well as improve accessibility and energy efficiency. Building renovations would include new entrance doors and welcome desk, redesigned and refreshed interpretive exhibits, energy-efficient lighting, windows and HVAC system replacement. Site enhancements would include new signage and access improvements. A \$750,000.00 Museum Capital grant awarded by the Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) would fund \$112,500.00 (or roughly 65 percent) of the proposed design cost as well as roughly 70 percent of estimated construction costs. Forest Preserves staff evaluated 10 proposals in response to an RFP and determined Space Haus to be the most qualified to perform this time-sensitive design work.

**21-0218**

**Presented by:** ARNOLD RANDALL, General Superintendent

**PROPOSED CONTRACT**

**Department(s):** Office of the General Superintendent, Law Enforcement, and Human Resources

**Vendor:** Samaritan Technologies, Salt Lake City, Utah

**Request:** Authorization for the Forest Preserves of Cook County (the "Forest Preserves") to enter into

and execute

**Good(s) or Service(s):** Online Volunteer Management Software

**Contract Value:** \$40,000.00

**Contract period:** 5/26/2021 - 3/26/2024

**Estimated Fiscal Impact:** FY 2021 \$10,000.00, FY 2022 \$15,000.00, FY 2023 \$15,000.00

**Accounts:** Volunteer Resources Program 51001.521446; Human Resources 51001.501806; and Law Enforcement 51001.520840

**Contract Number(s):** #74000008961

**Concurrences:**

The Chief Financial Officer has approved this item. Final agreement is subject to legal review and approval.

The Minority- and Women-Owned Business Enterprise Ordinance is not applicable due to the contract value per year being equal to or less than \$25,000.00.

**District(s):** Districtwide

**Summary:** The Forest Preserves is seeking authorization to enter into an agreement on a sole source basis for online volunteer management software. The Samaritan Technologies software allows a small team of Volunteer Resources staff to manage a program that engages thousands of volunteers throughout the Forest Preserves via a public-facing website portal. This website integration allows the Forest Preserves to advertise and promote hundreds of volunteer opportunities annually and facilitates online registration among a myriad of other functions. Additionally, Human Resources and Law Enforcement departments use the software to track trainings and certifications for all Forest Preserves staff. Software agreements are often form agreements that apply to a general class of customer, which is the case here as well. Thus, the proposed new contract includes some non-standard provisions for the Forest Preserves, particularly with respect to interest for late payment, disclaimers, limitations on liability, warranties, indemnification, venue, governing law, and termination. The Forest Preserves has used Samaritan Technologies software since 2012.

**21-0221**

**Presented by:** ARNOLD RANDALL, General Superintendent

**PROPOSED CONTRACT**

**Department(s):** Department of Facilities and Fleet



**Vendor:** Al Warren Oil Co., Inc., Hammond, Indiana

**Request:** Authorization for the Forest Preserves of Cook County (the "Forest Preserves") to enter into and execute

**Good(s) or Service(s):** Supply and delivery of unleaded and diesel fuel

**Contract Value:** \$1,000,000.00

**Contract Period:** 5/1/2021 - 7/5/2021 and one (1) 12-month optional renewal extension to be exercised at the discretion of the General Superintendent

**Estimated Fiscal Impact:** FY 2021 \$200,000.00, FY 2021 \$400,000.00 (optional extension), FY 2022 \$400,000.00 (optional extension)

**Accounts:** Automotive Operation and Maintenance 29270.540250

**Contract Number(s):** Suburban Purchasing Consortium Contract #198

**Concurrences:**

The Chief Financial Officer has approved this item. Final agreement is subject to legal review and approval.

The contract specific Minority- and Women-Owned Business Enterprise goal for this contract was set to zero.

**District(s):** Districtwide

**Summary:** The Forest Preserves of Cook County is requesting to purchase motor fuel from Al Warren Oil Co., Inc. through a purchasing consortium. The fuel would be used with Forest Preserves-owned vehicles. The Forest Preserves' current contract with a different vendor for motor fuel expires 4/30/2021. In anticipation of the current contract expiring, a joint RFP was issued with Cook County, however, no bidders responded to the solicitation. This request is a short-term response to allow time to solicit proposals through a separate RFP, issued by the Forest Preserves and independent of the County. The Suburban Purchasing Consortium awarded the motor fuel contract to Al Warren Oil Co., Inc. based on the vendor submitting the lowest responsible and responsive bid for a term ending 7/5/2021. The purchasing consortium reserved the right to exercise three (3) one-year renewal options. The proposed contract with Al Warren Oil Co., Inc. would be extended for an optional year if the Forest Preserves was unable to find less expensive alternatives by 7/5/2021 and the Suburban Purchasing Consortium extended the underlying contract.

**21-0224****Presented by:** ARNOLD RANDALL, General Superintendent**PROPOSED CONTRACT****Department(s):** Department of Planning and Development**Vendor:** NearMap US Inc., South Jordan, Utah**Request:** Authorization for the Forest Preserves of Cook County (the "Forest Preserves") to enter into and execute**Good(s) or Service(s):** High-resolution aerial imagery subscription**Contract Value:** \$25,000.00**Contract period:** 2/13/2021 (retroactive) - 2/12/2026**Estimated Fiscal Impact:** FY 2021 \$25,000.00**Accounts:** Professional Technical Membership Fees 51001.501790, Professional Services 51001.520830, Institutional Supplies 51001.530170, Co-ops and Special Programs 51001.521313 and Operations and Maintenance 51001.540350**Contract Number(s):** #74000008959**Concurrences:**

The Chief Financial Officer has approved this item. Final agreement is subject to legal review and approval.

The Minority- and Women-Owned Business Enterprise Ordinance is not applicable due to the contract value per year being equal to or less than \$25,000.00.

**District(s):** Districtwide**Summary:** High-resolution aerial maps are essential for planning restoration and improvement work. Procurement of aerial imagery from NearMap is desired on a sole-source basis for a period of five (5) years due to unmatched advantages which include frequency of updates (quarterly), high resolution quality, integration with current software or web-based delivery and cost compared to other vendors that can fly and collect aerial imagery over Cook County. The proposed subscription agreement is a form agreement that includes some non-standard provisions for the Forest Preserves, particularly with respect to interest for late payment, disclaimers, limitations on liability, warranties, and indemnification. The Forest

Preserves intends to pay upfront for the proposed five (5) year subscription. The Forest Preserves has used NearMap since 2017.

21-0222

**Presented by:** ARNOLD RANDALL, General Superintendent

**PROPOSED BID RECOMMENDATION**

**Department:** Department of Planning and Development

**Request:** Authorization for the Forest Preserves of Cook County (the “Forest Preserves”) to enter into a construction contract with Matthew Paving, Inc., primary place of business Oak Lawn, Illinois, for Districtwide Transportation Improvements at Campground Road Woods in Des Plaines, Northwestern Woods in Des Plaines, Potawatomi Woods in Northbrook and River Trail Nature Center in Northbrook.

**Reason:**Contract #74000008960 issued under Project #19-80-67G-21C1 Districtwide Transportation Improvements at four (4) northwest locations (Campground Road Woods, Northwestern Woods, Potawatomi Woods and River Trail Nature Center). The work includes, but is not limited to, pavement resurfacing, drainage and sidewalk improvements, and other related work as specified in the plans and specifications.

**Bid Opening Date:** 3/17/2021

**Bid Results:**

1. Matthew Paving, Inc	\$713,013.45
2. M&J Asphalt Paving Co, Inc.	\$755,232.25
3. AGAE Contractors, Inc.	\$838,939.34
4. Advantage Paving Solutions	\$845,466.84
5. Enlight Contracting, LLC	\$861,388.99
6. Meru Corporation	\$909,482.72

**Estimated Fiscal Impact:** \$713,013.45

**Contract Period:** One hundred and seventy-four (174) days from notice to proceed

**Account Name/Number:** Land Improvements 51029.560019 and 51009.560019

**District:**9, 14, 17

**Concurrence(s):** The Chief Financial Officer and Chief Attorney have approved this item.

The vendor has met the Minority- and Women-owned Business Enterprise Ordinance provisions via direct participation.

**21-0227**

**Presented by:** ARNOLD RANDALL, General Superintendent

**REPORT**

**Department:** Departments of Legal and Finance

**Request:** Receive and File

**Report Title:** Workers' Compensation Report - February 2021

**Report Period:** 2/1/2021 - 2/28/2021

**Summary:** Per Board Resolution 19-0509 (12/17/2019), the Forest Preserves of Cook County Legal and Finance Departments are submitting Workers' Compensation Claim Payments for the month of February 2021.

[21-0230](#)

**Presented by:** ARNOLD RANDALL, General Superintendent

**REPORT**

**Department:** Department of Finance and Administration

**Request:** Receive and File

**Report Title:** Corporate Fund Analysis of Revenue and Expenditures

**Report Period:** 1/1/2021 - 2/28/2021

**Summary:** Detailed Fund Analysis of Revenue and Expenditures for February 2021.

[21-0231](#)

**Presented by:** ARNOLD RANDALL, General Superintendent

**REPORT**

**Department:** Department of Finance and Administration

**Request:** Receive and File

**Report Title:** Procurement and Disbursements Report

**Report Period:** 2/1/2021 - 2/28/2021

**Summary:** Submitting the Procurement and Disbursements Report for the period of February 2021. The report is to be received and filed in compliance with Section 1-8-2 (BB) of the District's Code of Ordinances.

**21-0233**

**Presented by:** MARY MODELSKI, County Auditor

**REPORT**

**Department:** Office of the County Auditor

**Request:** Refer to Audit Committee

**Report Title:** Forest Preserve District of Cook County Workers Compensation Audit Process Review

**Report Period:** March 2021

**Summary:** This audit was designed to evaluate the effectiveness of the internal controls in place to ensure that each Workers Compensation claim was valid based on the required information given to support that an incident occurred, was reported timely and accurately, and was administered properly.

**21-0225**

**Presented by:** ARNOLD RANDALL, General Superintendent

**RECOMMENDATION OF THE FINANCE SUBCOMMITTEE (LITIGATION)**

Finance Subcommittee Meeting on Litigation - 3/16/2021

The Finance Subcommittee on Litigation met on the above listed date and recommends the following for approval:

Proposed Settlements Approved Fiscal Year 2021 to Present: \$1,795,564.89

Proposed Settlements to Be Approved: \$0.00

Legal Fees Approved Fiscal Year 2021 to Present: \$187,616.17

Legal Fees for 3/16/2021 to Be Approved: \$43,617.18

**21-0226**

**Presented by:** ARNOLD RANDALL, General Superintendent

**RECOMMENDATION OF THE FINANCE SUBCOMMITTEE (WORKERS' COMPENSATION)**

Finance Subcommittee Meeting on Workers' Compensation - 4/13/2021

The Finance Subcommittee on Workers' Compensation met on the above listed date and recommends the following for approval:

Workers' Compensation Claims approved Fiscal Year 2021 to present: \$167,175.30

Workers' Compensation Claims to Be Approved: \$30,000.00

**21-0236**

**JOURNAL OF PROCEEDINGS**

SECRETARY TO THE BOARD, Matthew B. DeLeon, presented in printed form a record of the Journal of Proceedings of the regular meeting held on 3/16/2021.

**21-0237**

**JOURNAL OF PROCEEDINGS**

SECRETARY TO THE BOARD, Matthew B. DeLeon, presented in printed form a record of the Journal of Proceedings of the special meeting held on 3/18/2021.

21-0228

**Presented by:** ARNOLD RANDALL, General Superintendent

**PROPOSED CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

**Department:** Department of Conservation and Experiential Programming

**Summary:** Forest Preserves of Cook County Calendar of Events and Activities 4/13/2021 - 5/11/2021

Please check the Forest Preserves of Cook County's website, [www.fpdcc.com/events](http://www.fpdcc.com/events), for updates and changes.

**All Month****Earth Month Spring Cleaning Donation Drive, River Trail Nature Center, Northbrook**

Usable goods do not belong in landfills. Drop off your gently used clothing and household items to help others in need. Donation drive supports GiveNKind, an organization connecting goods to non-profits in order to benefit our community and our environment.

**Tuesday, 4/13 through Tuesday, 5/11****Brookfield Zoo Spring Run, Chicago Zoological Society/Brookfield Zoo, Brookfield**

Brookfield Zoo's first-ever Virtual 5K Spring Run/Walk takes you outdoors to enjoy the warm weather and glorious colors of spring. You choose the time and place—take a hike in a forest preserve, jog along a waterfront trail, or stroll through a neighborhood, for example. Or if you enjoy competition, run the full 5K (3.1-miles) and compare your time with other runners. Each runner will receive a numbered bib and commemorative swag included with registration. *To register, visit Brookfield Zoo website.*

**Tuesday, 4/13 through Monday, 9/6****Dinos Everywhere! Chicago Zoological Society/Brookfield Zoo, Brookfield**

Over 40 animatronic dinosaurs that are BIGGER and BADDER than ever before have arrived at Brookfield Zoo. Dinos Everywhere! features acres of earth shakers, including the largest Argentinosaurus that was estimated to measure more than 100 feet in length and weigh up to 110 tons. Zoogoers will be able to search for this amazing life-like animatronics located throughout the park.

**Thursday, 4/15 through 5/18****Native Plant Sale**

We are partnering with West Cook Wild Ones again this year for a Spring Native Plant Sale. Sales are open March 16-May 18 at [westcook.wildones.org/plantsale](http://westcook.wildones.org/plantsale). Pick up locations include 2199 1st Ave, Maywood and Sagawau Environmental Learning Center, Lemont. *Facemasks required.*

**Thursday, 4/15; 8am****Bird Walk, Eggers Grove, Chicago**

Join a naturalist for a walk while looking for local birds. Visit [aprilbirdwalkeggers.eventbrite.com](http://aprilbirdwalkeggers.eventbrite.com)

*Registration and facemasks required.*

**Saturday, 4/17; 11am (Facebook Live)**

**Peak into the Pond, Little Red Schoolhouse Facebook Page**

Join us for a virtual Pond dipping experience to discover the wonders beneath the water LIVE from the Pond on Facebook. *Suitable for a general audience.*

**Saturday, 4/17; 12pm - 3pm**

**Explore: Pulaski Woods-South, Pulaski Woods-South, Willow Springs**

Adults and families, come explore on your own with one of our self-guided exploration activities or join us on a guided hike! We will also have litter pickup supplies available if you would like to help in cleaning up the preserves, and a take-home activity for you to continue your adventure at home. *Facemasks required.*

**Saturday, 4/17 and Sunday, 4/18; 11am, 12:30pm, or 2pm**

**GPS Scavenger hunt, River Trail Nature Center, Northbrook**

Learn about and participate in a technology inspired scavenger hunt. *Registration and facemasks required. Limited spaces. Call 847-824-8360.*

**Sunday, 4/18; 1:30pm**

**Watercolor Spring, Sand Ridge Nature Center, South Holland**

A great way to appreciate nature is to paint it! We will go a quick hike to gather inspiration and then spend time in our Story Circle painting the many beautiful Spring flowers we see this time of year. *Paper and watercolors will be available. Registration and facemasks required. Call 708-868-0606, or email sandridge.naturecenter@cookcountyil.gov.*

**Sunday, 4/18 through Sunday, 4/25**

**Celebrate Earth Week, Sagawau Environmental Learning Center, Lemont**

Join us for a week-long celebration, learning how to protect and clean-up the Forest Preserves. Self-guided wildflower walks and in-person programming including a bird hike and garlic mustard pulls will give you opportunity to enjoy nature throughout the week. *Various walk and hike themes available. Please visit [fpdcc.com/celebrate-earth-day-with-the-forest-preserves](http://fpdcc.com/celebrate-earth-day-with-the-forest-preserves) for more information. Some events require registration and facemasks are required for all in-person activities.*

**Monday, 4/19 through Thursday 4/22, and Saturday 4/25; 10am - 12pm**

**Nature's Pop-up, Little Red Schoolhouse Nature Center, Willow Springs**

Join a naturalist as we discuss conservation, water quality, composting, and invasive species removal and how it ties into Earth Week. *Registration and facemasks required. For a complete schedule of activities, check out Little Red Schoolhouse's Facebook page or the list at the nature center welcome tent.*

**Monday, 4/19 through Sunday, 4/25**

**Earth day SOLO Clean Up**

The Forest Preserves of Cook County will be celebrating Earth Week from Monday April 19-April 25.



Celebrate with us by doing your part in helping remove litter at Litter Hotspots. Anyone can commit to regularly volunteering in the Preserves through the Select Organized Litter Obliterators, or SOLO, program. SOLO volunteers can choose to go to a Litter Hotspot (specific locations) for litter clean up or any Forest Preserves site of their choosing. Volunteer information can be found on the Forest Preserves' website at [fpdcc.com/volunteer](http://fpdcc.com/volunteer). *We will provide bags and gloves for you to give back to the earth on this special day. Please visit [fpdcc.com/celebrate-earth-day-with-the-forest-preserves](http://fpdcc.com/celebrate-earth-day-with-the-forest-preserves) for locations, dates, and times.*

**Wednesday, 4/21; 12pm (Facebook Live)**

**Plug into Nature: Introduction to iNaturalist, Sand Ridge Nature Center Facebook Page**

Get prepared for the City Nature Challenge (an international citizen scientist project documenting nature in urban centers) by turning your phone on to iNaturalist; a free program used globally to discover and document wild plants and animals. We will go over the basics of iNaturalist in a Facebook. If you want to test iNaturalist with us in-person, sign up for our 4/25 in-person hike.

**Thursday, 4/22, Saturday and Sunday, 4/24 - 4/25; 9:30am - 11:30am**

**Garlic Mustard Pull, Sagawau Environmental Learning Center, Lemont**

Welcome back wildflowers and wildlife by removing the harmful garlic mustard. *All ages. Call Sagawau at 630-257-2045. Registration and Facemasks required.*

**Thursday, 4/22; 4pm - 7pm**

**Earth Day Celebration Drop-In, Maple Lake Boating Center, Willow Springs**

Stop by Maple Lake Boating Center to participate in litter cleanup, self-guided activities, and grab a take-home DIY kit to celebrate the week of Earth Day. *Facemask required. For more information, visit [experience.camping@cookcountyl.gov](mailto:experience.camping@cookcountyl.gov).*

**Thursday, 4/22; 2pm (Facebook Live)**

**Earth Day - Nature's Heroes, Crabtree Nature Center Facebook Page**

Join us to learn a little about some the female pioneers in the environmental movement.

**Thursday, 4/22; 7pm (Zoom)**

**Earth Day: Nature Trivia Night! Crabtree Nature Center, Barrington Hills**

Grab a beverage of your choice and Zoom into our online Nature Trivia challenge! *Ages 16 and up. Call 847-381-6592 to register for Zoom link.*

**Thursday, 4/22; Drop in: 12pm - 5pm, Hikes: 12pm and 4pm**

**Earth Day Celebration, LaBagh Woods, Chicago**

Commemorate Earth Day with the Cook County Forest Preserves! Staff-led hikes, on non-paved trails, will take place at noon and 4pm. Participants can also support the county-wide litter cleanup as well as create a project using recycled materials. *Registration required for hikes. Facemasks required. Litter cleanup and other activities are drop in. Contact [experience.nature@cookcountyl.gov](mailto:experience.nature@cookcountyl.gov) for more information and visit, [www.eventbrite.com/e/earth-day-celebration-tickets](http://www.eventbrite.com/e/earth-day-celebration-tickets).*

**Thursday, 4/22; 7pm (Zoom)**

**Trailside Nature Book Club, Trailside Museum, River Forest**

We will be discussing the book *Why Fish Don't Exist: A Story of Loss, Love, and the Hidden Order of Life* by Lulu Miller. *Please call 708-366-6530 to register, and we will send you the Zoom link so you can join us virtually.*

**Friday, 4/23; 8pm****Spring Sensory Night Hike, Little Red Schoolhouse Nature Center, Willow Springs**

Join a naturalist as we hike along the trail opening our senses to the tunes and wonders of the night. *Ages: 10 and older. Hiking pace is average to slow. Registration and facemasks required. Call (708)839-6897.*

**Saturday, 4/24; 9am - 3pm****Earth Day Celebration, Sand Ridge Nature Center, South Holland**

Celebrate Earth Day with a self-guided litter cleanup along the Burnham Greenway, take home artmaking project, nature play, and Earth Day-themed games. *Facemasks required.*

**Saturday, 4/24; 11am****Creative Reuse: Bird Feeders, Sand Ridge Nature Center, South Holland**

Use things you commonly have at home to make unique bird feeders for our feathered friends.

*Registration and facemasks required. Call 708-868-0606, visit in-person or email: sandridge.naturecenter@cookcountyil.gov.*

**Saturday, 4/24; 9am - 10:15am, 10:45am - 12pm****Earth Day Celebration with the BackYard Nature Center, Tower Road Boat Launch, Northfield**

Celebrate the 51st anniversary of Earth Day with a morning of service, learning and exploration. Activities include nature play, fishing clinic, guided hike, litter cleanup, monitoring and stewardship exhibits, and a demonstration on how to repurpose buckthorn. *Registration and facemasks required. Contact experience.nature@cookcountyil.gov for more information.*

**Saturday, 4/24; 10am (Facebook Live)****Ribbit, Croak, or Chirp: Frogs and their Calls, Crabtree Nature Center Facebook Page**

One of the best ways to identify frogs is through their calls during the spring and early summer mating season. Get ready by learning which frogs are common in our area and learn to identify them through sight and sound.

**Saturday, 4/24; 9am - 2pm****Earth Day: A Party for the Planet, Chicago Zoological Society/Brookfield Zoo, Brookfield**

Every day is Earth Day at Brookfield Zoo, but on this very special day we will be showcasing some of the steps you can take that will make a difference for animals across the globe! If you have been storing items in your basement and garage waiting for the perfect time and most Earth-friendly way to dispose of them, you can recycle them at Brookfield Zoo. The zoo will be collecting electronics, textiles, and used books. *For more details, visit the Chicago Zoological Society website.*

**Sunday, 4/25; 1:30pm**

**Plug into Nature: Introduction to iNaturalist, Sand Ridge Nature Center, South Holland**

Get prepared for the City Nature Challenge (an international citizen scientist project documenting nature in urban centers) by turning your phone on to iNaturalist; a free program used globally to discover and document wild plants and animals. We will use iNaturalist on an in-person walk to get users comfortable with the program in the field. *Registration and facemasks required. Call 708-868-0606, visit in-person or email sandridge.naturecenter@cookcountyil.gov.*

**Sunday, 4/25; 10:30am and 1:30pm****Spring Stroll, River Trail Nature Center, Northbrook**

A walk to highlight the signs of spring. *Registration and facemasks required. Call 847-824-8360 to register. All ages.*

**Sunday, 4/25; 12pm - 3pm****Celebrating Earth Day, Crabtree Nature Center, Barrington Hills**

Create a cute native animal out of recycled materials, learn how to go greener in your cleaning, pick up supplies to clean-up a preserve or neighborhood park and/or start a native plant to take home for your garden in our Mini Earth Day Celebration. *Facemasks required.*

**Friday, 4/30; 4pm****City Nature Challenge and Nature Journaling, Killdeer Wetlands, Tinley Park**

Join us to document Cook County's biodiversity in the City Nature Challenge. Hundreds of cities worldwide will compete to see who can make the most observations of urban flora and fauna, find the most species, and get the most people participating. We will use iNaturalist.org or the iNaturalist app to take photos that will be added to the challenge on [www.chicagowilderness.org/page/citynaturechallenge](http://www.chicagowilderness.org/page/citynaturechallenge). We will also be offering a chance to journal. Nature journaling improves observational skills and memory, connecting you to nature in a new way. For artists and non-artists alike, come join us to try this rewarding practice. *Registration required at [citynaturechallenge2021.eventbrite.com](http://citynaturechallenge2021.eventbrite.com). Facemasks required.*

**Friday, 4/30; 6:30pm****Creative Reuse: Bird Feeders, Sand Ridge Nature Center, South Holland**

Kickstart the 2021 City Nature Challenge weekend with a sunset walk on our trails. We'll work together to find and document the nature around us to help study and protect it. More information can be found at [citynaturechallenge.org](http://citynaturechallenge.org). *Registration and facemasks required. Call 708-868-0606, visit in-person, or email sandridge.naturecenter@cookcountyil.gov.*

**Saturday, 5/11 through Monday, 9/6****Dinos Everywhere! Chicago Zoological Society/Brookfield Zoo, Brookfield**

Over 40 animatronic dinosaurs that are BIGGER and BADER than ever before have arrived at Brookfield Zoo. Dinos Everywhere features acres of earth shakers, including the largest-argentinosaurs-that was estimated to measure more than 100 feet in length and weigh up to 110 tons. Zoogoers will be able to search for these amazing life-like animatronics located throughout the park.

**Saturday, 5/11 through Sunday, 5/30****Brookfield Zoo Spring Run, Chicago Zoological Society/Brookfield Zoo, Brookfield**

Brookfield Zoo's first-ever Virtual 5K Spring Run/Walk takes you outdoors to enjoy the warm weather and glorious colors of spring. You choose the time and place—take a hike in a forest preserve, jog along a waterfront trail, or stroll through a neighborhood, for example. Or if you enjoy competition, run the full 5K (3.1-miles) and compare your time with other runners. Each runner will receive a numbered bib and commemorative swag included with registration. *To register, visit the Chicago Zoological Society website.*

**COMMITTEE ITEMS REQUIRING BOARD ACTION**

**REAL ESTATE COMMITTEE MEETING OF 4/13/2021**

**21-0007 PROPOSED LICENSE REQUEST** Requesting authorization for the Forest Preserves of Cook County (the “Forest Preserves”), as Licensor to grant a License to the Village of Crestwood (“Crestwood”), Grantee.

**AUDIT COMMITTEE OF 4/13/2021**

**21-0006 REPORT** Office of the County Auditor, FY’20 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter Open Recommendation Status Report  
Report Period: November 2020

**21-0152 REPORT** Office of the County Auditor FY’21 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter Open Recommendation Status Report  
Report Period: February 2021

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**CONTRACT COMPLIANCE MEETING OF 4/13/2021**

**21-0207 REPORT** Forest Preserves of Cook County Annual Business Diversity Report FY 2020  
Report Period: 1/1/2020 - 12/31/2020

**21-0166 PROPOSED ORDINANCE AMENDMENT** Ordinance Extension

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**RECREATION COMMITTEE MEETING OF 4/13/2021**

**21-0202 PROPOSED ORDINANCE AMENDMENT** Bike Ordinance

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