



## City Forest Credits Preservation Project Application

### 1. Project Name

*For example: Sandy Cross Forest*

Camp Lakota Woodland

### 2. Project Operator

*Provide name of organization/entity and contact information*

Organization/Entity: McHenry County Conservation Foundation

Address: 7210 Keystone Rd

City: Richmond

State: IL

Zip: 60071

Primary and/or secondary contact(s): Shawna Flavell

Phone: 815-354-1374

Email: [sflavell@mchenryconservation.org](mailto:sflavell@mchenryconservation.org)

### 3. Project Location

*Project must be in or adjacent to one of the following. Describe which one of the criteria the project meets and provide the name of the city, town, or jurisdiction where project is located. Provide the parcel numbers.*

- *“Urban Area” per Census Bureau maps*
- *An incorporated or unincorporated city or town*
- *A planning area for a regional metropolitan planning agency or entity*
- *Land owned, designated, and used by a municipal or quasi-municipal entity for source water or watershed protection*
- *A transportation or utility right of way through one of above*

Project is located in the Metropolitan Planning Agency area of Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning (CMAP), Woodstock, IL 60098. Parcel numbers include 07-28-200-003, 07-27-100-001, and 07-27-100-003.

### 4. Project Description

*Provide short narrative of the project goals, Project Area acreage, land ownership, forest characteristics, and land use/zoning. Provide details about when the property was acquired or potential timeline for acquisition. Include information about when carbon crediting was first introduced into the overall project scope.*

As part of the Chicago Region Carbon Program, the McHenry County Conservation Foundation and the McHenry County Conservation District aim to preserve +/- 70 acres of primarily 100 – 200 year old oak and hickory woodland at the former Camp Lakota in Woodstock, IL. These woodlands contain significant stands of white, red, and bur oaks, with some limited numbers of hills oak, swamp white oak, and pine plantation.

The project area was acquired by the McHenry County Conservation Foundation on June 30, 2021. It is expected to be transferred to the McHenry County Conservation District by 2026. The project area is zoned A1 agriculture.

## **5. Project Impacts**

*Provide short narrative of the environmental, social, and health impacts this project will achieve. Examples include how the project addresses increased access to green spaces for under-resourced communities, flood control or watershed protection, benefits for human health and well-being, improved recreation opportunities, or protects bird and wildlife habitat.*

The proposed project area is planned to become part of McHenry County Conservation District's Brookdale Conservation Area, a 1,645 acre site that offers visitors the opportunity to hike, horseback ride, fish, cross country ski, snowshoe, or picnic and is visited by more than 11,000 people annually. Brookdale is considered a macrosite, one of a handful of areas remaining in McHenry County where it is possible to protect enough land to create large blocks of habitat containing remnant natural communities or populations of key plants and animals. Macrosites allow species that are sensitive to genetic isolation or require large blocks of continuous habitat to maintain viable populations.

The project area is composed of two major natural community types, oak woodlands and wetlands. It has been inventoried by the Illinois Department of Natural Resources and the McHenry County Conservation District. The state recognizes the project area as a Category II Illinois Natural Areas Inventory (INAI) site due to the presence of the state-endangered Blanding's turtle and several wetland-dependent bird species, including the state-listed endangered least bittern, common gallinule, and yellow-headed blackbird. Its preservation increases flood storage capacity of the headwater reaches of both the Nippersink and the Kishwaukee River Watersheds and serves as part of a vital greenway corridor for rare, endangered, and migratory species, including birds that use it as a stopover along the Mississippi flyway. Vernal ponds, made possible due to the juxtaposition of woodland and wetland community, make this property ideal for supporting breeding populations of amphibians. Because they dry up in the summer, these ponds cannot support fish and are ideal habitat for frogs and salamanders that need water to reproduce, lay eggs, and grow through the tadpole phase. This creates ideal foraging opportunities for migrating species that stop over on their journey to breeding territory further north.

## **6. Additional Information**

*Provide additional information about your project. If the Project Area is part of a larger program or preservation effort, include one sentence with more information. Examples include collaboration with other partners to preserve forestland or how this project fits into a regional initiative.*

The project area is located within the boundaries of several countywide and regional planning initiatives, including CMAP's on to 2050 plan, Chicago Wilderness' Green Vision – 2025, and McHenry County's Green Infrastructure Plan. This project is part of the Chicago Region Carbon Credit Program and complements other tree planting and preservation projects in the seven-metro counties supervised by the Chicago Region Trees Initiative.


## 7. Map

*Provide a map of the Project Area. Also include a shapefile or google earth file of the exact Project Area.*

See Attached

## PROJECT OPERATOR SIGNATURE

Signed on [insert month and date] in 2023, by [insert name and title of person authorized to sign], for [insert Project Operator name].



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Signature

Shawna Flavell

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Printed Name

815-354-1374

Phone

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Email