

ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
FY14 WILDLIFE PRESERVATION FUND GRANT PROGRAM
FINAL REPORT - Harley Woods Restoration - # 14-003W

Grant Agreement # 14-003W

Time-frame: July 25, 2013 – December 31, 2014

Grantee: CAMPTON TOWNSHIP

4N498 Towns Hall Road

St. Charles, IL 60175

Supervisor@CamptonTownship.com

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Representative: Lisa Mertz

Program Manager

Open Space Program

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Project Objectives:

The goal is to restore the diversity and habitat values of remnant Harley Woods. The Township staff and budget are very limited, so when funds are available, a restoration contractor (Witness Tree Native Landscapes, Inc.) is hired to perform much of the cutting, pulling, hauling, and herbiciding of invasive species. The acres that were cleared originally now have an impressive display of wildflowers and other native plants. The IDNR grant enables the Township to greatly increase the acreage actively managed and maintained. In the restored areas, oak regeneration and native plant coverage will increase, wildlife habitat will be enhanced, and access for passive recreation by people will improve.

Project Summary and Accomplishments:

Approximately 6 acres of high quality, floristically diverse woodland were monitored, maintained, and increasingly restored. Large quantities of invasive weeds such as garlic mustard, dame's rocket, boxelder, honeysuckle, black cherry, and multiflora rose were removed. Invasive species such as chervil and oriental bittersweet were monitored and removed as necessary to prevent establishment and spreading. In addition, Township staff and volunteers performed a prescribed burn in the spring of 2014.

Public Education on Habitat Benefits:

A public wildflower walk was provided in May 2014 in cooperation with an adjacent easement property owner, Garfield Farm. Township staff performed maintenance on the woodchip walking trail, and additional guided walks are intended for the coming year. The Township is now in the process of recruiting volunteer habitat monitors for frogs, birds, dragonflies, butterflies, and rare plants. Any data obtained for this site could be used for public education purposes, and for planning future restoration efforts.

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Project Expenditures:

The following ecological restoration company performed the fieldwork associated with this grant:

Witness Tree Native Landscapes, Inc.

Mary J. Zaander

121 Ford Street

Geneva, IL 60134

630 / 262-1160

From the time of grant application through December 2014, there were 20 contracted workdays. Witness Tree was paid a total of **\$16,075**. Of this total, **\$2,000** was paid as agreed in this 2013 IDNR grant. Another **\$6,525** was paid as part of a grant awarded through the ComEd Green Region Program (administered by Openlands, Sept. 2013). The balance of **\$7,550** was paid directly from Campton Township funds.



Campton Township wishes to express our gratitude to the Illinois Department of Natural Resources for this inter-governmental financial assistance. We look forward to future projects with the IDNR in pursuing our common goal to preserve natural resources.

Please see enclosures for 8 additional photos, a publicity article, and invoices.