



PROJECT UPDATES

Site Master Plan: Fox Bluff Conservation Area

Cary Algonquin and Cold Springs Roads,
along the Fox River, Cary (279 acres)

Preliminary Master Plan Open House: March 7, 2013 5 to 8 p.m.

Presentations @ 6 p.m. & 7 p.m.
Prairieview Education Center
2112 Behan Rd., Crystal Lake

Fox Bluff Master Plan
Online Public Comment Period
on Preliminary Plan:
Feb. 22–March 18
www.MCCDistrict.org

Prairie Trail Closure Notice Algonquin: Jan. 14 Thru May



The Replacement of the Meyer North Bridge will close the Prairie Trail from just north of the Meyer Rd. Parking Lot (by Ed's Rental) to just S. of Rakow Rd. A chain link fence will be installed at both sides and for everyone's safety **NO THRU TRAFFIC**. Timing will be weather Dependent.

In addition, the **Prairie Trail South** will be resurfaced from the **Kane County Line to Rakow Road in Crystal Lake**, roughly 3.5 miles. The trails will be closed to users potentially April - May; weather dependent.



Cyclists and regular trail users can receive up-to-date information on closures and/or disruptions by sending their contact information to MCCD@MCCDistrict.org to receive closure alert emails.

HIGHLIGHTS OF UPCOMING NATURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PROJECTS:

Coral Woods Swamp White Oak Management—This project began last fall as exotic brush and dead ash trees were removed from a small swamp white oak savanna that was purchased in 2012 by a private donation and a grant from the Clean Energy Foundation. This year the area will be reseeded with native vegetation.

Nippersink Bank Stabilization—This project will grade back eroded banks along Nippersink Creek, remove drain tiles from former wetlands, and remove invasive brush along the stream. It is part of an USEPA 319 grant that includes work at the Manke Parcel and the Barber Fen Tract further downstream. Roughly 25% of the costs will be supported by the USEPA grant.

Miller Road Bridge Replacement, Wetland Mitigation Project—This is an ongoing project that is restoring wetland and upland grasslands on approximately 20 acres at Glacial Park. The work is being funded as part of a mitigation project for the replacement of a bridge over the Fox River at Miller Road. The restoration site is located along West Solon Road and borders the north branch of Nippersink Creek.

Bat Inventory—This spring the District will work with Eastern Illinois University to inventory and identify native bat populations on Conservation District sites. It will include analysis of both natural areas and existing structures owned by the District that may be utilized by bat colonies, such as barns and sheds. Bats will be captured using mist nests and identified by species

Green Snake Reintroduction—This spring the District will work with Brookfield Zoo to inventory Conservation District sites for smooth green snakes, a prairie reptile in decline across much of its range. The study will determine where colonies exist on District sites, their approximate size, and whether the snakes are potential candidates to provide individuals for reintroductions into suitable habitat in the future. This is part of a region wide project.

