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December 8, 2006

**Governor Blagojevich announces \$2.78 million in Conservation 2000 grants  
to protect Illinois' environment**  
*51 grants benefit habitat in 88 counties throughout Illinois*

SPRINGFIELD – Governor Rod R. Blagojevich today awarded nearly \$2.8 million in Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) Conservation 2000 (C2000) grants to help local communities protect and improve Illinois' environment. The 51 grants awarded today will benefit a variety of habitats in 88 counties throughout Illinois.

“These grants are critical investments in our natural resources and local communities. The projects will help protect the environment, provide more opportunities for outdoor recreation, and help bring more tourists to our state,” said Gov. Blagojevich.

To date, IDNR's C2000 Ecosystems Program has awarded more than \$32.5 million in grants, benefiting every county in Illinois, and leveraging an additional \$31.5 million in local matching funds and in-kind contributions for a total of \$64 million in projects throughout the state. With C2000 funding, local partnerships across the state have restored more than 64,000 acres of prairie, forest, wetland and wildlife habitat and protected more than 5,600 acres of habitat through acquisition and conservation easements.

The C2000 Ecosystems Program is designed to take a holistic, long-term approach to protecting and managing Illinois' natural resources. With more than 90 percent of the land in Illinois privately owned, the C2000 Ecosystems Program's primary focus is to improve habitat through ecosystem-based management on private land. At the heart of the program are the Ecosystem Partnerships, which are coalitions of local stakeholders comprised of private landowners, businesses, scientists, environmental organizations, recreational enthusiasts, policy makers, and others.

“I'm pleased that some of the funding through the C2000 program will go towards Southwestern Illinois. This project, along with the other projects being funded, are important in helping to preserve the state's natural resources, and provides residents with an opportunity to be involved with environmental stewardship,” said state Representative Jay Hoffman (D-Collinsville).

“We in Southern Illinois are proud to be home to lands untouched and preserved for not only recreational purposes like hunting and fishing, but also for the enjoyment of all Illinois residents,” said state Representative Brandon Phelps (D-Harrisburg). “Preserving our natural resources and wildlife habitats are critical to the future of our region as a tourist destination.”

“I am pleased that these IDNR grants have been awarded to our community as they promote the understanding and improvement of our natural areas which are invaluable, especially in this urban setting. These grants will be used for projects that, either directly through restoration or indirectly through research, bring our lakefront and the surrounding ecosystem one step closer to its natural state,” said state Representative Sara Feigenholtz (D-Chicago).

“Illinois residents care deeply about protection of our natural resources,” said state Representative Kathy Ryg (D-Vernon Hills). “C2000 grants empower them to participate in ecosystem partnerships to protect and preserve our watersheds and natural habitats. Gov. Blagojevich understands the importance of the state and its partners working together to protect our environment and our quality of life.”

“It’s very gratifying to see C2000 grants being used for the preservation of our natural resources as well as educating our children as to the importance of protecting our natural resources,” said state Senator John Sullivan (D-Rushville).

“By working diligently with landowners to protect our native species and improve habitat restoration, we will strengthen and preserve the environment of our state,” said state Senator John Cullerton (D-Chicago).

These diverse groups advocate natural resource stewardship through their common interest in preserving the biodiversity of their local watershed community. Currently, 41 Ecosystem Partnerships cover 85 percent of the state and represent more than 98 percent of the citizens of Illinois.

For more information on the C2000 Ecosystems Program, please contact the Illinois Department of Natural Resources, One Natural Resources Way, Springfield, IL 62702-1271, 217.782.7940, <http://dnr.state.il.us/orep/C2000/index.htm>.

A list of Conservation 2000 Ecosystems Program grants and project descriptions by partnership follows:

**American Bottom Partnership**

Counties: Macoupin, Montgomery, Jersey, Madison, St. Clair, Monroe, and Randolph

**Southwestern Illinois Resource Conservation & Development, \$14,500.00.** Conservation Subdivision Outreach & Education. This is a phase two of an outreach and education project developed to introduce the concepts and benefits of Conservation Subdivision Design and build support for residential

development policy change in SW Illinois. Materials developed in phase one of the project will be distributed to stakeholders and policy-makers through presentations and one-on-one meetings.

### **Big Rivers Partnership**

Counties: Calhoun, Greene, and Jersey

**The Nature Institute, \$16,120.00.** Blufftop Exotic Species Control. This project will facilitate exotic species removal and brush control at least 5 high quality natural areas along the bluff ecosystem in Madison and Jersey Counties. Ninety acres of hill prairie and forested bluff, which contains many rare species, will benefit from the work. In addition, a floristic survey and monitoring will be established.

### **Cache River**

Counties: Union, Johnson, Alexander, Pulaski, Pope, and Massac

**Union County Soil & Water Conservation District, \$211,750.00.** Big Creek Pilot Project – Phase II. Purpose of this project is to build upon the success in phase one by finishing the final 10 retention structures needed in the watershed, establish buffers where needed and to work on the side inlet channel erosion of Big Creek.

### **Chicago Wilderness Partnership**

Counties: McHenry, Du Page, Cook, Will, and Lake

**Chicago Botanic Garden, \$55,433.00.** Plants of Concern. Using standardized protocols, Plants of Concern (POC) will train volunteers to collect data on the size of, threats to, and management of populations of rare plants in NE Illinois. Reports to landowners then guide future management. This is a long-term monitoring program, and continuity of data collection is essential; C2000 funds will support work in 2007, POC's seventh year.

**Chicago Academy of Sciences, \$30,000.00.** Butterfly Restoration Project for Regal Fritillaries. This project is intended to enhance knowledge and techniques of restoring prairie butterflies by pairing translocations with comparisons of the butterflies' molecular diversity at the donor and restoration sites. Specifically, Regal Fritillaries, a State threatened species, will be restored to Cook County.

**Chicago Park District, \$67,158.28.** Montrose Beach Dunes Habitat Restoration. This project will restore beach, foredune, and globally imperiled panne communities at Montrose Beach Dunes, an Illinois Natural Areas Inventory site which supports five state-listed species on Chicago's lakefront. Funds will be used to conduct targeted herbiciding of Salix interior, planting of native species, and creation of interpretive signage.

### **Driftless Area Partnership**

Counties: Jo Daviess, Stephenson, Carroll, and Whiteside

**Jo Daviess Conservation Foundation, \$139,080.00.** Wapello Land & Water Reserve Restoration. Prairie restoration on former cropland and adjacent upland forest enhancement will be done at the Wapello Land & Water Reserve in order to protect mussel beds and threatened and endangered mussel species of the Apple River, enhance wildlife habitat, and also preserve a significant archaeological site.

**Natural Land Institute, \$20,000.00.** Horseshoe Mound Restoration. Natural Land Institute will work with the owner of the 28-acre Horseshoe Mound property, which is listed on the Illinois Natural Area Inventory as an Outstanding Geologic Area, to restore native oak savanna. The property owner has donated a conservation easement to the Natural Land Institute, which will protect the land in perpetuity.

**Jo Daviess County Soil & Water Conservation District, \$24,831.00.** Preserve, Enhance, and Provide Public Access to 1939 Aerial Photography. Jo Daviess County Soil & Water Conservation District has maintained a complete set of the oldest aerial photography for the county from 1939. This unique resource will be cleaned, professionally scanned and ortho-rectified by the Illinois State Geologic survey staff.

#### **DuPage River Coalition**

Counties: Cook, DuPage, Kane, Kendall, and Will

**Naperville Park District, \$31,119.00.** Pioneer Park Habitat Restoration. The Naperville Park District will restore and enhance 12 acres of wetland, woodland, and prairie habitat at Pioneer Park along the West Branch of the DuPage River. The project includes developing a restoration and maintenance plan, removing invasive species, planting native species, maintenance, and installing interpretative signage.

#### **Embarras River Partnership**

Counties: Douglas, Edgar, Coles, Cumberland, Clark, Jasper, Crawford, Richland, and Lawrence

**Douglas-Hart Nature Center, \$8,000.00.** Habitat Restoration at Douglas-Hart Nature Center. This project will improve habitat at the Douglas-Hart Nature Center by removing bush honeysuckle (*Lonicera maackii*). Contractors specializing in invasive shrub removal will do the work. The Nature Center staff will maintain the removal sites as necessary.

#### **Fox River Ecosystem Partnership (FREP)**

Counties: McHenry, Lake, Kane, Kendall, DuPage, LaSalle, and Cook

**Illinois Natural History Survey, \$34,056.00.** Evaluation of the South Batavia Dam Removal on the Fox River, Illinois. This project will assess effects of complete removal of the South Batavia dam on the Fox River.

Data collected will add to data collected during pre- (2002–2003) and partial-removal (2003–2005) phases, enabling an assessment of complete

removal effects. This additional data is crucial to understanding the effects of dam removal on Illinois' rivers.

**Lake County Forest Preserve District, \$76,016.72.** Nippersink Phase I Restoration; Restoring Wetland and Savanna Habitat. Nippersink Forest Preserve (Squaw Creek Watershed) supports over 75 acres of hemi-marsh. The 91-acre project area provides opportunity to restore wetland hydrology, expand and enhance existing wetlands, and restore savanna habitat. The project addresses both the goals of Fox River Ecosystem Partnership and the Squaw Creek Watershed Management Plan (2004).

**McHenry County Conservation Foundation, \$68,466.00.** Restoration and Enhancement of Protected, High Quality Natural Areas in Northeastern Illinois. Specialized machinery will be purchased for use in the mechanical removal of exotic and invasive woody vegetation in dedicated Nature Preserves, Land & Water Reserves, Illinois Natural Area Inventory sites, high quality natural areas, and conservation easements in NE Illinois to facilitate management and restoration of native plant communities and significant wildlife habitat.

#### **Headwaters Partnership**

Counties: Ford, Champaign, and Douglas

**Urbana Park District, \$59,850.00.** Judge Webber-Perkins Road Park Restoration, Phase 2B. Urbana Park District ultimately will restore over 35-acres of habitat on former stream floodplain. This 7-acre project would create a variety of habitat types for wetland and upland associated wildlife, protect existing habitat, and improve area biodiversity. The area will also be used for conservation and public environmental programs.

#### **Illinois River Bluffs Partnership**

Counties: Bureau, Fulton, Knox, LaSalle, Lee, Marshall, Peoria, Putnam, Stark, Tazewell, and Woodford

**Marshall-Putnam Soil & Water Conservation District, \$16,900.00.** Native Grass Drill – Get It Right. This project will provide easy access of a quality Native Grass Drill to establish or enhance native wildlife habitat, native grasses and forbs, and conservation measures to local citizens in Marshall, Putnam, and Neighboring Counties.

#### **Kankakee River Basin Commission**

Counties: Ford, Iroquois, Kankakee, Vermillion, and Will

**Kankakee River Valley Forest Preserve District (KRVFPD), \$138,750.00.** Aroma Land & Water Reserve Addition. The KRVFPD will purchase a 30-acre parcel south of the Aroma Land & Water Reserve, a 56-acre site comprised of high quality woodland, wetland, and prairie community types. This parcel is currently fallow, with native grasses migrating onto the site.

#### **Kaskaskia River Partnership**

Counties: Montgomery, Bond, Madison, St. Clair, Clinton, Marion, and Washington

**Illinois Audubon Society, \$8,000.00.** Bush Honeysuckle Control at H. & B. Bremer Sanctuary. To encourage recovery of upland oak-hickory and floodplain forest, exotic woody vegetation will be removed. Volunteers will utilize fire management and will reintroduce appropriate native woody and herbaceous vegetation after the contract period.

**Kishwaukee River Partnership**

Counties: McHenry, Boone, Winnebago, DeKalb, and Ogle

**Winnebago County Forest Preserve District, \$351,000.00.** Kishwaukee River Forest Preserve Addition. This project is the acquisition of 33.68 acres of cropland that is surrounded on three sides by Winnebago County Forest Preserve. The Forest Preserve District will convert the property to prairie and forest.

**The Land Conservancy of McHenry County, \$38,500.00.** Alden Headwaters Conservation & Protection Plan. This project will develop a comprehensive plan to protect and restore land in a 3,200 acre area of Alden Township, McHenry County—a region with State and regionally significant natural resources. Key outcomes include engaging new land owners in restoration of their property, a restoration and management plan and restoration of 50 acres of land.

**Lake Calumet Partnership**

Counties: Cook

**Chicago Department of Environment, \$110,000.00.** Hydrologic Master Plan Implementation: Indian Ridge Marsh South. The Calumet Hydrologic Master Plan is complete, thanks to prior C2000 funding. Key findings regarding the region's hydrology include the importance of stabilizing, modifying, and installing water control structures at critical habitat areas. This project involves the installation of a weir at the Indian Ridge Marsh and Calumet River interface.

**Chicago Department of Environment, \$94,380.00.** Calumet Ecological Rehabilitation Video. The Calumet Ecological Rehabilitation Video will record site rehabilitation work, research, community efforts and stewardship occurring in Calumet. Interviews, narrative and depictions of landscape changes will demonstrate for others the extent of collaboration involved, the challenges encountered, and the importance of community connections.

**Lake Michigan Watershed Ecosystem Partnership (LMWEP)**

Counties: Cook and Lake

**Lake County Forest Preserve District, \$85,838.86.** Control of Invasive Species in Spring Bluff Nature Preserve. Spring Bluff is protected for its natural communities and threatened and endangered species, and is regularly

fire-managed; yet, invasive species continue to spread. This effort will reduce the invasive species abundance where floristic integrity and wildlife habitat are threatened. Permanent transects will be monitored to detect change in the project area.

**Alliance for the Great Lakes, \$36,956.00.** Lake Michigan Subwatershed Project Identification and Planning. Using maps developed in cooperation with IDNR's Strategic Subwatershed Identification Process, the LMWEP, with staffing from the Alliance for the Great Lakes, will 1) perform field assessments of prioritized on-the-ground improvement sites; 2) conduct local stakeholder and landowner outreach and 3) identify measures of improvement to be used by LMWEP and 4) summarize priority projects.

### **North Branch of the Chicago River**

Counties: Cook and Lake

**Lake County Forest Preserves, \$39,000.00.** Old School Forest Habitat Restoration and Enhancement. Old School Forest Habitat Restoration and Enhancement project will increase structural and biological diversity to 66 acres of forest. Native plants and shrubs will be reintroduced in three acres of vernal ponds and 63 acres of upland forest to restore the ground and shrub layer communities that have been degraded from past land-use practices.

**Society of the Divine Word (SDW), \$23,000.00.** Restoration of Fragment Oak-Hickory Forest. This project will remove and control exotic species from approximately 30 acres of fragment native forest and return natural habitat and function to this once undisturbed site.

**Lake County Forest Preserve District, \$85,838.86.** Control of Invasive Species in Spring Bluff Nature Preserve. Spring Bluff is protected for its natural communities and threatened and endangered species, and is regularly fire-managed; yet, invasive species continue to spread. This effort will reduce the invasive species abundance where floristic integrity and wildlife habitat are threatened. Permanent transects will be monitored to detect change in the project area.

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### **Lower Des Plaines River Ecosystem Partnership (LDPREP)**

Counties: Cook, DuPage, and Will

**Lower Des Plaines Ecosystem Partnership (LDPREP), \$34,350.00.** Reaching, Educating, and Involving New Stakeholders. LDPREP's "Watershed Plan" outlines an ambitious strategy for the restoration and

protection of this biologically significant and challenged watershed.

This project prioritizes and implements Plan objectives, and builds LDPREP's internal capacity to fulfill its mission by improving its communications systems and increasing stakeholder involvement.

**Forest Preserve District of Cook County, \$50,000.00.** Dan McMahon Fen Buffer Enhancement Project. McMahon Fen hosts a biologically rich natural community, but the densely shaded uplands are virtually bare and prone to runoff.

We propose to restore prairie to an 8-acre 150-foot buffer above the fen. Palos Volunteers who have managed the fen for the past 8 years will play an integral role, with the help of local high school ecology clubs.

#### **LaMoine River Partnership**

Counties: Adams, Brown, Fulton, Hancock, Henderson, McDonough, Schuyler, and Warren

**Wolf Farms, \$52,785.00.** Hutchins Ecosystem Restoration Project. This project will involve the complete restoration of approximately 45 acres of upland and 15 acres bottomland/wetland habitat within a headwater stream system, tributary to the La Moine River in McDonough County.

#### **Lower Kaskaskia River Partnership**

Counties: Macoupin, Montgomery, Madison, Bond, St. Clair, Washington, Randolph, Perry, Monroe, and Jackson

**Southwestern Illinois Resource Conservation & Development, Inc., \$7,495.00.** Clifftop Alliance Outreach & Info-Educational Programs. Clifftop Alliance is a partnership bringing together landholders and conservation organizations to focus on protecting the Mississippi River bluff lands in Monroe and Randolph Counties. Educational outreach efforts will be implemented to improve land stewardship practices within the Northern Ozark Division, an IDNR Conservation Opportunity Area (CWCP).

**Southwestern Illinois Resource Conservation & Development, Inc., \$17,882.00.** Illinois Cave Amphipod Recharge Area Delineation. The Illinois cave amphipod, which is Federally listed as endangered, is known from several groundwater systems whose recharge areas have not been delineated, including Frog Spring, Luhr Spring, and Dual Spring, as well as Annbriar Spring north of Fountain Creek. This project would provide these critical delineations.

#### **Lower Rock River Partnership**

Counties: Lee, Whiteside, Rock Island, Henry, Bureau, Ogle, and Carroll

**City of Moline, \$24,500.00.** Greenvalley Nature Preserve Wetland and Prairie Restoration Plan. A restoration plan with multiple implementation phases will be developed for approximately 130 acres of degraded wetland and prairie along the Rock River in Moline. When the plan is completed, the first phase

of the plan will be executed and will consist of the restoration of 9 acres of prairie adjacent to the Rock River and a wetland bird sanctuary.

### **Lower Sangamon Valley Partnership**

Counties: Cass, Christian, Logan, McLean, Macon, Macoupin, Mason, Menard, Montgomery, Morgan, Sangamon, Shelby, and Tazewell

#### **Cass County Soil & Water Conservation District, \$3,387.94. AG DAY.**

This project is designed to educate students and teachers about our natural resources and conservation. Students (K-5<sup>th</sup> grade) will be exposed hands on activities, wildlife paw prints, water quality, and planting activities.

#### **Springfield Park District, \$28,700.00. Centennial Park Prairie Project.**

Funding for this project will help restore a 70-acre prairie that would provide additional habitat for the Franklin's Ground Squirrel, an endangered species known from the Centennial Park Area.

### **Mackinaw River Partnership**

Counties: Ford, Livingston, McLean, Mason, Tazewell, and Woodford

#### **Woodford County Soil & Water Conservation District, \$82,104.00.**

Woodland Habitat Enhancement Program. This program will assist landowners of wooded property in the Mackinaw watershed in implementing timber management plans which have a primary goal to maintain, restore, or enhance habitat for wildlife.

### **Ozark Hills Partnership**

Counties: Union, Alexander, Jackson, and Randolph

**Shawnee Resource Conservation & Development Area Council, Inc., \$65,390.80. River to River Cooperative Weed Management Area.** The goal of the project is to provide support for the development of the River to River Cooperative Weed Management Area and to control invasive plant species projects on private lands within the Ozark partnership. The project coordinator will conduct noxious weed workshops for private landowners, garden/nursery staff, organizations, and government employees.

### **Prairie Parklands Partnership**

Counties: Kendall, LaSalle, Grundy, Will, Cook, Kankakee, and Livingston

**Forest Preserve District of Will County, \$15,400.00. Natural Community Enhancement at Braidwood Dunes and Savanna Nature Preserve.** The District proposes to restore dry-mesic sand savanna and mesic to wet-mesic sand prairie communities at Braidwood Dunes and Savanna Nature Preserve in an area that has become a large throng of black locust trees (*Robinia pseudoacacia*). Restoration will require cutting black locust trees; herbiciding, planting and prescribed burning.

**Joliet Junior College, \$35,000.00. Fen & Dolomite Prairie Enhancement at**

Joliet Jr. College Natural Areas. This project's goal is to maintain an existing fen and restore degraded uplands by the timely eradication of exotics.

Adjacent areas will be cleared of woody exotics and seeded in appropriate native species. These restored areas will serve as a buffer, provide better habitat along the Rock Run Creek and prevent erosion.

**Board of Trustees, University of Illinois, \$34,692.00.** Prairie Seed Banks at Midewin National Tallgrass Prairie (MNTP): A Key to its Restoration. This investigation characterizes seed banks (composition, viability) of remnant/restored prairie and old field/crop lands at MNTP, Remnant prairie seed banks will serve as a benchmark for success of restored prairies and will guide restoration efforts in disturbed lands. Photos of recovered seeds will be posted on the Illinois Natural History Survey web site.

### **Rock River Partnership**

Counties: Ogle

**Byron Forest Preserve District, \$5,600.00.** Exotic Herbaceous and Small Diameter Woody Vegetation Management in Rock River Partnership. These funds will be used for the purchase of a Brush Wolf 7200 brush cutter skid steer attachment to be used throughout the Rock River Partnership for exotic herbaceous vegetation and small diameter brush mowing. It will be used as a cost effective management tool in maintaining and restoring prairies, wetlands, and oak savanna/woodland communities.

**Byron Forest Preserve District, \$10,350.00.** Nardi Hills Preserve Prairie Planting and Management. Forty acres of mixed upland prairie will be planted and management of the prairie and adjacent preserve lands for invasive species and brush control will be accomplished at the Byron Forest Preserve District's Nardi Hills Preserve.

### **Shawnee Ecosystem Partnership**

Counties: Hardin, Johnson, Massac, Pope, and Saline

**Pope-Hardin Soil & Water Conservation District, \$16,640.00.** Big Grand Pierre Creek – Phase I. Survey and design 16 miles of Big Grand Pierre Creek from the Ohio River to the confluence of Hart and Gibbons Creek will be conducted in order to prepare projects for needed stream bank stabilization.

### **Sugar Pecatonica Rivers Partnership**

Counties: Jo Daviess, Stephenson, Winnebago, Carroll, and Ogle

**Sugar Prairie Wildlife Corridor, \$11,940.00.** Incorporating Pecatonica Valley Wildlands Inventory into Local Planning. This project will digitize findings of the recent Pecatonica Valley Wildlands Inventory into a GIS format that will be used in support of land protection efforts in the Sugar and Pecatonica River watersheds.

### **Thorn Creek Macrosite Partnership**

Counties: Cook and Will

**Village of Park Forest, \$33,400.00.** Central Park Wetlands Project. Continue management of a 46 acre wetland restoration site by the removal of invasive species. Improvements will be made at the wetland site by seeding/planting wetland plants.

Construction of an observation/education deck and installation of interpretive signage will be accomplished to improve interpretive and educational programs.

**Governors State University (GSU), \$65,970.00.** Thorn Creek Headwater, Wet Prairie Restoration. This project will restore 44 acres of prairie, stabilize and protect 1500 feet of Thorn Creek headwaters, and add 22 acres of land to the GSU Field Station. It would also serve as a living laboratory for students at GSU and area high schools. Ecological research and monitoring will increase our understanding of prairies and wetlands.

#### **Upper Des Plaines Partnership**

Counties: Lake, DuPage, and Cook

**Lake County Forest Preserve District, \$83,615.00.** Grainger Woods Woodland Restoration and Reforestation. This project will enhance and expand existing Illinois Natural Areas Inventory woodland habitat and two wetlands within the Des Plaines River greenway. Fifteen acres of woodland will be selectively cleared, 29 acres of pasture will be reforested, and the entire area will be supplementally seeded. Depressional areas in the former pasture will be planted with wetland plugs.

**Township of Libertyville, \$19,725.00.** Creating a Restoration, Education, and Outreach Plan for the Liberty Prairie Area Homeowners Association (LPAHA) Section of Bull Creek. Protection of a section of Bull Creek from further degradation due to serious flooding, erosion, and neglect will be implemented. A plan will be developed to restore eroded stream banks and educate residents about their responsibilities in caring for the stream, stream bank, and floodplain. Citizen volunteers will participate in ongoing maintenance activities.

**Country Club Meadows Homeowners Association (CCMHOA), \$15,600.00.** Seeding of Quality Wetlands. CCMHOA has 34 acres of wet-mesic remnant prairie. With partners, SMC of Lake County and USFW Conservation Funding will restore the high quality remnant wetlands. Funding will pay for seeding and site preparation. This will be phase three in a multi-year restoration plan. The land is dedicated conservancy easements, both private and common to the HOA.

#### **Upper Little Wabash Partnership**

Counties: Clay, Coles, Cumberland, Effingham, Fayette, Jasper, Marion, and Shelby

**Effingham County Soil & Water Conservation District, \$158,046.00.**

Restore Our Forest Communities. 1,500 acres of native oak-hickory woodland, savanna and barren will be restored. The goal of the forest community enhancement approach is requiring a forestry management plan, forest stand improvement, prescribed fire and exotic species control.

**Upper Rock River Partnership**

Counties: Boone, Stephenson, and Winnebago

**Rockford Park District, \$91,917.00.** North Fork Kent Creek Habitat Restoration Project. Phase Two of a multi-phase project will improve approximately 5,000 linear feet of the main

branch and a small tributary of the North Fork of the Kent Creek by implementing in-stream habitat projects, restoring stream bank stability, removing sedimentation with rock weirs, artificial riffles, LUNKER structures, boulder clusters and stream narrowing techniques.

**Upper Rock River Partnership, \$20,000.00.** Upper Rock River Planning Grant. This funding will assist the partnership with the second phase of their strategic plan and begin to develop an implementation plan.