

**Forest Preserves of Winnebago County  
BOARD MEETING**

Wednesday, February 19, 2025 – 5:30 PM  
Forest Preserve Headquarters



**AGENDA**

**A. ROLL CALL**

**B. PLEDGE of ALLEGIANCE**

**C. APPROVAL of MINUTES**

Minutes for January 15

Minutes for February 6

**D. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION, AWARDS, and PRESENTATIONS**

Presentation by Holt House Committee

Restoration Manual

Wildlife Management

**E. UNFINISHED BUSINESS / DISCUSSION**

**F. NEW BUSINESS**

1. Finance Report

2. Mayor McNamara's Tax Proposal

Page

**G. ACTION ITEMS**

- 1. Bills for January
- 3. Sale of Bonds
- 6. Authorizing the Purchase of the Rio Vista LLC Property
- 8. Acceptance of Bids for Forestry Mowing
- 11. Acceptance of Bids for Macktown Clubhouse Exterior
- 13. Acceptance of Bids for Turf Fertilizers, Herbicides, Fungicides and Insecticides
- 15. Acceptance of Amended 2025 Golf Fee Schedule

**H. UPDATES and REPORTS**

- 17. Preserve Operations
- 18. Natural Resource Management
- 20. Golf
- 22. Marketing
- 24. Human Resources
- 25. Law Enforcement
- Partner Groups

**I. CLOSED SESSION**

5 ILCS 120/2 © (5) The Purchase of Real Property for the Use of the Public Body

5 ILCS 120/2 © (5) The Setting of a Price for Sale or Lease of Property by the Public Body

**J. ANNOUNCEMENTS and COMMUNICATIONS**

- 1. March 4 – Bird Hike at Deer Run Forest Preserve starting at 8:30am.

**K. ADJOURNMENT**

Next regular Board Meeting– 5:30 PM Wednesday, March 19, Forest Preserve Headquarters

**Forest Preserves of Winnebago County**  
**Authorization to Process Payment of Bills**



February 19, 2025

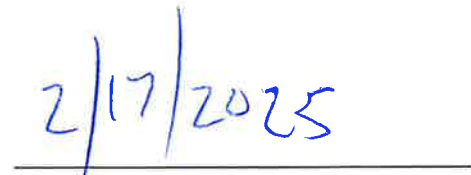
**TO: THE AUDITOR AND TREASURER OF THE  
FOREST PRESERVES OF WINNEBAGO COUNTY.**

Your Forest Preserves of Winnebago County Board of Commissioners, to whom were referred the following bills in the amount of **\$ 516,057.11** against the Forest Preserves of Winnebago County, have reviewed and approved and therefore respectfully request that orders be drawn on the account of the Forest Preserve District for their payment:

CORPORATE FUND	3001	297,629.27
BOTANICAL GARDEN FUND	3120	478.46
HEALTH BENEFITS FUND	3185	47,080.56
SOCIAL SECURITY FUND	3192	15,875.43
RETIREMENT FUND	3193	20,630.49
LIABILITY RESERVE FUND	3194	23,621.00
IMPROVEMENT & DEV. FUND	3302	50,771.34
CORPORATE FUND	3402	<u>59,970.56</u>
		<b>\$ 516,057.11</b>

Respectfully submitted,

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Steve Chapman, Finance Director

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

**RESOLUTION**

**No. 25-0201**

**PAYMENT OF BILLS FOR JANUARY**

WHEREAS, the Forest Preserve incurs annual and monthly operating and capital expenditures during its budget cycle; and

WHEREAS, the Winnebago County Finance Department compiled the attached invoices relating to Forest Preserve expenditures to be paid for the month of January; and

WHEREAS, our Finance Director, Steve Chapman, has reviewed the invoices and avows them to be accurate and appropriate for payment; and

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Board authorizes the payment of the attached compilation of bills totaling \$516,057.11 be paid by the Forest Preserves of Winnebago County for the month of January 2025.

Voting YES \_\_\_\_\_

Voting NO \_\_\_\_\_

The above and foregoing Resolution was adopted this 19th day of February, 2025.

That this Resolution shall be in full force and effect immediately upon its adoption.

---

Jeff Tilly, President  
Board of Commissioners

February 19, 2025  
Rockford, Illinois

## **RESOLUTION**

**25-0202**

### **RESOLUTION OF INTENT FOR THE ISSUANCE OF BONDS IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$2,000,000 FOR THE PURPOSE OF LAND ACQUISITION AND CALLING A BOND ISSUE NOTIFICATION ACT HEARING**

WHEREAS, Chapter 70 ILCS 805/13, permits the Winnebago County Forest Preserve District, Winnebago County, Illinois (“District”) to issue general obligation bonds without referendum for the purpose of acquiring land up to an aggregate, including all lands theretofore acquired, of 55,000 acres of land; and

WHEREAS, the District has previously acquired lands comprising approximately 11,639 acres in the aggregate; and

WHEREAS, the District currently has outstanding \$127,930 in principal for the 2006 Bond Series which has a final maturity date of December 30, 2025; and

WHEREAS, the District currently has outstanding \$960,000 in principal for the 2016 Bond Series which has a final maturity date of December 30, 2028; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, it is the intent of the District to acquire additional lands for forest preserves and incidental to the use and protection thereof as provided in Sections 5 and 6 of the Downstate Forest Preserve District Act of the State of Illinois codified at 70 ILCS 805, comprising in the aggregate not more than 43,361 acres (“the Project”); the estimated cost of the Project, including the District’s costs in connection with the borrowing of money as described in this Resolution, will not exceed \$2,000,000; and the District does not have sufficient funds on hand or available from other sources with which to pay the costs of the Project.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, it is the intent of the District to borrow the sum not to exceed \$2,000,000 in order to finance the costs of the Project and, to evidence its obligation to repay the borrowing, (the “Bonds”) to issue its limited general obligation bonds in the aggregate principal amount not to exceed \$2,000,000.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the source of repayment for the Bonds shall be property taxes.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the District is authorized to take all necessary and required steps, including, but not limited to, causing the necessary public notices and to comply with all applicable state and federal statutes including the Bond Issue Notification Issue Act (30 ILCS 352/1 et al.), for the Bonds to be issued. The public hearing required under the Bond Issue Notification Act is to be held on March 19, 2025, at 5:30 p.m. at the Winnebago County Forest Preserve District Headquarters, 5500 Northrock Drive, Rockford, Illinois. A copy of the proposed Public Notice of said hearing is attached hereto as Exhibit “A.”

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the District shall utilize the services of Speer Financial, Inc. as its financial advisor and Chapman & Cutler as bond counsel to complete all work necessary to complete the actions set forth by this Resolution.

Motion for approval made by Commissioner \_\_\_\_\_, and seconded by Commissioner \_\_\_\_\_.

AYES \_\_\_\_\_

NAYS \_\_\_\_\_

ABSENT \_\_\_\_\_

This 19th day of February, 2025.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Jeff Tilly, President  
Winnebago County Forest Preserve District

\_\_\_\_\_  
Gloria Lind, Secretary  
Winnebago County Forest Preserve District

**EXHIBIT “A”**

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING REQUIRED**  
**UNDER BOND ISSUE NOTIFICATION ACT**

The Winnebago County Forest Preserve District will hold a public hearing on March 19, 2025, at 5:30 p.m. The hearing will be held at the Winnebago County Forest Preserve District Headquarters, 5500 Northrock Drive, Rockford, Illinois. The purpose of the hearing will be to receive public comments on the proposal to sell bonds not to exceed \$2,000,000.00 for the purpose of purchasing land.

---

Gloria Lind, Secretary  
Winnebago County Forest Preserve District

**Forest Preserves of Winnebago County**

**ORDINANCE**

**No. 25-0203**

**Authorizing the Purchase of the Rio Vista LLC Property Adjacent to  
Indian Hill Forest Preserve**

WHEREAS, the Forest Preserves of Winnebago County (FPWC) was made aware that a 6.4 acre property in the south section of Winnebago County abutting Indian Hill Forest Preserve was put up for sale by Rio Vista LLC; and

WHEREAS, the Executive Director presented the Rio Vista LLC property to the FPWC Board of Commissioners (BOARD) in closed session and the consensus of the BOARD was to allow the Executive Director to negotiate an offer on the property contingent on an appraised value; and

WHEREAS, the Executive Director made an offer and came to a tentative agreed upon price with the property owner of \$80,000 contingent on appraised value for the Rio Vista LLC property; and

WHEREAS, the seller's realtor wrote up a purchase contract that has been reviewed and edited by the Executive Director and the FPWC's attorney, Aaron Szeto; and

WHEREAS the Executive Director contracted Harrison and Associates, Inc. to appraise the Rio Vista property and the appraised value ranged from \$79,375 - \$82,550 and therefore the offered price was within the appraised value; and

WHEREAS, FPWC has sufficient land acquisition funds for the purchase of the Rio Vista LLC property for \$80,000.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED that the Board of Commissioners of the Forest Preserves of Winnebago County as follows:

Section 1. The Board of Commissioners hereby authorizes and approves the purchase of the real property commonly known as the "Rio Vista LLC property", PIN 15-20-426-001, for \$80,000.00 plus customary closing costs. Such authorization and approval are contingent upon the Seller and the Forest Preserves of Winnebago County finalizing and memorializing in writing the terms and conditions of the draft Purchase Contract for the acquisition of the Rio Vista LLC property. To the extent the Seller and Forest Preserves of Winnebago County are unable to finalize and memorialize in writing the terms and conditions of the Purchase Contract, the authorization and approval provided for in this Ordinance shall be automatically rescinded, without further action of the Board.

Section 2. That the Board of Commissioners of the Forest Preserves of Winnebago County hereby authorize the Executive Director of the Forest Preserves of Winnebago County to sign the Purchase and Sale Agreement for the Rio Vista LLC property.

Section 3. That pursuant to the District Land Classification and Use Policy adopted May 27, 1982 lands contained in this acquisition shall be classified as reserve area and/or recreational area.

Section 4. That upon receipt of notice from the District Executive Director, the District Director of Finance, Auditor, and Treasurer are hereby authorized and directed to execute appropriate District payment orders required for the closing authorized herein, which payment orders shall be drawn upon the District's Land Acquisition line (91000-46110) of the Corporate Fund (3001).

Section 4. That the Secretary of the Forest Preserve District is hereby authorized to prepare and deliver certified copies of this Ordinance to the Executive Director, Auditor, and Treasurer.

Section 5. That this Ordinance shall be in full force and effect immediately upon its adoption.

**Voting Yes**

**Voting No**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Judith Barnard

\_\_\_\_\_  
Judith Barnard

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mike Eickman

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mike Eickman

\_\_\_\_\_  
Gloria Lind

\_\_\_\_\_  
Gloria Lind

\_\_\_\_\_  
Cheryl Maggio

\_\_\_\_\_  
Cheryl Maggio

\_\_\_\_\_  
Jerry Paulson

\_\_\_\_\_  
Jerry Paulson

\_\_\_\_\_  
Emily Porter

\_\_\_\_\_  
Emily Porter

\_\_\_\_\_  
Jeff Tilly, President

\_\_\_\_\_  
Jeff Tilly, President

The above and foregoing Ordinance was adopted this 19<sup>th</sup> of February, 2025.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Jeff Tilly, President



## **RESOLUTION**

### **No. 25-0204**

#### **FORESTRY MOWING AT FUNDERBURG FOREST PRESERVE**

WHEREAS, the Forest Preserves of Winnebago County was awarded \$50,000 from The Conservation Fund, as mitigation for impacts caused by the construction and maintenance of the Endbridge Pipelines, LLC. Flanagan South Pipeline; and,

WHEREAS, the Forest Preserves of Winnebago County agreed to enhance and restore 20.2 acres of habitat for the federally endangered Indiana bat at Funderburg Forest Preserve as a condition of acceptance for the above award; and,

WHEREAS, four firms submitted a bid to forestry mow and chemically treat woody resprouts within the project area; and,

WHEREAS, the low base bid of \$26,179.00, with additional services to be completed at a cost of \$1,700 per acre up to the project's not to exceed amount, was submitted by Langton Group, of Woodstock, IL; and,

WHEREAS, the Langton Group is a snow removal and landscape firm, who was unable to provide a reference for having completed any paid work of a similar scope and size; and,

WHEREAS, the next qualified base low bid of \$35,600.00, with additional services to be completed at a cost of \$1,800 per acre up to the project's not to exceed amount, was submitted by HGS, LLC dba Resource Environmental Solutions Environmental Operating Company, LLC, of Broadhead, WI; and,

WHEREAS, Resource Environment Solutions is an established restoration firm with demonstrable experience completing paid work of a similar scope and size; and,

WHEREAS, staff budgeted \$48,000.00 for this project in the 2024-25 budget; and,

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Board of Commissioners of the Forest Preserves of Winnebago County accept the bid from HGS, LLC dba Resource Environmental Solutions Environmental Operating Company, LLC of Broadhead, WI to complete 28.2 acres of work as specified in the 'Forestry Mowing at Funderburg Forest Preserve' bid package for the price of \$50,000.

Voting YES \_\_\_\_\_

Voting NO \_\_\_\_\_

The above and foregoing Resolution was adopted this 19th day of February, 2025.

That this Resolution shall be in full force and effect immediately upon its adoption.

---

Jeff Tilly, President  
Board of Commissioners

BID TAB  
 25-0203 FORESTRY MOWING AT FUNDERBURG FOREST PRESERVE  
 BID OPENING – FEBRUARY 14, 2025 AT 10:00AM

VENDOR	TOTAL COST FOR BASE PROJECT	ADDITIONAL SERVICES - FORESTRY MOWING (COST PER ACRE)	ADDITIONAL SERVICES - HERBICIDE APPLICATION (COST PER ACRE)	RECEIVED ADDENDUM
Pizzo and Associates LTD	\$43,980.00	\$1,870.00	\$1,760.00	0 of 0
HGS, LLC dba RES Environmental Operating Company, LLC	\$35,600.00	\$1,100.00	\$700.00	0 of 0
Langton Group	\$26,179.00	\$1,200.00	\$500.00	0 of 0
Bluestem Ecological Services	\$48,480.00	\$1,250.00	\$1,150.00	0 of 0

Forest Preserves of Winnebago County  
 5500 Northrock Drive, Rockford, IL 61103  
 Phone: (815) 877-6100 | [FPWC@winnebagoforest.org](mailto:FPWC@winnebagoforest.org)

## **RESOLUTION**

**No. 25-0205**

### **ACCEPTANCE OF BIDS**

#### **MACKTOWN GOLF CLUBHOUSE EXTERIOR RENOVATION**

WHEREAS, the Purchasing Code for the Forest Preserve District of Winnebago County, Illinois, provide that all purchases for and contracts for supplies, materials, equipment, and contractual services, the value of which is estimated to exceed \$30,000, shall be based on competitive bids; and,

WHEREAS, a mandatory pre-bid meeting was held at Macktown Golf Clubhouse on January 27, 2025 with three (3) companies in attendance; and,

WHEREAS, a bid opening was conducted on February 4<sup>th</sup>, 2025 with three (3) sealed bids received for the project; and,

WHEREAS, the qualified lowest bidder was Warner Roofing and Restoration. Rockford, Illinois, with a combined total project bid amount of \$38,734; and,

WHEREAS, staff is recommending acceptance of the qualified lowest bidder, Warner Roofing and Restoration, 417 S. Winnebago St., Rockford, Illinois 61102, in the amount of \$38,734.00 for the base project with option #1 included; and,

WHEREAS, staff is recommending additional 10% project contingency of up to \$3,873.40 be provided; and,

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Commissioners of the Forest Preserves of Winnebago County accept the combined project bid amount for the Macktown Clubhouse Exterior Renovation, by Warner Roofing and Restoration in Rockford, Illinois, in the amount of \$38,734.00 with an additional contingency amount of up to 10% (\$3,873.40), if necessary.

Voting YES\_\_\_\_\_

Voting NO\_\_\_\_\_

The above and foregoing Resolution was adopted this 19th day of February, 2025.

That this Resolution shall be in full force and effect immediately upon its adoption.

---

Jeff Tilly, President  
Board of Commissioners

**BID TAB**  
**25-0201 MACKTOWN GOLF COURSE CLUBHOUSE EXTERIOR**  
**BID OPENING – FEBRUARY 4, 2025 AT 10:00AM**

VENDOR	Midwest Seamless Gutters & Siding	Warner Roofing & Restoration	Scandrol Construction Co.
BASE BID	\$49,967.00	\$32,334.00	\$61,616.00
OPTION #1	\$2,388.00	\$6,400.00	\$5,280.00
WORK TO BE COMPLETED ON OR BEFORE (DATE)	June 1, 2025	June 1, 2025	June 1, 2025
RECEIVED ADDENDUM	0 of 0	0 of 0	0 of 0

Forest Preserves of Winnebago County  
5500 Northrock Drive, Rockford, IL 61103  
Phone: (815) 877-6100 | FPWC@winnebagoforest.org

## **RESOLUTION**

**No. 25-0206**

### **ACCEPTANCE OF BIDS FOR FERTILIZERS AND CHEMICALS**

WHEREAS, the Purchasing Code for the Forest Preserve District of Winnebago County, Illinois, provide that all purchases for and contracts for supplies, materials, equipment, and contractual services, the value of which is estimated to exceed \$30,000, shall be based on competitive bids and,

WHEREAS, competitive bids were received for the following:

#### **FERTILIZERS AND CHEMICALS**

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners of the Forest Preserves of Winnebago County has reviewed the bids received for the aforementioned item (s) and recommends awarding the bids as follows:

SEE ATTACHMENT

TOTAL BID PRICE: \$91,459.11

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners has determined that the funding for the aforementioned purchase shall be as follows:

**VARIOUS DEPARTMENTS TURF SUPPLIES (422.84)**

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Commissioners of the Forest Preserves of Winnebago County that purchase orders be issued to the attached vendors in the amount of \$91,459.11.

Voting YES\_\_\_\_\_

Voting NO\_\_\_\_\_

The above and foregoing Resolution was adopted this 19th day of February, 2025.

That this Resolution shall be in full force and effect immediately upon its adoption.

---

Jeff Tilly, President  
Board of Commissioners

**TURF FERTILIZERS, HERBICIDES, FUNGICIDES AND INSECTICIDES  
 BID # 25-0202**

<b>FERTILIZER AND CHEMICALS</b>	<b>QUANTITY</b>	<b>UNIT PRICE</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>VENDOR</b>
21-0-21 - 80% Master + / SOP	150	\$17.50	\$2,625.00	Masterblend
17-0-0 w/ .37% Prodiamine (50 lb bag)	485	\$14.05	\$6,814.25	Van Diest
25-0-10 100% Poly Coated (120 Day Duration) 220 sgn (50 lb bag)	215	\$27.00	\$5,805.00	Masterblend
17-0-5 (.067 Acelepryn / .167 Dimension) 220 sgn	54	\$57.50	\$3,105.00	Helena Agri
Foltec SG 8-24-8 (3x1 case)	4	\$262.00	\$1,048.00	D&K Products
Foltec SG 16-0-16 (3x1 case)	43	\$262.00	\$11,266.00	Van Diest
Foltec SG 24-0-8 (3x1 case)	4	\$262.00	\$1,048.00	D&K Products
Azoxy 2 SC-Prime	7	\$70.93	\$496.51	Conserv FS
Ipro 2 (2x2.5 gal) case	30	\$279.25	\$8,377.50	Van Diest
Chlorothalonil Flo (2x2.5gal) case	27	\$99.90	\$2,697.30	Clesens
Stressmaster Phite 0-0-31 (2x2.5 gal) case	30	\$89.50	\$2,685.00	Van Diest
Envy (Precision Labs) (1 gal)	22	\$84.25	\$1,853.50	Clesens
Mefenoxam (1 gallon) Jug	16	\$280.20	\$4,483.20	Helena Agri
Propam Select (1 gal)	3	\$210.30	\$630.90	Van Diest
Propiconazole 14.3 (2x2.5gal) case	3	\$227.37	\$682.11	Conserv FS
Propi-Star (4x1gal) case	13	\$197.80	\$2,571.40	Van Diest
Flex-Guard (1 gal)	8	\$205.55	\$1,644.40	Van Diest
Velista (22oz) bottle	22	\$286.00	\$6,292.00	D&K Products
Prothio 4L (64oz)	6	\$600.00	\$3,600.00	D&K Products
Ethephon (2x2.5gal ) case	7	\$117.00	\$819.00	D&K Products
Legacy Gallon (1 gal)	4	\$485.00	\$1,940.00	D&K Products
Tricure (2x2.5 gal) case	3	\$430.00	\$1,290.00	D&K Products
Basal Oil (12 - 15 gal) Drum	12	\$177.00	\$2,124.00	Van Diest
Turfmarker Blue Select (2x2.5 gal) case	1	\$117.25	\$117.25	Van Diest
Liberate non-ionic surfactant (2 x 2.5 gal)	3	\$195.00	\$585.00	D&K Products
Sunset MSO - Red River	2	\$63.16	\$126.32	Conserv FS
Acelepryn Xtra (2.5 Gallon Jug)	5	\$1,530.00	\$7,650.00	Van Diest
2D (1 gallon) Jug	8	\$51.70	\$413.60	Van Diest
Transline (2 x 2.5gal) case	3	\$717.50	\$2,152.50	Helena Agri
Ranger Pro (2x2.5 gal) case	8	\$76.25	\$610.00	Van Diest
Aquaneat (2x2.5 gal) case	2	\$107.25	\$214.50	Van Diest
Milestone (2 x 2.5 gal) case	1	\$1,605.00	\$1,605.00	Helena Agri
Triclopyr 3A (2 x 2.5 gal) case	8	\$185.89	\$1,487.12	Conserv FS
Element 4 (2x2.5 gal) case	6	\$243.25	\$1,459.50	Van Diest
Vastlan (2 x 2.5 gal) case	1	\$510.00	\$510.00	Van Diest
Volunteer (2x2.5 gal) case	1	\$134.75	\$134.75	Van Diest
Krenite (2 x 2.5 gal) case	1	\$495.50	\$495.50	Van Diest
		<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$91,459.11</b>	

# **RESOLUTION**

**No. 25-0207**

## **AMENDED 2025 FEE SCHEDULE**

WHEREAS, the Forest Preserves of Winnebago County have set annual fee schedules for Preserve Fees and Charges and Golf Fees and Charges; and,

WHEREAS, the State of Illinois has enacted new legislation, Public Act 103-592, effective January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2025 whereby sales tax must be collected on rental items; and,

WHEREAS, the Forest Preserves will now be required to assess this new tax for each golf cart rental; and,

WHEREAS, staff is recommending amending the previously adopted 2025 Fee Schedule to provide for an increase in the fixed pricing for the golf cart rental fee to include the new sales tax for each rental rate; and,

WHEREAS, the proposed changes to the golf cart rental rates are shown on the following page included with this resolution; and,

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Commissioners of the Forest Preserves of Winnebago County approve the attached amended 2025 Golf Fees and Charges.

Voting YES\_\_\_\_\_

Voting NO\_\_\_\_\_

The above and foregoing Resolution was adopted this 19th day of February, 2025.

That this Resolution shall be in full force and effect immediately upon its adoption.

---

Jeff Tilly, President  
Board of Commissioners





**FOREST PRESERVES OF WINNEBAGO COUNTY**  
**5500 Northrock Drive, Rockford, IL 61103 - 815-877-6100**

**2025 GOLF FEES AND CHARGES**

**2025 Proposed Changes**

*A credit card convenience fee of 3% will be applied to all transactions*

		<b>On or Before <u>Apr. 1</u></b>	<b>After <u>Apr. 1</u></b>
<b><u>Preserve Pass Options</u></b>			
<i>(Valid January 1 - December 31, 2025)</i>			
<b>*\$60 Capital Improvement Fee Included in Pass Pricing</b>			
• Resident Premier Card	<i>(Valid when courses are open for play, weather permitting, not including playdays and tournaments.)</i>	<b>*835</b>	<b>*860</b>
• Non-Resident Premier Card		<b>*860</b>	<b>*885</b>
• Resident Player Card	<i>(Valid weekdays; after 11:00am on weekends &amp; holidays, not including playdays and tournaments. Eligible for Player Card Privilege.)</i>	<b>*635</b>	<b>*660</b>
• Non-Resident Player Card		<b>*655</b>	<b>*680</b>
• Refer a Friend Discount Program	<i>(Discount for you and a friend, both receive \$100 off pass price if the friend has not had a pass in 2 years. Need not purchase same pass type. Excludes student)</i>	<b>-100</b>	<b>-100</b>
• Resident Student card	<i>(Full-time student through age 24 with student I.D. Valid weekdays; after 11:00am on weekends &amp; holidays, not including playdays and tournaments.)</i>	<b>230</b>	<b>240</b>
• Non-Resident Student card		<b>240</b>	<b>250</b>
• Golf Team Pass	<i>Valid during the golf team's season for practice &amp; competition</i>		<b>80</b>
• Replacement			<b>10</b>

**Greens Fees**

*Fees are a maximum rate, not to exceed daily rate*

**\*\$2.00 Capital Improvement Fee Included in Greens Fee Pricing**

• Resident 18-holes	<i>Weekdays</i>		<b>*23</b>
• Non-Resident 18-holes			<b>*25</b>
• Resident 18-holes	<i>Weekends &amp; Holidays</i>		<b>*28</b>
• Non-Resident 18-holes			<b>*30</b>
• Resident 9-hole	<i>Weekdays</i>		<b>*15</b>
• Non-Resident 9-hole			<b>*17</b>
• Resident 9-hole	<i>Weekends &amp; Holidays</i>		<b>*19</b>
• Non-Resident 9-hole			<b>*21</b>
• Student 18-holes	<i>18 through age 24 with student I.D.</i>		<b>15</b>
• Student 9-holes			<b>10</b>
• Jr. Golfer 18-holes	<i>17 years and under (before 5PM weekdays &amp; after 1PM weekends)</i>		<b>10</b>
• Jr. Golfer 9-holes			<b>5</b>
• Player Card Privilege	<i>Discount greens fee on weekends &amp; holidays before 11AM</i>		<b>10</b>
• Tee Time Cancellation Fee	<i>Fee charged per tee time if not cancelled 24 hours prior to tee time(s)</i>		<b>10</b>

**Special Fees**

• Tournament Greens Fee			<b>20</b>
• Outing/Playday	<i>Monday-Thursday</i>	<i>Shotgun start with golf cart rental</i>	<b>39</b>
	<i>Friday-Sunday</i>	<i>(100 or more golfers)</i>	<b>48</b>
• Practice Range (per 1 bucket)	<i>Sold at Atwood &amp; Ledges clubhouse only</i>		<b>5</b>
• Resident Practice Range Pass		<b>200</b>	<b>225</b>
• Non-Resident Practice Range Pass		<b>225</b>	<b>250</b>

**Golf Cart Registration**

*(Only Grandfathered Private Carts - No New Registration)*

• Single Ownership			<b>650</b>
• Outside Storage Fee	<i>In addition to ownership fee</i>		<b>200</b>
• Replacement of golf cart stickers			<b>10</b>

**Golf Cart Rental**

• 9-hole per person	<i>Weekdays</i>	<del>11</del> <b>12.00</b>
• 18-hole per person		<del>16</del> <b>17.50</b>
• 9-hole per person	<i>Weekends &amp; Holidays</i>	<del>12</del> <b>13.25</b>
• 18-hole per person		<del>17</del> <b>18.50</b>
• 9-hole Individual Cart Request	<i>Individual cart request subject to availability</i>	<del>16</del> <b>17.50</b>
• 18-hole Individual Cart Request		<del>27</del> <b>29.50</b>

**Banquet Room Rental**

*(Contact Forest Preserve Headquarters at (815) 877-6100 for more information & reservations)*

• Macktown (25 people maximum)	<i>Available for rental April 1 - October 31</i>	<b>50</b>
• Ledges (50 people maximum)		<b>200</b>

**Holidays for 2025 are: Memorial Day - May 26, Independence Day - July 4, Labor Day - September 1**

Atwood Homestead - 815/623-2411

Macktown - 815/624-7410

Ledges - 815/389-0979

[www.playthepreserves.com](http://www.playthepreserves.com)

## **Preserve Operations**

Vaughn Stamm, Director of Operations  
Matt Weik & Scott Wallace, Preserve Managers  
Bryan Helmold, Facility & Equipment Manager  
January 2025 Activities Report

- Hauled equipment to and from Central maintenance shop for annual service and maintenance.
- Refurbished several trailhead signs.
- Started painting Sugar River Maintenance Shop breakroom.
- Started updating North Area inventory.
- Started dead tree removal along roadways throughout Hononegah Forest Preserve.
- Plowed snow in various preserves on 1/23-1/24.
- Completed January building and equipment inspections.
- Area Mechanical serviced Macktown School House furnace on 1/7.
- Power washed FPWC logo mat in front of reception desk at HQ.
- County I.T. Department made repairs to the breakroom training computer.
- Checked all trail systems for hazards/down trees.
- North Area Ranger, Nick Eskilson started S-130/S190 burn training.
- General maintenance performed on chainsaws.
- Repaired damaged gate at the Seward Bluffs equestrian entrance.
- Replaced wood planking on ten picnic tables.
- Sanded and re-painted trash barrels.
- Several Preserve Maintenance staff participated in the deer management program.
- Bucked and split firewood for the campgrounds.
- Removed additional hazardous trees from the Seward Bluffs Campground.
- Ground tree stumps throughout multiple preserves.
- Repaired damaged section of staircase at Kishwaukee Gorge.
- Built three folding portable sign frames.
- Forestry mowed along trail edges at Severson Dells, Blackhawk Springs, and Espenscheid Forest Preserves.
- Cleared limbs off trails at Funderburg and Pecatonica River.

# Natural Resource Management

Mike Brien, Director of Natural Resources

Keith Krey, Stewardship Coordinator

Liz Hucker, Wildlife Biologist

January 2025 Activities Report

## Natural Resource Staff

- Hand cut and chemically treated invasive brush at Kishwaukee Gorge and Roland Olson Forest Preserves.
- Forestry mowed invasive brush at Kishwaukee Gorge and Roland Olson Forest Preserves.
- Installed stands and began baiting piles for deer management season. As of 2/6, staff have removed 60 deer from the Kishwaukee River Corridor, 12 deer from Funderburg Forest Preserve, and one deer from Klehm Arboretum.
- Two staff renewed their Illinois Pesticide Applicator License.
- Assisted wildlife biologist with monitoring and maintenance of wood duck and prothonotary warbler nest boxes.
- Plowed snow and salted at Forest Preserve Headquarters as needed.
- Completed end of year and compliance reports for several active and completed grant programs.
- Work on the grant funded forestry mulching contract began at Kishwaukee Gorge Forest Preserve. Tallgrass Restoration will forestry mow and chemically treat 23 acres of invasive woody species.
- Attended virtual Kishwaukee River Ecosystem Partnership meeting.
- Met with Winnebago County's director of purchasing and prospective design firms to discuss the new natural resource facility construction project.
- Evaluated quotes submitted for the purchase of native seed as part of our ComEd Green Regions grant award and completed ordering. Seed from 37 species will be distributed this winter throughout the 80-acre forestry clearing project area at Funderburg Forest Preserve.
- Solicited quotes for the 'Atwood Hazard Tree Removal' capital project. A contractor will be hired to remove 60 hazardous trees along the lower loop driveway and trails, with any remaining funds to be used to replant and restore areas of the preserve.

## Wildlife

- Submitted applications for scientific collector and nuisance animal permits to Illinois Department of Natural Resources.
- Led a guided bird hike at Blackhawk Springs Forest Preserve.
- Began work crafting kestrel nest boxes with assistance from a volunteer.
- Posted seasonal wildlife job and reviewed applications.
- Completed wood duck, prothonotary warbler, and purple martin nestbox monitoring and maintenance.
- Downloaded data from Motus tower at Sugar River Alder Forest Preserve to assist University of Illinois's Ward Lab of Ornithology in monitoring saw-whet owls.

# Natural Resource Management

## January 2025 Activities Report – Cont.

- Assisted with restoring critical snake habitat at Roland Olson Forest Preserve.
- Collaborated with Friends of Illinois Nature Preserves on promoting and recruiting for Pecatonica River volunteer restoration workdays.
- Attended the Rusty Patch Bumblebee science webinar.

### Stewardship

- Conducted bluebird nestbox maintenance.
- Hosted restoration workdays at Pecatonica River, Roland Olson, and Macktown Forest Preserves.
- Attended Get Connected’s webinar “Volunteer engagement leaders: Uncomfortable truths to understand when self-advocating”.
- Attended Better Impact’s webinar “The role of ethics in volunteer engagement”.
- Attended iNaturalist’s Webinar “Phenology in focus: Exploring plant cycles with iNaturalist”.

### *2025 Statistics*

A total of 20 volunteers earned 104.25 service hours from January 2025 through February 2025.

The monetary value of these service hours equals **\$3,491.31**. As of April 2024, the estimated national value of each volunteer hour is currently \$33.49 (based on the Independent Sector).

# **Golf Operations**

Vaughn Stamm, Director of Operations

Rich Rosenstiel, Clubhouse Manager

Tyler Knapp & Mark Freiman, Golf Maintenance Managers

January 2025 Activities Report

## **Clubhouse Operations:**

- Continued to meet with 2025 seasonal rehires.
- Scheduled carpet cleanings and range hood cleanings for all 3 clubhouses.
- Took delivery of new 2 door refrigerator and 2 door freezer for Ledges Clubhouse Kitchen.
- Updated clubhouse operations manual.
- 2025 golf event letters / registration requests issued.
- Worked with Sarah to develop 2025 golf marketing plans.
- Prepped Ledges kitchen storage areas for upgraded wall paneling.
- New electrical outlet installed for cart return area at Macktown.
- Seasonal staffing needs assessed.
- Continued to work on scheduling needs for:
  - Golf Shop coverage.
  - Outside Attendant coverage.
  - Food & Beverage coverage.

## **Golf Maintenance:**

### **Ledges**

- Updated seasonal job description prior to posting online.
- Disassembled and cleaned all ball washers prior to sandblasting and powder coat.
- Completed bid specifications for tow behind roller mower.
- Met with sales representative to finalize golf course accessory orders.
- Burned brush pile.
- Assisted with delivery of new double door fridge and freezer for Ledges Clubhouse.
- Pulled turf samples from different locations and brought indoors to assess the extent of winter desiccation.
- Began interviewing candidates for seasonal employment.
- Mechanics continue servicing equipment, tearing down cutting units and grinding reels.
- Wrote pesticide and fertilizer programs for upcoming season.

# **Golf Operations**

## January 2025 Activities Report – Cont.

### **Macktown**

- Disassembled and cleaned all ball washers prior to sandblasting and powder coat.
- Met with sales representative to finalize golf course accessory orders.
- Tree removal and cleanup between holes #2, #6, #8, and #11.
- Burned brush pile.
- Pulled turf samples from different locations and brought indoors to assess the extent of winter desiccation.
- Began interviewing candidates for seasonal employment.
- Sanded and stained picnic tables for Clubhouse lawn.
- Pre-bid meeting for Macktown Clubhouse exterior renovation.
- Wrote pesticide and fertilizer programs for upcoming season.
- Painted walls and replaced all shelving in pesticide storage room.
- Mechanics continued servicing equipment, tearing down cutting units and grinding reels.
- Removed invasive trees in restoration areas.

### **Atwood**

- Installed new irrigation manifold in pump house.
- Sanded and stained picnic tables for clubhouse lawn.
- Completed bid specifications for driving range tee project.
- Mechanics grinding reels and servicing equipment.
- Met with sales representative to discuss golf course accessory order.
- Monitored turf conditions by growing samples in controlled environment to assess winter injury.
- Updated seasonal job description.
- Evaluated prior year fertility and fungicide program and make necessary adjustments.

# **Marketing & Communication Relations**

Sarah Lorenz, Communications Coordinator

January 2025 Activities Report

## **Programming & Events:**

- February Guided Bird Hike led by Wildlife Biologist Liz Hucker at Colored Sands 2/4.
  - Featured in GoRockford Go Guide 1/29-2/4 under the Explore section.
  - Turnout: 4 participants, including one Passport Preserve participant Next FPWC event: March Guided Bird Hike led by Liz at Deer Run on 3/4.
- FPWC Career Fair scheduled for 2/13 @ 4-6 p.m. to attract seasonal and full-time applicants.
- Confirmed 2025 Backpacking with Burpee program dates in partnership with Burpee Museum of Natural History (9 of 11 Backpacking with Burpee programs will be held at Forest Preserves).
- Planned and confirmed 2025 partner programming with Kim Johnsen (NLI), including a birding presentation, a butterfly hike, and a tree walk.

## **Engagement:**

- Launched the 2025 Preserve Passport Program on February 1<sup>st</sup>.
  - Active teams as of 2/7: 13
  - Submissions as of 2/7: 116
- First digital newsletter sent to subscribers on January 21.
- February digital newsletter scheduled for February 20.
- Hooked on Fun sponsor deck completed and initial sponsor requests have been sent.
- Created FPWC Nature Photography Facebook group to engage local photographer community and gather images for future marketing materials, including the 2026 wall calendar.
  - Members as of 2/7: 70

## **Advertising:**

- General visitorship (Mid-West Family targeted display ad running seasonally).
- Golf pass-specific (Mid-West Family targeted display ad, running through March 31).
- GoRockford advertising (Outdoor Activities, Family Fun).
- Stateline Connection print ads (general and golf) will publish in the spring.

## **Printing & Signage:**

- Conducting research for the development of interpretive signage at Pecatonica Wetlands Forest Preserve, funded by Pecatonica Rotary Club.
- Designing preliminary layouts and content for spring Nature's Notebook publication.
- Hiring yard signs printed and installed to attract seasonal and full-time applicants.

# Marketing & Communication Relations

## January 2025 Activities Report- Cont.

### Social Media:

- Social Media Stats (January 4 – February 7, 2025)
  - FPWC Facebook: 5,145 followers (+54)
  - FPWC Instagram: 1,837 followers (+21)
  - FPWC Golf Facebook: 632 followers (+0)
  - FPWC Golf Instagram: 290 followers (+0) \* *golf metrics will be lower during off season*



## Human Resources

### Sherry Winebaugh, Human Resources Manager January 2025 Activities Report

In January, I focused on several important tasks: addressing employee benefits, preparing for seasonal hiring, working on HR and marketing events, and managing recruitment efforts.

- I met with Jenny Warp, our IPBC Benefits Consultant, to discuss a few employee benefit-related questions. We also had a couple of meetings regarding our BCBS HMO of Illinois insurance and potential changes. In addition, we discussed ACA reporting, voluntary benefits being offered in 2025, and COBRA. Open enrollment will soon be here, and there is a lot of behind-the-scenes preparation.
- I met with Matt Weik and Vaughn Stamm to discuss the new Ranger position for the North Area, and I am currently recruiting for this role to support our growing needs.
- I met with Sarah and Keith to discuss this year's HR and Marketing events. We discussed upcoming projects and started planning ways to help the agency grow, stay engaged, and better connect with the community.
- On January 29th, Sarah and I met with the managers, Vaughn Stamm and Mike Holan, to discuss the 2025 seasonal hiring. Several ideas were discussed, including the plan to hold a job fair on February 13, 2025, from 4:00 PM to 6:00 PM at FPWC Headquarters. We also discussed various strategies to attract seasonal employees and ensure a successful hiring process. Additionally, we are preparing to post seasonal positions on the RVC job board, Indeed, and our website to reach a wider audience.
- On January 9, 2025, I participated in an IPRF Loss Control Zoom meeting with Vaughn Stamm and Mike Holan. Chris Racey, Senior Loss Control Rep with IPRA, presented the meeting, which provided valuable insights into loss control measures.
- I completed the mandatory OSHA Form 300A, which provides a summary of work-related injuries, and distributed it to all the managers.
- I am currently working with IPRF on a workers' compensation employee claim to ensure that all necessary steps are taken to ensure proper handling.
- The yearly 1094-A and 1095-C forms for the Affordable Care Act have been prepared and submitted to the IRS.

# Law Enforcement

## January 2025 Activities Report

### **Brief Activity Summary**

- There were 0 Criminal arrests
- There were 6 Calls for service inside of the Forest Preserves
- There were 0 Reports written
- There were 0 Ordinance violations (citations) written
- There were 0 Written warnings
- There were 7 Verbal warnings
- There were 0 Airfield permits
- There were 0 Equestrian bridle tags
- There were 1 Fishing license checks
- There were 0 Occupied shelter house patrols
- There were 0 Campground patrols
- There were 21 Patrols on trail systems
- There were 45 Directed patrol hours