



Kane County

1996 S. Kirk Rd. Suite 320
Geneva, IL 60134

Forest Preserve District, Planning and Utilization Committee

Agenda

Chair Cheryl Strathmann, President Christopher Kious, President Pro Tem, Mavis Bates,
Executive Director Benjamin Haberthur
Ron Ford, Michelle Gumz, Mike Kenyon, Anita Lewis, Mike Linder, Vern Tepe

Thursday, September 26, 2024

9:30 AM

3rd Floor Board Room

I. Call To Order

II. Approval of Minutes July 25, 2024 and August 29, 2024

III. Public Comment (Each Speaker is limited to three minutes)

IV. Bids and Proposals

TMP-24-2906 Resolution Approving Bids for Herbicide Control of Woody
Resprouts at Various Preserves

TMP-24-2941 Resolution Approving a Public Art Sculpture Installation at
Johnson's Mound Forest Preserve for the Centennial Celebration On June 8,
2025

V. New or Unfinished Business

**VI. Closed Session to Discuss Land Acquisition, License Agreements, Potential
Litigation and Personnel**

VII. Communications

VIII. Chairman's Comments

IX. Adjournment

**Adjournment until: Thursday, October 24, 2024 at 9:30 a.m. in person at the
Forest Preserve District Administration Offices 1996 S. Kirk Road, Suite 320
Geneva, Illinois and via zoom**

<https://zoom.us/j/6302325980?pwd=aURTSGJoRIVJNDRcCkJXkd3dvaVVrUT09>

**Meeting ID: 630 232 5980 Password: 24680 The Request to Speak Form on the
Districts' website must still be completed for guests to speak at the meeting.**



AGENDA MEMORANDUM

DATE: September 26, 2024

TO: Forest Preserve District Planning and Utilization Committee

FROM: Patrick Chess, Director of Natural Resources
Benjamin Haberthur, Executive Director

SUBJECT: Presentation and Approval of a Bid for Herbicide Control of Woody Resprouts at Various Preserves

PURPOSE:

The purpose of this memorandum is to provide the Committee with information to consider the approval of bids for herbicide weed management at four forest preserves.

BACKGROUND:

This District's idea of "preservation" has evolved since its organization in 1925. In the early 20th century, we thought that installing a fence around a beloved natural area, restricting activities therein and letting-nature take its course, was the best way we could carry out our mission of caring for nature. Now, we know that there is no preservation without active restoration.

Our preserves represent fragments of a much greater landscape. Whereas the land used to be able to reestablish a natural equilibrium after a disturbance, the pieces needed to heal are now often located miles away from the altered landscape (if available at all). Intervention is needed to get these restorative resources where they need to be.

In the face of modern fire suppression and landscape fragmentation, invasive species represent a massive threat to woodland biodiversity. Invasive plant species come in many varieties, but two main distinctions land managers make to categorize management are herbaceous (herb-like, for example: garlic mustard and wild chervil) or woody (a plant that produces wood for structure; shrubs and trees, in essence: buckthorn and honeysuckle).

District staff and contractors annually clear dozens of acres. These clearing projects remove large portions of non-native and invasive woody vegetation from degraded woodlands. The removal of mid- and over-story individuals from a woodland opens the forest floor to sunlight. The sunlight equally favors both beneficial species and invasive non-natives. The contracted work detailed below will target invasive woody species for chemical spot control. Through this process, we will promote desirable plants and restore both the structure and function of the woods. Successive years of effort will reduce the effort and cost needed to maintain these areas in perpetuity.

The District publicly advertised the bid and received four responses. The qualified, lowest bid for each of the four projects are as follows:

Project 1 – Hampshire Forest Preserve – (49.7 acres): Bid of \$27,170.00 by Cardinal State, LLC of Barrington Hills, Illinois.

Project 2 – Hampshire Forest Preserve – (26.4 acres): Bid of \$12,497.00 by Woods to Wetlands, LLC of Streamwood, Illinois.

Project 3 – Burnidge Forest Preserve – (12.2 acres): Bid of \$5,994.60 by Woods to Wetlands, LLC of Streamwood, Illinois.

Project 4 – Grunwald Forest Preserve – (22.6 acres): Bid of \$12,790.00 by Cardinal State, LLC of Barrington Hills, Illinois.

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

Funds totaling \$230,000.00 were budgeted in Fiscal Year 2024/25 for the Fiddlehead Woodland Restoration project at Hampshire Forest Preserve (project #21008). Sufficient funds totaling \$69,180.00 are available in Natural Resources Restoration Account, #03-31-31-7060 to cover projects 1 and 2, for this expense, totaling \$39,667.00.

Funds totaling \$140,000.00 were budgeted in the 2024/25 Fiscal Year for Weed Management. These operating funds will cover Projects 3 and 4. Sufficient funds totaling \$98,470.00 are available in the Natural Resources Account #01-31-31-7064 for this expense, totaling \$18,784.60.

The cost of all projects as presented is \$58,451.60.

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends the Committee approve the bids for herbicide weed management to be conducted at portions of four forest preserves with Woods to Wetlands, LLC of Streamwood, Illinois, for a contract cost of \$18,491.60 for Project 2 and Project 3; and Cardinal State, LLC of Barrington Hills, Illinois, for a contract cost of \$39,960.00 for Project 1 and Project 4, for a combined total project cost of \$58,451.60.

ATTACHMENTS: *Abstract of Bids*
 County Locator Map
 Project Maps

ABSTRACT OF BIDS

SB-FP-23-2324

INVASIVE WOODY RE-SPROUT CONTROL

Sent to 32 Vendors Received 4

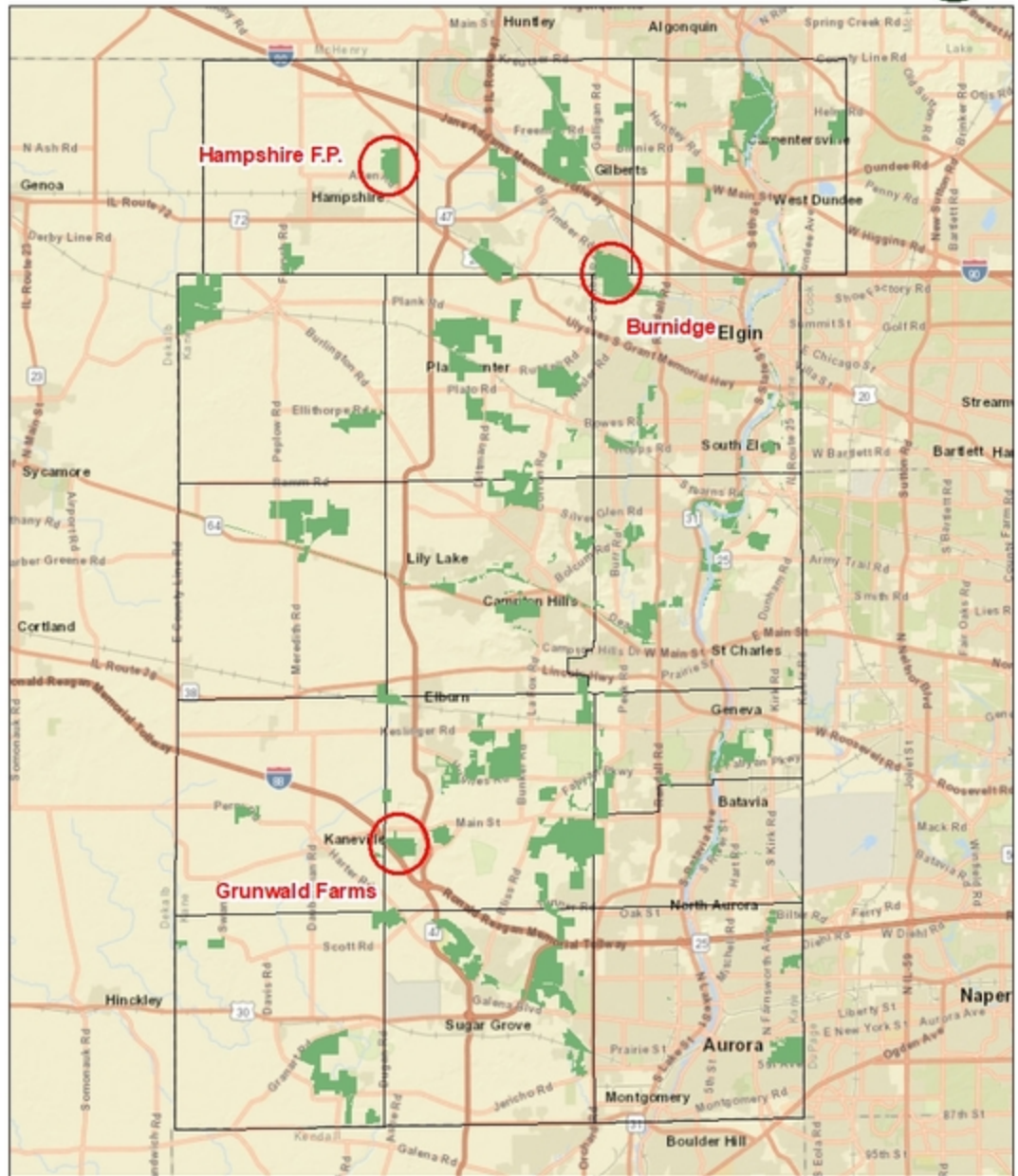
Bidders Name	Woods to Wetlands, LLC	Cardinal State, LLC	Integrated Lakes Management, Inc.	Pizzo and Associates, Ltd.
City, State	Streamwood, IL	Barrington Hills, IL	Waukegan, IL	Leland, IL
Project 1. Woody Re-sprout Treatment 49.7 acres Hampshire Forest Preserve, Hampshire, IL	No Bid	\$27,170.00	\$60,565.00	\$37,999.80
Project 2. Woody Re-sprout Treatment 26.4 acres of Hampshire Forest Preserve, Hampshire, IL	\$12,497.00	\$14,285.00	\$32,170.00	\$20,992.50
Project 3. Woody Re-sprout Treatment 12.2 acres of Burnidge Forest Preserve, Elgin, IL	\$5,994.60	\$7,095.00	\$10,840.00	\$7,702.50
Project 4. Woody Re-sprout Treatment 22.6 acres of Grunwald Forest Preserve, Elburn, IL	No Bid	\$12,790.00	\$20,083.00	\$17,925.00

I have certified that I have opened, read and recorded all bids received in response to the invitatio



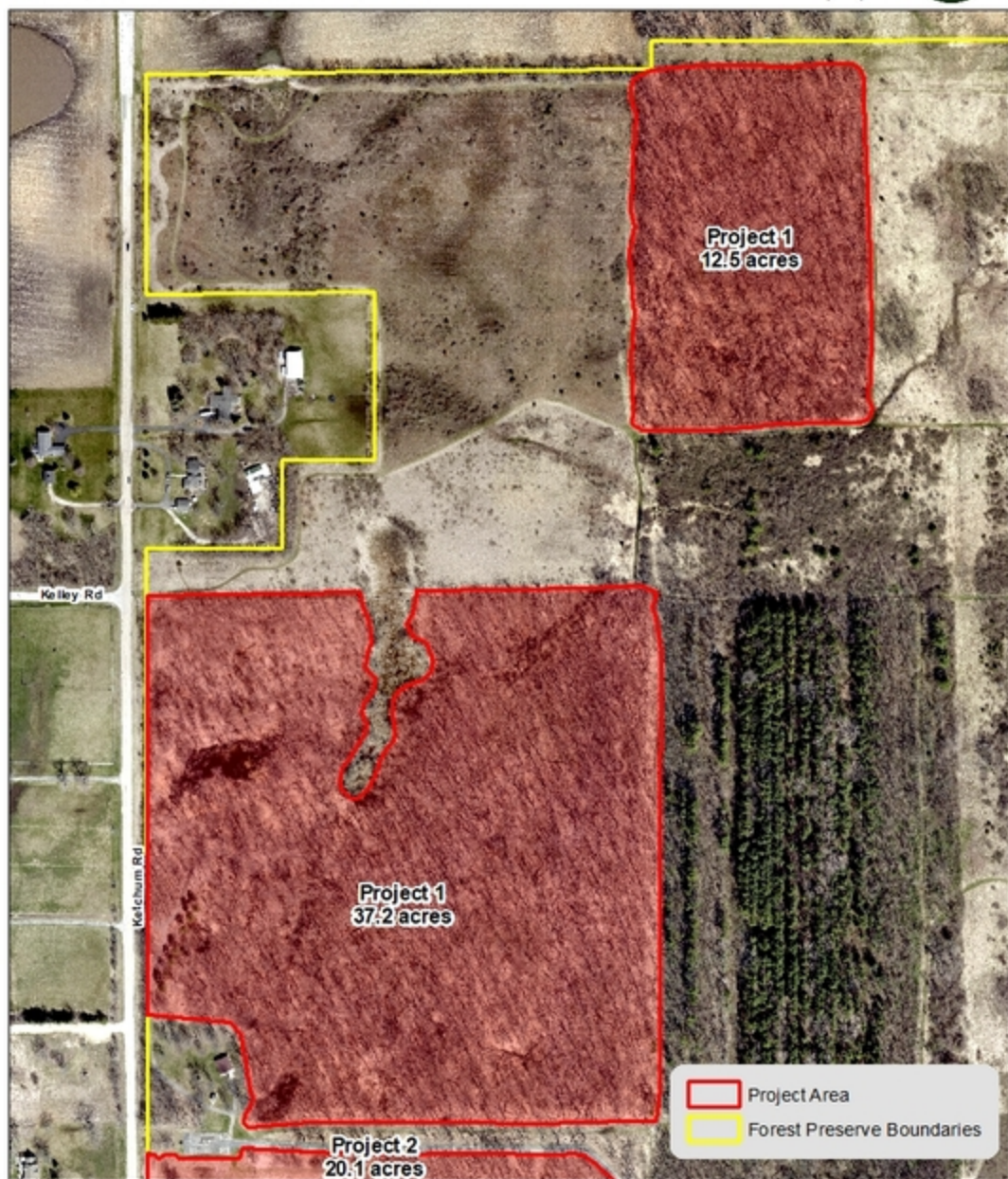
David Petschke, Director of Finance

Woody Resprout Control Kane County Locator Map



Map Created September, 2024; ESRI Basemap

Woody Resprout Control Hampshire Forest Preserve



0 165 330 660 Feet

Map Created July, 2024; 2024 Air Photo

Woody Resprout Control Hampshire Forest Preserve



0 95 190 380 Feet

Map Created July, 2024; 2024 Air Photo

Woody Resprout Control Burnidge Forest Preserve



0 87.5 175 350 Feet

Map Created July, 2024; 2024 Air Photo

Woody Resprout Control Grunwald Forest Preserve



0 115 230 460 Feet

Map Created July, 2024; 2024 Air Photo



AGENDA MEMORANDUM

DATE: September 26, 2024

TO: Forest Preserve District Planning & Utilization Committee

FROM: Benjamin Haberthur, Executive Director

SUBJECT: Presentation and Approval of the Centennial Celebration Public Art Sculpture Project at Johnson's Mound Forest Preserve

PURPOSE:

The purpose of this memorandum is to provide the Committee with information to consider the approval of a public art sculpture built and installed at Johnson's Mound Forest Preserve for the upcoming Centennial Celebration for the Forest Preserve District scheduled on June 8, 2025.

BACKGROUND:

As we approach the 100th anniversary of the Forest Preserve District, we are excited to announce a transformative project at Johnson's Mound Forest Preserve in Elburn. To honor a century of conservation efforts, the District plans to restore 35 acres of agricultural land to its natural state, featuring forests and vibrant prairies. A centerpiece of this initiative is the commissioning of the District's first public art sculpture, which will serve as a focal point for visitors and inspire appreciation for our natural environment. In conjunction with this sculpture, the public will have the opportunity to engage in the restoration of a 12-acre woodland area by planting 800 trees, creating a living legacy of conservation. The Request for Qualifications (RFQ) process was initiated to identify an artist with a proven track record of public art, ensuring the creation of a meaningful and lasting installation. A Centennial Art Committee was created comprised of five staff members, two Forest Preserve Commissioners, the Kane Forest Preserve Foundation Board President and two artists from local arts organizations. This committee evaluated artist submissions based on criteria such as artistic vision, project approach, and relevant experience.

The RFQ process began with a broad call for artists, attracting five submissions from various qualified candidates. Each submission included two to five sketches, project approaches, and relevant experience. After thoroughly reviewing the initial submissions, the artist review committee narrowed the pool to four artists for interviews. During the interview phase, the four artists presented their proposals in detail, allowing the committee to assess their visions and approaches. Following these discussions, the committee refined the selection to three artists, who were asked to create a three-dimensional model of their proposed sculpture. The artists who provided three-dimensional models received a \$1,000 reimbursement for their efforts. This step ensured the committee could evaluate each design's artistic intent and feasibility.

Ultimately, Mike Baur’s submission, which features the sculpture “Guardians,” stood out as the most compelling. His design reflects a deep understanding of the natural environment and its cycles, aligning perfectly with the project’s vision. Inspired by the intricate patterns formed by fallen branches in Midwest forests, Baur’s design features two monoliths crafted from high-strength concrete and steel, capturing the essence of protection and guardianship over our landscapes. Baur will spend the winter months preparing materials and building the formwork in his studio, with installation planned for May 2025. The sculpture is designed to be durable and maintenance-free, aligning with our long-term goals for sustainability and conservation.

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

The selected artist will negotiate a final contract with the District for a total amount not to exceed \$150,000. \$150,000 was budgeted in FY2024/2025 (account 03-35-35-7050 project # 31016) for this expense to include the sculpture's design, materials, and installation costs. Additionally, the District will actively seek sponsorships to help fund the artwork.

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends that the District approve the centennial art committee’s recommendation to commission Mike Baur’s “Guardians” sculpture for an amount not to exceed \$150,000. The sculpture will be unveiled during a public celebration of the District’s centennial anniversary at Johnson’s Mound Forest Preserve on June 8, 2025.

ATTACHMENTS:

Johnson’s Mound Project Location Map

Guardian’s Sketch

Guardian’s Project Approach





Guardians

Proposal
Sculpture by Mike Baur

Johnson's Mound Forest Preserve Kane County

showing possible position

Project Approach: *Guardians*

As seasonal winds pass through Midwest forests, branches and trunks fall and form intricate horizontal patterns and arches. The downed wood is key to the cycle of life, giving nourishment for the next generation of plants and homes for wildlife. I'm inspired by the texture and patterns produced in these moments of renewal and have strived to work the materials into a feature that represents protection and guardianship of our forests and landscapes.

In *Guardians* I envision a horizontal orientation inspired by the blowing prairie wind through the forest. A two-part concrete and steel sculpture large enough to command its space but not so large as to overwhelm the human viewer. *Guardians* shall be composed of two monoliths in proximity to each other similar to the sketches provided. Each unique monolith will be cast in an original mold fabricated with salvaged fallen trees or small invasive saplings cut from my property. The proportions and textures are carefully considered, taken from the very vegetation laid down by our natural weather, to produce a sense of the monumental while still connecting at a personal and human scale. (See my visual support for textures and locations)

Though the original inspiration for this design is the effect of storms passing over forests the final form also invokes humankind's involvement and dependence upon our natural habitat.

To complete this sculpture, I will devote the winter months of October through March to gathering materials and building the formwork in my studio. April will be devoted to preparing the foundations and other site work at Johnson's Mound Forest Preserve and pouring the concrete. The molds will then be removed, and the concrete cleaned and finished on the sculpture in preparation for transport. May will be time for delivery and installation to the prepared site.

I invite all interested parties to visit my studio throughout the process and see progress of various phases. (My studio/property is just east of DuPage Airport)

As previously stated, this sculpture will be constructed of high-strength concrete reinforced with epoxy coated steel and polypropylene fibers. I have been using these materials for 50 years to produce durable public sculpture that requires no maintenance. (see portfolio)