

**State of Illinois Department of Natural Resources
Illinois Youth Recreation Corps Program – FY2014 Grant Application**

GENERAL INFORMATION

Applicant: Wheaton Park District EAV: \$2,080,958,943
Project Title: Invasive Species Removal Specialists Minority Percentage: 16.4%
City where program is located: Wheaton County: DuPage
Senate District: 21 House District: 42
US Congressional District: 6
Federal Employer Identification Number (FEIN): 36-6006155

LOCAL CONTACT INFORMATION

Chief Officer Name: Michael J. Benard Title: Executive Director
Chief Officer Name: John Kelly Title: President
Address: 102 E. Wesley Street City: Wheaton Zip: 60187
Phone: 630-510-4945 Email: mbenard@wheatonparks.org Fax: 630-260-6408
Primary Contact Name: Sarah A. O'Donnell Title: Director of Development
Address: 855 W. Prairie Avenue City: Wheaton Zip: 60187
Phone: 630-510-4986 Email: sodonnell@wheatonparks.org Fax: 630-260-6408

GRANT REQUEST SPECIFICS

Grant Amount Requested: \$14,592.00 (\$9/hour for youth or \$12/hour supervisors) See chart on next page.
Does Applicant have sufficient funds to pay youth until such time as payment is forthcoming from the State? Yes No

Potential youth employment categories and proposed number of youth hired using Grant Funds:
Youth Supervisors: yes no # Youth Instructors: yes no # Managing Supervisors: yes no # 1
Instructional Aides: yes no # Maintenance Personnel: yes no # 4 Total Hires: 5

Does Applicant currently operate a summer youth conservation or recreation program: yes no
If yes, number of youth between ages of 14 to 18 currently employed: 301
If no, has the Applicant operated a similar program within the past 18 months: yes no

Population served by the Applicant: 53,469
Acres managed by the Applicant for youth conservation or recreation activities: 800
Number of programs operated for youth conservation or recreation: 2500
Does Applicant have sufficient supervision and operational capacity to support youth workers hired under this Grant: yes no
If YES, proposed ratio of supervisors to youth hires: 1:4 (1 supervisor per 10 workers maximum). Example: 8 hires may have 1 supervisor, 13 hires may have 2 supervisors, 20 hires may have 2 supervisors)

Provide complete and concise responses to the following questions:

1. Scope of Work – describe how proposed funds will be used for the recreational project and the role of the eligible youth.
Funds received from this program will be utilized to hire and train one supervisor and four youths to assist with conservation efforts throughout Wheaton Park District and include activities surrounding the identification, control, and removal of invasive species such as garlic mustard, creeping charlie, and buckthorn. These invasive species identified in a report published by the Illinois Natural History Survey, are a severe threat and inhibits the growth of other necessary plants in natural areas. Youth hires would be responsible for such efforts at Lincoln Marsh conservation area as well as at local public parks and facilities operated by Wheaton Park District.

Is project for recreational programs only? Yes No Maintenance only? Yes No OR Both? Yes No
2. Describe the local resources available to successfully operate the program – describe facilities, materials and management:
As a four-time nationally recognized Gold Medal Agency by the National Parks & Recreation Association, Wheaton Park District maintains a high level of commitment to the community for the operation and care of over 50 park sites, 12 recreation facilities, and thousands of programs. Wheaton Park District is equipped with the necessary structures and equipment to ensure public safety and community conservation efforts are upheld. This is accomplished through the provision of services that encompasses emergency action plans, equipment use procedures, general operation policies, budget documents, maintenance logs, and annual reports.

3. Describe the demographics of the community and the youth to be served by the recreational project:
 This project seeks to benefit the nearly one million people of varying financial, race, gender, and age demographics who are served by Wheaton Park District through its facilities, parks, and recreation programs. According to the US Census, Wheaton's population comprises of 23.8% of people under 18 years of age and more than 6,940 households with youth under 18 years old. Wheaton spans over 11 miles of land and the Park District's amenities are located near major highway transportation corridors, Metra railway, and other public transit systems.
4. Describe the need for youth employment in the community:
 According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, 24.1% of persons between the ages of 16-19 years of age are considered unemployed. Considering Wheaton Park District generally draws visitation and employment from the DuPage County region, this could account for 15,741 youths seeking employment, and more specifically, 950 youths from the Wheaton community.
5. Describe how this grant will enhance recreational activities for facilities in the community:

This grant will provide assistance for the care of facilities and parks enjoyed by more than one million people annually.

Exhibit A: Detailed Budget Estimate for Grant Amount Requested

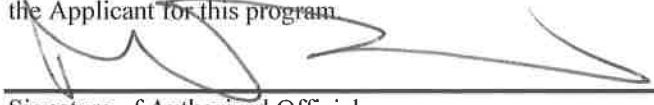
Work Item/Project_Location	# of Workers	Estimated Hours	Wage Rate	Estimated Expenditure
Youth Maintenance Staff	4	304	\$9.00	\$10,944.00
			\$9.00	\$0.00
			\$9.00	\$0.00
			\$9.00	\$0.00
			\$9.00	\$0.00
			\$9.00	\$0.00
			\$9.00	\$0.00
Totals	4	304		\$10,944.00
Managing Supervisors (ratio 1:10)	1	304	\$12.00	\$3,648.00
Totals	5	608		\$14,592.00

Anticipated Expenditures by Month:

June: \$4,416.00 July: \$6,336.00 August: \$3,840.00

Certification of Hires under Illinois Youth Recreation Corps

All enrollees under the Illinois Youth Recreation Corps Program shall be new hires of the Applicant. No enrollee funded through this grant shall be currently employed in any manner by the Applicant. By signature on the line below, the Applicant certifies that this provision of the grant shall be fully enforced. Per the Illinois Grant Funds Recovery Act (30 ILCS 705), failure to comply with this provision will result in immediate termination of any grant agreement and require immediate reimbursement of all funds provided to the Applicant for this program.



 Signature of Authorized Official
 Michael J. Benard

 Signator Name (printed)
 Executive Director 4/14/2014

 Signator Title (printed) Date

- I have read and understand the Grant Instructions and will comply with all terms and provisions listed therein.
- I understand that employer taxes are not covered by the grant funds.
- All information in the application is true and accurate to the best of my knowledge.