



EXISTING OPEN SPACE—PRESERVED & PUBLIC

EXISTING OPEN SPACE—PRESERVED & PRIVATE

PROPOSED PRAIRIE PARKWAY CORRIDOR

OPEN SPACE OPPORTUNITIES

ADDITIONAL OPEN SPACE OPPORTUNITIES

EXISTING TRAILS

FUTURE TRAILS

STREAMS AND RIVERS

WATERBODIES

POLITICAL TOWNSHIPS

MUNICIPALITIES

ROADS

RAILROADS

SECTION LINES

BOUNDARY AGREEMENTS

Existing Open Space—Preserved & Public

Existing Open Space—Preserved & Private

Open Space Opportunities

Oswego Park District; Plainfield; Plano; Yorkville; Lisbon & Seward Townships, Northern Three Townships.

Existing Open Space—Preserved & Private includes Illinois State Natural Areas and Nature Preserves; Kendall County Subdivision Open Space.

Open Space Opportunities includes a 150-foot buffer along all streams in Kendall County (except within the legal planning boundaries).

of Joliet where streams are buffered by 100 feet; Wetlands from US Fish and Wildlife's National Wetlands Inventory; 100-year FEMA Floodzones (except within the legal planning boundaries of Joliet); Plainfield Greenways and Recreational Areas including 50-foot roadway buffers along Wikaduke, County Line, Western, Prairie Point; a 100-foot roadway buffer along Walker Road; Oswego Park District Future Community Parks and Future Greenways; Oswego Planning Areas 5, 6, & 7; Montgomery

Conservation and Private Open Space; future open space and land currently not protected from: Aurora; Joliet; Minooka; Plano; Yorkville; Big Grove Township; Fox & Kendall Townships; Lisbon & Seward Townships; Na-Au-Say Township; Northern Three Townships.

Additional Open Space Opportunities includes natural areas and open spaces digitized by Corlands and approved by the Steering Committee.

Trails includes Kendall County Trails & Greenway Plan; Aurora Trails; Montgomery Trails; Oswego Trails; Oswego Park District Trails; Plainfield Trails.

Streams, Rivers, & Waterbodies from the USGS's High Resolution National Hydrography Dataset; Wetlands from US Fish and Wildlife's National Wetlands Inventory; Floodzones from FEMA.

NATURAL TREASURES OF KENDALL COUNTY

Open Space and Natural Areas Plan

OPEN SPACE GOALS

- Preserve the character of Kendall County as the county and its municipalities grow.
- Conserve lands for their natural and recreational values.
- Protect the quality of riparian areas in Kendall County, particularly the Fox River, and the County's two Class A streams: Aux Sable Creek and Big Rock Creek.
- Preserve Kendall County's high quality natural areas.

PUBLIC PARTNERS

City of Aurora	Kendall County	Oswegoland Park District	Village of Montgomery
City of Plano	Forest Preserve District	Plainfield Park District	Village of Newark
Kendall County	Kendall County	United City of Yorkville	Village of Oswego
	Soil & Water	Village of Millington	Village of Plainfield
	Conservation District	Village of Minooka	

CONSERVATION GROUPS

Aux Sable Creek Watershed Coalition	Big Rock Creek Watershed Committee	Fox Valley Land Foundation	Friends of the Fox River
	Corlands/Openlands	Fox River Ecosystem Partnership	The Conservation Foundation

OTHER ORGANIZATIONS

Inland Real Estate Development, LLC Kendall Citizens for Farmland Protection Plano Economic Dev. Corporation

PROTECT KENDALL NOW! STEERING COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Liz Aicher Fox Valley Land Foundation	Jerry Dudgeon Kendall County	Tom Karpus City of Plano	Jason Pettit Kendall County Forest Preserve District
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Jim Donahue Village of Plainfield	Kay Hatcher Kendall County Forest Preserve District	Tracy Ramsay McDonnell Office of State Representative Patricia Reid Linder	Dick Young Kendall County Resident
	Nancy Hubbard Oswegoland Park District	Bart Olson United City of Yorkville	

Coordinated By:

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Our land. Our future. Act NOW!

Fox River, Yorkville, Illinois: Photo Courtesy of Paul Burd. Positive Approach Publishing, Inc.

THE URGENCY

to protect open space in Kendall County has never been greater. This project responds to that call with a collaborative and comprehensive open space vision. Local governments and organizations participated in and supported this initiative.

BENEFITS OF OPEN SPACE

PROTECTION OF ENVIRONMENTAL FEATURES

- **Reduced stormwater runoff and flooding** by using natural stream buffers that absorb water and inhibit otherwise fast- and free-flowing polluted water. By permanently protecting floodplain areas (and nearby lands) as open space, they can soak up and store water as it falls as well as absorb precipitation running off of roads, driveways, and rooftops. This reduces flood damage to private property, residences and other structures.

The flood of 1996 damaged many properties in Kendall County and initiated several watershed plans. The central recommendation in the plans was the use of natural techniques for stormwater management.

- **Improved water quality.** Native plants found along waterways and in wetlands naturally filter and absorb pollutants. This helps to meet the Environmental Protection Agency's National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Phase II requirements by eliminating such pollutants.

There are many native wetland plants that are known to absorb pollutants including: Hard Stem Bulrush (*Scirpus acutus*), Soft Stem Bulrush (*Scirpus validus creber*), River Bulrush (*Scirpus fluviatilis*) Duck and Pond weeds

- **Continued wildlife viability.** Food, water, and migratory corridors for many species of wildlife are protected through open space preservation.
- **Improved air quality.** Plants naturally create oxygen and filter out air pollutants such as ozone, sulfur dioxide, carbon monoxide and airborne particles of heavy metals.



CHOICE IN MODE OF TRAVEL

Networks of open space and trails connect people with places, allowing them to consider alternatives such as biking, running, or walking among their destinations. Using other modes of travel can reduce roadway congestion.

IMPROVED MENTAL AND PHYSICAL HEALTH

Studies show thirty minutes a day of moderately intense exercise can improve one's health. Physical activity improves mood and prevents disabilities and chronic diseases. By using trails and open space, residents can have the added benefits of improved mental and physical health.

ECONOMIC VITALITY

- **Fewer public expenditures on:**
 - engineered solutions to stormwater management and flooding control;
 - water quality protection; and
 - erosion prevention.
- **Increased property values.** A study by Pennsylvania State University in June 2003 reported that within 400 meters of a house, the land use that had the most positive impact on house price was protected open space.
- **Job creation.** According to Economic Benefits of Parks and Open Space, published in 2002 by Steve Lerner and William Poole, corporate CEOs say quality of life for employees is the third-most-important factor in locating a business. It ranks below access to domestic markets and availability of skilled labor. Owners of small companies ranked recreation/parks and open space as the highest priority in choosing a new location for their business.
- **Tourism.** Open space becomes a cultural asset and focal point for community activities. County Board Chair John Church recently formed a tourism committee to identify tourism opportunities in Kendall County that promote its rural character, agrarian history, significant historical places, and recreational activities.

In a 1992 study, the National Park Service estimated the average economic activity generated with three multi-purpose trails in Florida, California, and Iowa was \$1.5 million annually.

PROTECT KENDALL NOW!

In Spring 2005 The Conservation Foundation obtained funding for a project called *Protect Kendall Now!*. The project's goal is to increase the pace of land conservation in Kendall County, recognizing that Kendall County's population is expected to increase 223% by 2030. With that population growth comes continued development of land. This project seeks to keep pace with development by identifying lands to be preserved and then working with landowners to protect them. It anticipates that competition for use of undeveloped lands will intensify since land is a fixed resource in both quantity and location. *Protect Kendall Now!* supports the efforts to conserve open space that have been and continue to be demonstrated by Kendall County, the Kendall County Forest Preserve District, all municipalities in Kendall County, as well as its park districts.

The IDOT Prairie Parkway baseline analysis data estimates Kendall County will reach a population of 176,608 people by 2030.

After getting some encouragement from Kendall County and various municipalities, The Conservation Foundation initiated this project to increase awareness of the urgency to protect land as well as to provide more education on land preservation options. *Protect Kendall Now!* includes three initial phases:

1. Develop a unified Kendall County Open Space and Natural Areas Plan.
2. Conduct a multi-faceted public awareness campaign to increase awareness of the need and urgency to protect open space.
3. Engage interested landowners/developers in exploring permanent land preservation options.

The Open Space and Natural Areas Map is not a zoning map. It acts in the same fashion as a comprehensive plan. The Plan utilizes existing plans by identifying opportunities to connect open space among the various communities to maximize environmental and recreational benefits. This approach is recommended in numerous community comprehensive plans.

This plan transcends the density debate, individual open space percentage requirements of each community in Kendall County, and siting locations for park or forest preserve lands. It does not mandate a uniform approach throughout the county, however it does establish a county-wide vision for a coordinated open space network seeking to preserve high quality natural lands, environmentally sensitive areas, and connections among open space lands. In addition, it forms the basis to work with individual landowners and developers to preserve lands in Kendall County. This plan sets a long range vision for a county-wide open space system. It can be a policy document to guide decisions and a resource to realize that vision.



WHAT IS OPEN SPACE?

It can be defined several ways. For years, the primary land use in Kendall County has been agricultural. While farmland is a form of open space, it can experience development pressures especially when located at the suburban fringe. It is neither open to the public nor can it be guaranteed to remain undeveloped. In a county setting, protected public open space is typically in the form of a Forest Preserve. In a municipal setting, it is typically a park. This Plan includes both types. An inclusive definition of open space that fits all scenarios found in the county and this plan's vision is: Lands in an open or natural state (that contain significant environmental, aesthetic, or cultural features that are worthy of conservation and protection), recreational lands, or areas already permanently protected. Examples of areas that fall within this definition are prairies, nature preserves, floodplains, wetlands, forests, parks, forest preserves, greenways, and farmland. Parenthetically, many of the local governing jurisdictions exclude park space, detention, conservation easements, floodplain, or other restricted areas in a density calculation. That is not addressed with this plan. Open space can be passive or active. Passive areas may include floodplains, wetlands, greenways, and other natural areas that offer protection to the region's flora and fauna. Active open space may include recreation areas such as forest preserves, parks, playgrounds, trails, community recreational buildings, golf courses, and equestrian facilities.

Open space includes lands in an open or natural state (that contain significant environmental, aesthetic, or cultural features that are worthy of conservation and protection), recreational lands, or areas already permanently protected.

HOW MUCH OPEN SPACE SHOULD WE PRESERVE?



At the writing of this plan approximately 4,695 acres of land are permanently protected as public open space in Kendall County. There are a number of acres preserved privately; not all have been documented by the project partners and therefore this Plan does not identify the number of privately preserved acres in Kendall County. It does identify those for which

data were readily available. The prevailing question in open space planning is: "How much should we preserve?" There are varying opinions on the appropriate quantity as well as whether it should be measured by amount, population, or distribution. Many local agencies have set a standard of 20-30 percent open space in all new residential subdivisions. The amount of open space desired could also be expressed in terms of population; many area park districts require 7.5-10 acres per 1,000 people to be donated as park land and the Forest Preserve District requires 10 acres per 1,000 people. A distribution approach would be to set a goal to have a park/forest preserve located every six blocks, for example.

The Steering Committee felt it more appropriate to discuss what should be preserved and what should be connected in the County. The yardstick for this Plan is to preserve what is already identified in existing plans and natural areas in the County. The areas specifically considered by the Steering Committee as ones to be protected include:

- Rivers
- Streams
- Wetlands
- Endangered species
- Forested areas
- Remnant prairies
- Scenic vistas
- Trails
- Unique natural areas
- Lands that protect water quality
- Recreation areas



The Steering Committee also felt that a majority of the items listed above needed a buffer zone. Buffer zones should protect a resource from encroachment by detrimental uses. The width of the buffer would depend upon the quality of the resource, its location, and local ordinances.

HOW THE MAP WAS CREATED

The Kendall County Open Space and Natural Areas map combines existing information to provide a county-wide view of its open space opportunities. It builds from there recognizing opportunities to enhance the open space network by identifying unprotected natural areas and by connecting open space. It is not a zoning map. The purpose is to identify special places and set a vision that will enable them to be treasured forever.

CREATION OF THE MAP INCLUDED THE FOLLOWING STEPS:

1. Compiling all existing planning data.

- Kendall County Land Resource Management Plan
- Kendall County Trails & Greenways Plan
- municipal comprehensive plans
- municipal open space plans
- forest preserve district data
- park district data

2. Converting planning data into GIS.

Data were in various formats including AutoCAD, MicroStation, and ArcView. All data were converted into a Geographic Information System (GIS). GIS is a computerized system for entering, storing, analyzing, and displaying spatial or mapped data. GIS is widely used as a planning tool; agencies in Kendall County either have or are planning to use GIS. By converting the data into this system, more analysis potential is available with the data collected.



3. Adding existing natural areas data.

- 100-year flood zone (Federal Emergency Management Agency)
- USGS National Hydrography Dataset (for surface water features)
- Land cover (USDA National Agriculture Statistics Service, Illinois Department of Natural Resources, and Illinois Department of Agriculture)
- Corporation for Open Lands 2004 research on prairie remnants, fens, and wetland remnants
- Nature Preserves (Illinois Department of Natural Resources)
- Illinois Natural Areas Inventory (Illinois Department of Natural Resources)
- Endangered and threatened species (Illinois Department of Natural Resources)
- Properties with significant natural resources as documented by the Kendall Natural Area Guardians (KNAGs) in 1996
- Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP) Sections (from the Farm Service Agency)
- Approximate point locations of sites listed on the National Historic Register
- Approximate point locations of cemetery and/or burial grounds in Kendall County (Illinois State Genealogical Society)

4. Reclassifying data into appropriate open space categories.

Most planning entities use open space designations specific to their plan. This Plan consolidated the various categories into three main groups (Note: No data provided by project partners were modified or manipulated. Data were simply reclassified into categories used on this Plan.)

- "Existing Open Space – Preserved & Public" are lands owned by the State, Kendall County Forest Preserve District, or municipalities/park districts. Approximately 4,695 acres are within this category.
- "Existing Open Space – Preserved & Private" includes lands with conservation easements or nature preserves. These are permanently protected, yet remain in private ownership. Not all of these lands are shown on the map due to their small size or incomplete information.
- "Open Space Opportunity" is the classification used for lands identified in existing county/municipal/recreational plans for open space. Much of that incorporates floodplain areas, but not in all cases. Approximately 31,860 acres are within this classification.

Many local agencies have set a standard of 20-30 percent open space in all new residential subdivisions. Implementation of this plan would permanently preserve 21 percent of Kendall County as open space. This plan provides those agencies with the information to implement that standard.

5. Identifying "Additional Open Space Opportunities."

This category identifies opportunities to link open space from the various plans and to preserve significant natural resources not identified in other plans. The Steering Committee identified these opportunities by reviewing the data described above. These areas go beyond that which has already been identified by the County or municipalities. Approximately 5,580 acres are within this category.

Aspects that could not be considered due to lack of available digitized data, include: steep slopes, hydric soils, and recharge areas. When this information is digitally available, those areas can be included with updates to this Plan.

PLAN IMPLEMENTATION



The goals of this Plan are to preserve the county's character, conserve lands with natural and recreational values, protect the quality of riparian areas, and keep the county's high quality natural areas. Below are several strategies to achieve those goals:

- Coordinate efforts among public agencies, conservation, historic, agricultural, and other related groups to achieve economies of scale and maximize preservation and open space opportunities.
- Place open space network planning at the forefront of development designs.
- Continue to improve and coordinate local planning efforts.
- Encourage conservation design developments that reserve large areas of open space and locate residential development in less pristine areas of the land.
- Balance open space preservation with demand for development.

The Kendall County Open Space and Natural Areas Plan acts in the same manner as a comprehensive plan. It is not a zoning map. It identifies special places and sets a vision to maintain them as open space. The map may not have identified all opportunities, therefore if others arise that are not on the map, they should be considered according to the approach used in this plan. This plan is not intended to limit opportunities; there will always be more, but it sets a minimum vision for the county.

Implementation will occur through coordinated and collaborative efforts by the project partners. It will require creative approaches to leverage funds for acquisition or reach agreements on lands to be developed. At other times it may involve regulatory agencies such as the US Army Corps of Engineers, Illinois Department of Natural Resources, or the Environmental Protection Agency. The following discusses key approaches by which implementation may occur.

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

Outright purchase or donation or partial donation of land are common forms of open space protection. The Kendall County Forest Preserve District passed a \$5 million dollar referendum in 2002 for property acquisition. Land is also acquired by the Forest Preserve District and park districts through a land-cash donation requirement when a property develops. Many area park districts require 7.5-10 acres per 1,000 people to be donated as park land. The Forest Preserve requires 10 acres per 1,000 people. Open spaces identified on this plan should be priority protection areas for these donated lands. Those open spaces along the Fox River and along main creek branches such as: Blackberry Creek, Rob Roy Creek, Morgan Creek, West Aux Sable Creek, Middle Aux Sable Creek, East Aux Sable Creek, Big Rock Creek, Little Rock Creek, Hollenback Creek, and Waubonsie Creek should have stronger consideration for public ownership. Furthermore, public ownership of all islands in the Fox River is encouraged.

There are a number of funding sources and options for open lands acquisition. Implementation of this plan at a regional/local government level could include:

- Sales Tax
- Impact Fee
- Open Space Referendum
- Real Estate Transfer Tax
- Transfer or Purchase of Development Rights (Note: In order to use transfer of development in Illinois, the State must pass enabling legislation.)

In addition to the methods listed above, grants are often sought for land acquisition. By establishing the Kendall County Open Space & Natural Areas Plan, the project partners can show desired lands are part of a county-wide open space network when seeking such funding. There are many sources of funding; some common sources are listed below, however there are many others.

- Open Space Lands Acquisition and Development (OSLAD) Program, through the Illinois Department of Natural Resources (www.dnr.state.il.us)
- Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) Grant Program, through the Illinois Department of Natural Resources (www.dnr.state.il.us)

- Trail Grant Program, through the Illinois Department of Natural Resources (www.dnr.state.il.us)
- Conservation 2000 through the Illinois Department of Natural Resources (<http://dnr.state.il.us/orep/c2000/>)
- Kodak American Greenways Awards Program (www.conservationfund.org)
- North American Wetlands Conservation Act through the US Fish and Wildlife Service (www.fws.gov)
- River Network's Watershed Assistance Grants Program has links to over 200 grant sources (www.rivernetwork.com)
- Friends of Illinois Parks has links to over 100 grant sources (www.ilparks.org/friends.htm)

Conservation organizations such as The Conservation Foundation, Fox Valley Land Foundation, CorLands/Openlands, The Conservation Fund, Trust for Public Land, and American Farmland Trust are available to assist with land preservation efforts. Such organizations provide working knowledge of how to leverage funds for land preservation, staff that can cooperatively accomplish protection needs, and the desire to actively participate in land preservation activities.



PRIVATE CONSERVATION

Conservation easements are a voluntary form of private open space preservation. A conservation easement is a legal agreement between a landowner and a nonprofit conservation group or qualified public agency that permanently restricts development of the land to ensure that the owner's conservation goals are upheld. A conservation easement can guarantee that the trees on a property won't be cut down, for instance, or that the property will remain farmland. This type of easement endures even if the land is sold or passed on to heirs. It protects the natural character that makes the land special. One or more of the following criteria must be met in order to qualify for a conservation easement:

- Preserve habitat for endangered or threatened species,
- Contribute to the ecological viability of another park or natural area that is publicly owned or otherwise protected,
- Provide for public access for recreation or outdoor education,
- Be identified in the Illinois Natural Areas Inventory, and/or
- Be part of a local, state or federal policy or plan to conserve wildlife habitat or open space, restore or protect lakes and streams or protect scenic areas.

Being identified on the Kendall County Open Space & Natural Areas Plan can assist these landowners in qualifying for the tax benefits of a conservation easement. By putting a conservation easement in place, a landowner can qualify for tax benefits which can sometimes be significant. These benefits include charitable deductions, property tax reductions, and estate tax benefits.

Private protection can also be achieved through voluntary designation of a Nature Preserve. High-quality natural areas in private, corporate, or government ownership can be dedicated as an Illinois Nature Preserve. This program is run by the Department of Natural Resources. Such an agreement may result in financial benefits to the landowner, primarily in the form of a charitable contribution deduction on federal income taxes and a local property tax reduction. The biggest benefit to the landowner is the assurance that their cherished land will be permanently preserved while still allowing them to enjoy ownership and pass it on to their heirs.

Limited private protection can also be achieved through several USDA programs such as the Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP), Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP), Wetlands Reserve Program (WRP), Farm and Ranchlands Protection Program (FRPP), and the Wildlife Habitat Incentives Program (WHIP). Most, but not all, of these programs apply to agricultural lands, however they could potentially apply to natural areas or be combined with other programs to maximize land conservation. They operate similarly to other forms of private conservation in that they use an agreement to maintain the land under specific conservation practices for which funds were provided, typically ranging from five to twenty year commitments. These programs can help agricultural producers and other private land owners protect environmentally sensitive land, decrease erosion, restore wildlife habitat, and safeguard ground and surface water.



CONSERVATION ORIENTED DEVELOPMENT

While this statement may seem like an oxymoron, it is another method to protect natural areas. Development is occurring and we can turn that into an opportunity to permanently protect lands. Developments employing conservation design principles will preserve sensitive areas, be environmentally sustainable, and have lower infrastructure installation and maintenance costs than conventional development. This is true for both residential and commercial developments.

Many governing entities require a percentage of developing land to be maintained as open space and also require land-cash donations to the park/forest preserve districts. That open space should match this Plan.

CONCLUSION

The Open Space and Natural Areas Plan was developed through a Steering Committee who cooperatively defined open space, set open space goals, and identified appropriate areas to preserve and connect open space throughout Kendall County. It sets a long range vision for a county-wide open space system. It can be a policy document to guide decisions and a resource to realize that system. This Plan builds on the efforts to protect open space by Kendall County, the Kendall County Forest Preserve District, all municipalities in Kendall County, as well as its park districts because it uses the comprehensive plans from each entity as the basis for the map. Using information gathered from a variety of resources, it also identifies environmentally sensitive areas and lands with high natural quality.

The urgency to protect open space in Kendall has never been greater. We must act now.

RESOURCES

A Conservation Plan for Kendall & Grundy, Openlands, April 2004

Aurora Comprehensive Plan

Aux Sable Creek Watershed Plan, 2001

Big Rock Creek Watershed Plan, 2002

Biologically & Culturally Significant Features of Kendall County, April 1999 published by the Illinois Department of Natural Resources

Blackberry Creek Watershed Plan, September 1999

Conservation and Recreation Lands (CARL), Ducks Unlimited, 2004

Chicago Wilderness Green Infrastructure Vision

Conservation Easements, A Legacy of Land, Fox Land Alliance

CREP: Farm Service Agency, accessed 10/4/05, www.fsa.usda.gov/dafp/cepd/crep.htm

Department of Agricultural Economics and Rural Sociology, Pennsylvania State University, Staff Paper 363, June 2003, The Impact of Open Space and Potential Local Disamenities on Residential Property Values in Berks County, Pennsylvania.

Federal Emergency Management Agency, floodzone data, 1995

Fox River Ecosystem Partnership Integrated Management Plan, 1999

Illinois Department of Natural Resources Threatened & Endangered Species Sections

Illinois Department of Transportation Prairie Parkway Phase I C 2030 baseline analysis, December 2005

Illinois Gap Analysis Project Land Cover, 1999-2000

Illinois Natural Areas Inventory Sites

Illinois Nature Preserves Commission, accessed 10/4/05 <http://dnr.state.il.us/INPC/index.htm>

Illinois State Genealogical Society, Cemetery Location Project www.rootsweb.com/~ilsgs/ilcemeteryal/kendall.html

Joliet Comprehensive Plan, 2005

Kendall County Forest Preserve District Master Plan, November 2000

Kendall County Land Resource Management Plan, December 2005

Kendall County Scenic Route Guidelines, February 2004

Kendall County Trails and Greenways Plan, 2004

Kendall Natural Areas Guardians (KNAGs) list of sites to protect, 1996

Montgomery Land Use Development Plan; Park, Recreation, and Conservation Plan; and Boundary Agreement Exhibit

Native Habitat Inventory of Lower Fox, 1999

Nationally Registered Historic Sites (<http://www.nationalregisterofhistoricplaces.com/IL/Kendall/state.html>)

Northeast Illinois Water Trails 2004

Oswego Comprehensive Plan, Areas 5, 6, & 7, pending adoption in 2006

Oswego Comprehensive Plan, Corridor Plan, pending adoption in 2006

Plainfield Open Space Plan, October 2005

Plano Comprehensive Plan, July 2005

Saving America's Countryside: A Guide to Rural Conservation by Samuel N. Stokes, A. Elizabeth Watson, and Shelley S. Mastran

Trails & Greenways Clearinghouse, accessed 11/11/05 www.trailsandgreenways.org

USGS National Hydrography Dataset, 2004 <http://nhd.usgs.gov/>

US Fish & Wildlife Service National Wetlands Inventory, 1977, <http://wetlandsfws.er.usgs.gov>

US Census Bureau, (<http://factfinder.census.gov>)

Vision Statements from Kendall County Growth Conference, November 2001

Waubonsie Creek Watershed Plan, 1996

Yorkville Comprehensive Plan, 1994

Yorkville Southern Area Comprehensive Plan 2005

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