

Forest Preserve District Green Initiatives



By the numbers

- 26,000 acres of land
- 60 forest preserves
- 47 miles of rivers and streams
- 175 miles of trails
- 7 education and cultural centers
- 3 golf preserves
- 500 nature programs per year
- 5.5 million visitors
- 2023 adopted Clean Energy, Resiliency and Sustainability Plan



Our Partnerships

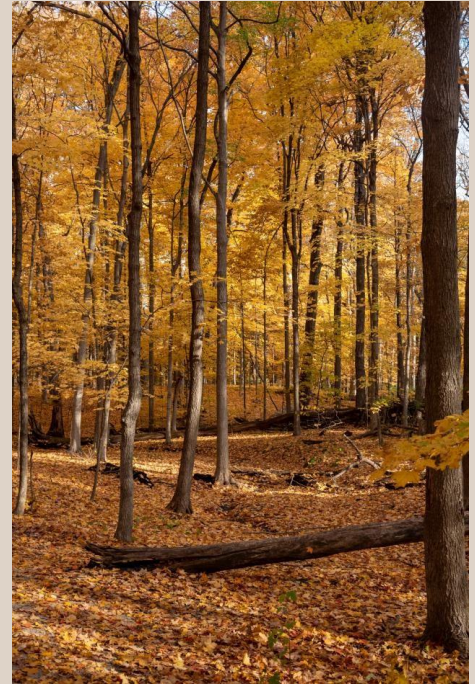
- Blanding's turtle species- recovery program partners
- Chicago Bird Collision Monitors
- Chicago Metro. Planning Agency
- Chicago Region Trees Initiative
- Chicago Wilderness Alliance
- The Conservation Foundation
- DuPage Convention & Visitors Bureau
- DuPage County Stormwater Management
- DuPage Mayors & Managers
- DuPage Monarch Project
- Friends of Danada
- Friends of the Forest Preserve District of DuPage County
- Illinois Assoc. of Conservation and Forest Preserve Districts
- Illinois Association of Park Districts
- Illinois Parks & Recreation Assoc.
- Illinois Clean Energy Community Foundation
- Morton Arboretum
- Prairie State Conservation Coalition
- Salt Creek DuPage River Work Group



Environmental Benefits

The District's land management and ecosystem restoration practices benefit the environment.

- Sequestering 891 tCO₂e more carbon than emitted.
- Increasing climate resiliency and biodiversity.
- Reducing stormwater runoff.
- Promoting clean air and water.
- Preserving scenic viewsheds.



River restoration

Salt Creek Restoration at Fullersburg Woods

- Dam removal.
- Restore over 1 mile of river.
- Improved water quality by:
 - Removing blockage of fish passage.
 - Increasing dissolved oxygen.
 - Improving in-stream and riparian habitat.



Renewable Electricity

Renewable Energy Credits

- The District purchases credits for 100% wind energy to offset its energy usage.



Renewable Electricity

Solar Photovoltaic Projects - Implemented

- 262.2 kW Solar PV rooftop at Fleet Building.
- 41 kW Solar PV rooftop at The Preserve at Oak Meadows, which powers its golf cart fleet.
- 18.8 kW Solar PV rooftop at Danada Equestrian Center.



Renewable Electricity

Solar Photovoltaic Projects - Planned

- 409.5 kW ground mount Solar PV system at Headquarters Building.
- 500 kW rooftop Solar PV system at Grounds and Natural Resources Complex.
- Exploring floating solar.



Image credit:
solarpowerworldonline.com



Solar Hot Water

Solar thermal hot water systems

- Danada Headquarters building.
- Blackwell Facilities Management building.
- Restrooms at:
 - Hidden Lake.
 - Springbrook Prairie.
 - Spring Creek Reservoir.



Net Zero

DuPage Wildlife Conservation Center

- 27,000 sf wildlife rehab and visitor center.
- 625 kW Solar PV system installed on the visitor center.
- 72.2 kW Solar PV system installed on species recovery building.
- Geothermal heating and cooling.
- Energy efficient features.



Landfill Sustainability

Phytoremediation at Mallard North Landfill

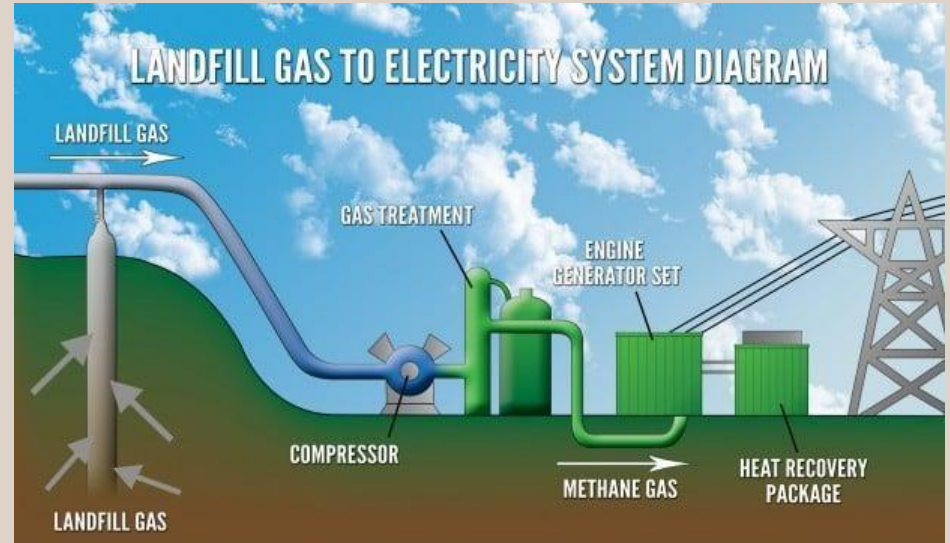
- Largest in the nation.
- 8,500 trees on 14.7 acres have treated over 20 million gallons of leachate.
- Trees soak up the leachate and release clean water through evapotranspiration.



Landfill Sustainability

Landfill Gas to Energy

- Landfill gas to energy plant operating at Greene Valley landfill since 1995.
- Previous gas to energy plant operated until 2018 at Mallard Lake. Pursuing a new landfill gas-to-energy project.



Green Fleet

- 95% of District's fleet of 170 vehicles are powered by alternative fuels reducing GHG emissions by 213.3 tons.
- Recognized as #1 Green Garage in 2024 by NAFA Fleet Management Association.
- Alternative fuel station at Blackwell.



We are committed to becoming a climate leader

- Reduce carbon footprint
- Increase climate resiliency
- Wisely steward our forest preserves

