

Protect, Preserve and Expand our Green Legacy: Waukegan Open Space



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REGIONAL GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE

Our region's communities are connected through a network of open spaces and natural areas — greenways and trails, wetlands, parks and forest preserves — from southeastern Wisconsin through Illinois to northwestern Indiana.

A century ago, Daniel Burnham and Edward Bennett unveiled their Plan of Chicago, a framework for growth in the greater Chicago area. Their vision included a network of forest preserve districts, open spaces and trails that laid the foundation for the green infrastructure that so enriches the quality of life in our three-state Chicago metropolis.

GREEN LEGACY PROJECTS

One of the priority goals of the Burnham Plan Centennial is to make real progress in closing important gaps in the region's green infrastructure, and to build momentum for creating the nation's greenest region during the next 100 years. Across the metropolitan area, the Burnham Plan Centennial and the nonprofit organization Openlands have identified more than 20 "Green Legacy" projects that close some of these critical gaps. When completed, these projects will help to:

- Complete Our Region's Trail System
- Connect Us to Our Rivers and Streams
- Expand Neighborhood Green Space
- Protect Our Shoreline
- Preserve Regionally Significant Open Space

WAUKEGAN OPEN SPACE

Waukegan's plan for transforming its downtown and lakefront is like a modern-day Burnham Plan. Just as the 1909 Plan of Chicago transformed Chicago's Lake Michigan shoreline, Waukegan's Harborfront freight yards and lakefront tracks will be relocated to reconnect downtown to the lakefront — seen in its plan as that city's "defining natural amenity." The "21st Century Vision for Waukegan's Downtown and Lakefront" will create a large park joining downtown with the lake, where it will restore its native dune and swale ecosystem and the Moorlands running north. The mouth of the Waukegan River and its banks will become a green public space in the heart of the city.

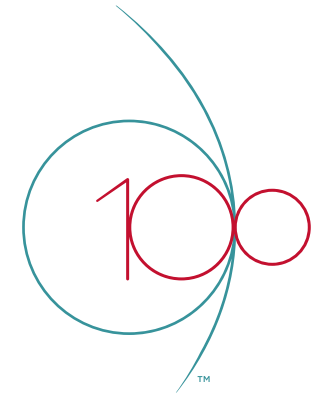


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Downtown's ravine system will be restored as an open space resource. Its major gateways will be enhanced, leading to 200 acres of new development and a vibrant walkable core — and from which new neighborhoods will grow to the north and south on the formerly industrial lakefront. Waukegan's bold plan and big dream also calls for the development of beach access facilities, including a boardwalk that opens recreational access to the shoreline while helping to protect and interpret its dune and swale ecosystem. During the Centennial, Waukegan educated its residents about the parallel between the historic Plan of Chicago and this new plan that uses beauty, nature, order and the lakefront to transform a city by combining an exhibit on the Burnham Plan brought to the Waukegan Public Library by the Newberry Library with a special exhibit on Waukegan's lakefront plan.



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The Waukegan Open Space partners include the City of Waukegan. All of the Burnham Plan Centennial Green Legacy Projects build on many years of hard work by civic organizations, community residents, foundations and government. They are the enduring legacy of Daniel Burnham's Plan of Chicago, are critical to the long-term health of the region, and serve as catalysts for improving our quality of life over the next 100 years.

For more information about the Burnham Plan Centennial and its Green Legacy Projects visit

burnhamplan100.org

BURNHAM PLAN CENTENNIAL GREEN LEGACY PROJECTS

- **COMPLETE OUR REGION'S TRAIL SYSTEM**
 - Burnham Greenway
 - Calumet-Sag Trail
 - Fox River Trail
 - Kankakee Riverfront Trail
 - Marquette Greenway Trail
 - Old Plank Road Trail
 - **CONNECT US TO OUR RIVERS AND STREAMS**
 - Chicago Riverwalk
 - Little Calumet River Water Trail
 - **EXPAND NEIGHBORHOOD GREEN SPACE**
 - Bloomington Trail
 - Englewood New ERA Trail
 - **PROTECT OUR SHORELINE**
 - Lake Michigan Water Trail
 - Last 4 Miles
 - Marquette Plan
 - Openlands Lakeshore Preserve
 - Waukegan Lakefront
 - **PRESERVE OPEN SPACE**
 - Calumet Open Space Reserve
 - Deer Grove Preserve
 - Hack-ma-tack Reserve
 - Kankakee Sands
 - Lockport-Joliet Heritage Park
 - Midwin National Tallgrass Prairie
 - Rock Run Greenway
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- Existing and Proposed Trails
 - Water Trails
 - Green Infrastructure

