



City Forest Credits Carbon Preservation Project Application

Note to applicants: The project application will be posted on the Carbon Project Registry on the project page so it should not include any confidential information. Submit a draft application in word format to City Forest Credits before signing the final version. Include a map of the project area with application.

1. Project Name

Reservation Woods Land Acquisition

2. Project Type

Preservation

3. Project Location

The two 5-acre parcels acquired are located in the Reservation Woods Acquisition Area in unincorporated Kendall County, Illinois (See attached "Exhibit A"). The parcels were purchased by the Kendall County Forest Preserve District in 2021, a conservation-focused county municipal government agency. The parcels are located within the headwaters of Morgan Creek, a tributary of the Fox River.

- 1) Jaross Parcel: 4.7899 acres – Lot 50

PIN# 05-01-400-004

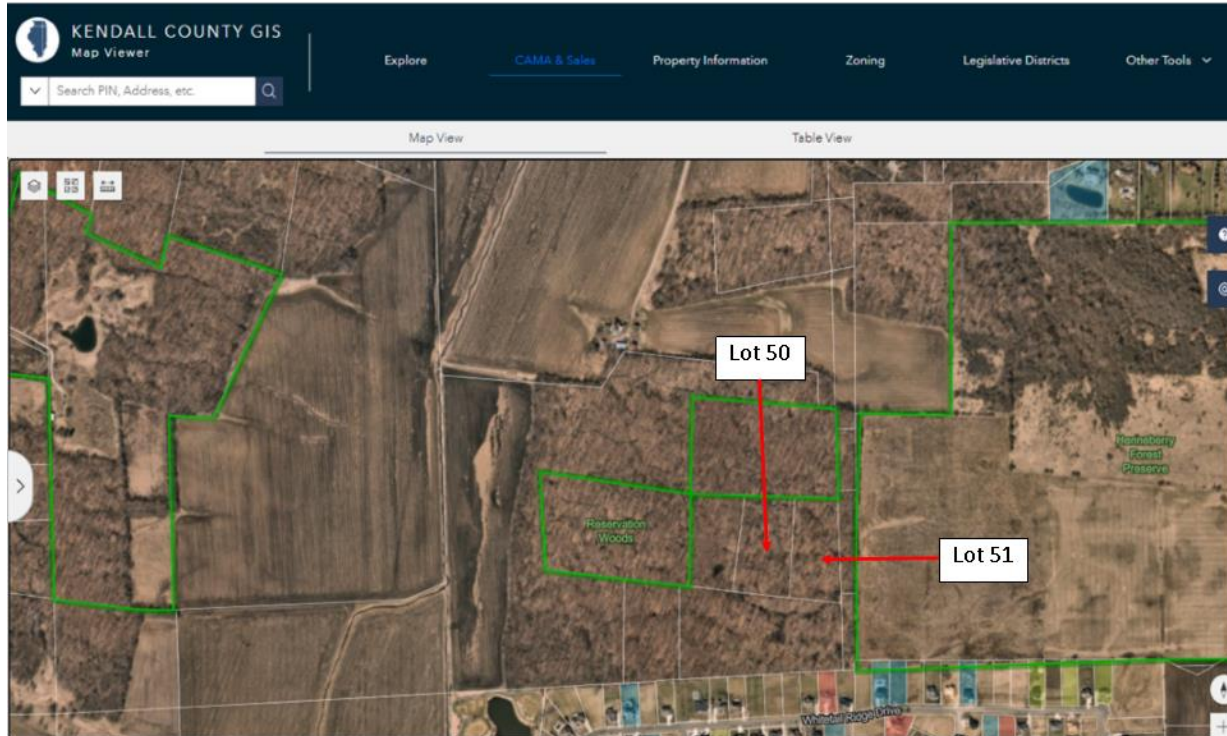
Description: Sub Lot 50 of Section 1, Township 36 North, Range 7 east of the third principal meridian according to the plat of known as Assessor's Plat of said section, recorded in the Recorder's Office of Kendall County, Illinois, in Plat Book 3, Page 58, situated in the Township of Kendall, Kendall County, Illinois.

- 2) Parish Parcel: 5.2970 acres – Lot 51

PIN# 05-01-400-005

Description: Sub Lot 51 of the Southeast Quarter of Section 1, Township 36 North, Range 7 East of the Third Principal Meridian, as shown in Plat Book 2 at Page 1, all in Kendall Township, Kendall County, Illinois.

CFC Application—Project Location—Exhibit A



The parcels are located west of the District's Henneberry Woods Forest Preserve (248-acres), and connected to two previously acquired Reservation Woods parcels totaling 27.13-acres (13.77-acres and 13.36-acres, respectively).

4. Project Operator

Kendall County Forest Preserve District, Kendall County, Illinois
110 W. Madison Street
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David Guritz, Executive Director
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5. Project Description

Provide short narrative of the overall project goals, project acreage, land ownership, forest characteristics, and land use/zoning

The Reservation Woods acquisition area consists of remnant woodland parcels located between the historical “Big Slough” Morgan Creek drainage area and the Waish-Kee-Shaw Indian Reservation established under the 1830 Treaty of Prairie du Chien.

Property zoning for each parcel was designated as Agriculture 1 prior to closing which was completed on January 26, 2022.

Following acquisition, the parcels are considered forest preserve areas in accordance with the provisions of the Illinois Downstate Forest Preserve District Act.

<https://www.ilga.gov/legislation/ilcs/ilcs3.asp?ActID=875&ChapterID=15>

The recently acquired parcels total 10.0869 surveyed acres. The District’s goal is to maintain the parcels in perpetuity as publically-protected open space.

The parcels are entirely forested, transitioning from oak-hickory dominated upland forest to maple-linden dominated mesic woodlands.

A description is provided from the District’s 2018 Floristic Quality Inventory – Kobal 2018).

2018 Inventory

During the 2018 growing season I searched the entire woodland on June 1 and September 9 for some of the rare floral species that were noted in the 1991 inventory. Since I was traversing the woodland I did keep a list of the species that I saw. This is not a complete inventory list but does provide some additional information on the site. In 2018 a total of 124 plant species were encountered, of which 115 (92.7%) were native and nine (7.3%) were adventive. The majority of the flora (65.3%) were conservative species. The mean coefficient of conservatism was 4.5 and the native FQI was 48.3 for the entire site (Table 3). This is very similar to the 1991 inventory in terms of the number of plant species and floristic quality analysis. A total of 81 species (57%) that were seen during the 1991 survey were also observed in 2018. Also, a total of 32 plant species were observed in 2018 that were not recorded on the 1991 list.

Changes in Floristic Composition from 1991 to 2018:

While the number of native species and the floristic quality of the Reservation Woods Forest Preserve have been very similar from the 1991 and 2018 inventories there have been changes in the species composition on the site.

This mesic woodland is suffering from a very heavy infestation of sugar maple and American linden (Figure 8). There are few large trees in this woodland and a flush of young, straight trees that have produced heavy shade have obviously changed the structure of this woodland since it was last surveyed in 1991. Despite some of these problems, there were few invasive species in this woodland and their numbers were rather low.

Figure 8. Areas of heavy sugar maple and American linden infestation at Reservation Woods – 6/1/18



6. Project Impacts

This project is working to expand publically-held open space for conservation purposes. Henneberry Woods Forest Preserve is an important grassland bird breeding area. The Reservation Woods acquisition area includes some of the best remaining oak woodlands within Kendall County. Kendall County contains some of the best remaining intact high-quality oak ecosystem corridors within northeastern Illinois.

This project will increase future public access to open spaces, conserves the Morgan Creek headwaters area, which in turn supports flood control and watershed protection, and provides an important expansion of conservation lands for locally and increasingly rare bird and wildlife species.

7. Additional Information

The Kendall County Forest Preserve District partnered with The Conservation Foundation and the Illinois Clean Energy Community Foundation to acquire the two parcels. The Conservation Foundation donated 20% of the land value, with the Illinois Clean Energy Community Foundation extending a grant to the District covering 80% of the land value. Both parcels were acquired for \$135,116.50 (\$13,395 per acre).

This project is part of the Chicago Region Carbon Credit Program and complements other tree planting and preservation projects in the seven-metro counties included in the Chicago Region Trees Initiative.

Signed on June 24 in 2022, by David Guritz for the Kendall County Forest Preserve District:



David Guritz – Executive Director – Kendall County Forest Preserve District

630-553-4131

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