

Quarterly Newsletter of the Environmental Defenders of McHenry County

EarthConnect

Celebrating 55 Years: Grounded in our legacy, uplifting our community



See back for more
information
about our Waste
Reduction efforts.

Table of Contents

01 A Note from our Director	2
02 2026 Annual Fundraising Auction	3
03 Bringing the County Community Fridges	4
04 The Green Bookstores	5
05 Take-Aways from the Styrofoam Recycling Program	6
06 MCSEEP	8
07 U.S. Clean Energy Transition	9
08 Our Craft and Sip at Kishwaukee Brewing	10
09 Solar Project Update	11
10 Interactive Watershed Mapping Tool	12
11 Kishwaukee Headwaters Restoration Grant	13
12 Pioneer Christmas Tree Farm	14

01

A Note from our Director

As winter settles across McHenry County and a new year begins, I find myself reflecting with deep gratitude on the persistent engagement that has shaped the Environmental Defenders of McHenry County. This March, our organization celebrates 55 years of advocacy, stewardship, and community partnership. Since 1971, generations of Defenders have carried a simple but powerful belief: that caring for our land, water, and shared environment is both a responsibility and a privilege.

Our anniversary theme “Grounded in Our Legacy, Uplifting Our Community” captures the spirit of this milestone year. We stand firmly on the foundation built by those who came before us: the volunteers who organized recycling drives before curbside service existed; the advocates who protected natural areas now cherished by families; the educators who helped young people cultivate a lifelong connection to the earth. Their efforts form the roots of everything we accomplish today.

Yet this theme also looks forward. To be grounded is not to stand still. It means drawing strength from our past to nurture new growth, new programs, new partnerships, and new voices rising to meet the environmental challenges of our time. In 2026, our focus is on expanding our community impact: deepening our conservation efforts, enhancing environmental education across ages, and strengthening the sustainable practices that help McHenry County thrive.

You'll notice this spirit in everything we do this year from highlighting our rich history, to celebrating dedicated members, and welcoming our membership and broader community to Defender events. You'll also see it in our ongoing work from our recycling and waste reduction initiatives to watershed protection projects, to our advocacy for policies that safeguard the natural resources we all depend on.

Most importantly, you'll see it in you, our members, volunteers, donors, and partners. Your passion fuels this organization. Your dedication uplifts our community. And your commitment ensures that the next generation will inherit a county where natural beauty is not merely admired but actively protected.

As we step into the year ahead, I invite you to join us in honoring our legacy and energizing our future. Whether you attend an event, lend a hand at a clean-up, participate in an educational opportunity, or simply share our mission with a neighbor, you are helping write the next chapter of the Defenders' story.

Thank you for being part of this remarkable journey. Together, we remain proudly and purposefully *grounded in our legacy, uplifting our community*.

Warm winter wishes,
Erin Kennedy

2026 Annual Fundraising Auction

Your Generosity Makes a Difference

Written by Anne Basten, Fundraising Action Team Chair

We are excited to announce our 2026 Annual Online Fundraising Auction, and we need your help to make it a success! This event is only possible thanks to the generosity of donors like you. All proceeds from the auction go directly toward supporting our ongoing programs, staffing, and helping us impact the community we serve.

SEEKING DONATIONS OF ALL KINDS

Do you have a creative flair, a special talent, or access to unique experiences? We are seeking donations of all kinds for this year's auction, including:

Gift baskets (themed, gourmet, spa, etc.)

Handmade items (artwork, crafts, jewelry, quilts, and more)

Experiences (private lessons, tours, tickets to events, vacation rentals, and more)

Gift cards from local businesses

Services (photography, home improvement, wellness sessions, etc.)

Homemade/homegrown delicacies (jams, eggs, breads, pies, cakes, etc.)

And much more—your imagination is the limit!

IMPORTANT DATES

Donation Due Date: February 13, 2026

Auction Start: February 20, 2026 at 8:00 AM

Auction End: March 6, 2026, at a time to be determined.

HOW TO DONATE

Donating is simple! Please contact the Fundraising team at basten1@sbcglobal.net to discuss your ideas and/or submit a description of your donation. Please drop off your donation at the Defender's office at 114 S Jefferson St, Woodstock (call 815.338.0393 to make sure someone is there to receive your item).

WHY YOUR SUPPORT MATTERS

Every donation—big or small—helps us reach our fundraising goal and ensures we can continue our vital work throughout the year. Plus, your contribution will be featured in our online catalog, giving you or your business great exposure to our community of supporters. Thank you for considering a donation to our 2026 Annual Online Fundraising Auction.

Together, we can make this event our best yet!

HOW CAN YOU BID ON DONATED ITEMS?

Before the auction goes live, the EDMC staff will send out an email giving you the link to start reviewing the items up for auction and start bidding. Watch for this to happen starting before the bid opening date. Bid high and often to make this a memorable fundraiser!



Bringing the County Community Fridges

Tackling Food Insecurity and Reducing Food Waste

Written by Cecilia Carman, Waste Reduction Action Team Co-Chair

Beep Beep! What's that sound?

It's a truck delivering our County's very first Community Fridges. Both fridges are now open at the Nippersink Library in Richmond and First Congregational Church of Crystal Lake!

Are you excited to donate food you purchased but won't be able to use? Now you can!

HERE'S WHAT YOU CAN DONATE:

Sealed packaged foods

Unopened pasteurized milk and yogurt

Fresh fruit

Fresh vegetables

Unopened fruit juice

Pastries

Fresh eggs (with a use-by date)

Table sauces (salad dressing, condiments, salsa, hot sauces, etc.)

Bread

Cured meats (sealed, with a use-by date)

Cheeses

These fridges have been a huge success in Chicago and suburbs, and we're thrilled to bring this movement to McHenry County. Please spread the word so community members can donate—and take—what they need.

This isn't just for individuals: restaurants can donate prepared, packaged meals too. Together, we can reduce food waste and help feed our neighbors. Know another location that might want to join the movement?

We'd love to hear from you! Our goal is to ensure every resident in McHenry County has access to quality, nutritious food and to help tackle food insecurity in our communities.

Please reach out to us at wastereductionCL@gmail.com with any questions about the community fridges!



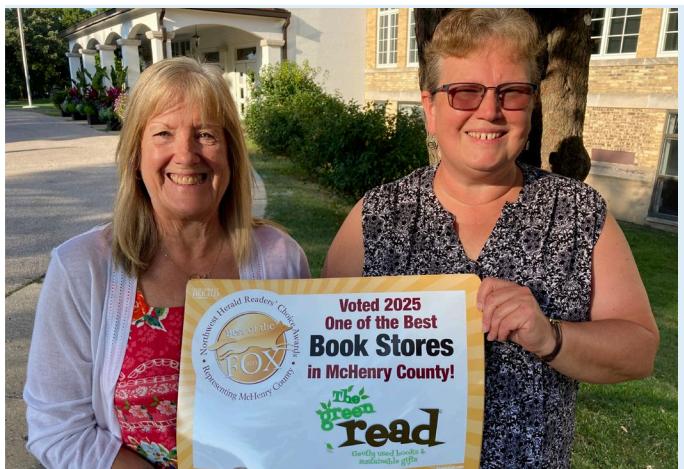
The Green Bookstores

Out with the Old Year & In with the New

Written by Pam Johnson & Diane Greenman, Bookstore Managers

FALL FESTIVITIES

2025 is behind us, and what an action-packed end of the year! The main highlight of fall was The Green Read winning "One of the Best Bookstores" in McHenry County in the Best of the Fox Northwest Herald Readers' Choice Awards.



We had two perfect fall September days for the volunteer potluck picnic at Veteran Acres and The Johnny Appleseed Festival in Downtown Crystal Lake. The increased foot traffic was a boon for The Green Read, which saw many new and returning customers that day.

The Green Read won "Scariest Scarecrow" in the Downtown Crystal Lake scarecrow decorating contest in October. That marks a win in 5 out of the 6 years we've entered the contest! The event was on Halloween night, when hundreds of trick-or-treaters visit the bookstore during the Downtown Crystal Lake Halloween Handout.

At the Green Living Expo, the bookstores were represented at a booth with a variety of books, puzzles, and stationery items were for sale. Representative Bill Foster even stopped by to check us out.

Several of our volunteers decorated a Defenders/bookstores tree in the Downtown Crystal Lake Christmas Tree Lane. This year the trees were lit up along the perimeter of the parking lot on Brink and Grant Streets behind the Raue Center.

WINTER UPCOMING EVENTS

Monthly sales are coming back in 2026 at both bookstores! In January, we are starting out the year with all Sci Fi/Fantasy books on sale for 20% off. February will bring back our popular "Blind Date with a Book" promotion, followed by a sale on books by women authors in March for Women's History Month.

KEEP IN TOUCH

If you haven't been in the stores in a while, stop by this winter and say hi. Come in and browse to your heart's content...you're bound to find a must-read book on our shelves. Let your child choose a book and read it together on our cozy loveseat. We can't think of a better way to spend a cold winter day...see you soon!

Follow our Facebook pages and Instagram to stay updated on our events and special offers. Our monthly newsletter is another great way to learn about our sales and events. Sign up to receive it at either store or by emailing thegreenreadbookstore@gmail.com.

Facebook: The Green Read | The Green Spot Used Books and More
Instagram: @thegreenbookstores



Representative Bill Foster at the Green Living Expo in November

Take-Aways from the Styrofoam Recycling Program

2025 Wrap Up & Updates

Written by Barb Day, Recycling Action Team Chair

TURNING A NEW PAGE

I have been focused on recycling issues for more than 40 years and it never ceases to amaze me how many people want "to do the right thing". Communities are happy when they find a path for any material to be recycled. The response we have had to the Styrofoam Program is a great example of that.

THANK YOU

First of all, thank you to all of the wonderful volunteers (more than 60 people) who participated in this program. These folks worked hard to separate and collect the "good" Styrofoam that was put through a densifier and turned into 2x4 logs about 4 feet long. Those logs are sold to those who can use them and given a second life. The material not suited for the densifier was loaded into trailers, picked up by Dart Container Corporation (a manufacturer of Styrofoam), and taken to their facility to be melted down and then made into other products.

Some volunteers rented a 26-foot U-Haul once a week, drove to each of our three drop-off sites, picked up the sorted and bagged material, and took it to Chicago Logistic Service (CLS). CLS is a trucking business owned by one of our board members and the location of the densifier.

OUR IMPACT

Our Recycling volunteers collected feedback from community members who utilized the Styrofoam Recycling Program:

- Many community members expressed gratitude for the opportunity, the convenience, and the knowledge that material was not going into a landfill.
- Many people brought material from Wisconsin and other locations outside McHenry County.
- A woman collected materials for her church; members would give her their Styrofoam, and she would bring it to the shed.
- Word spread about the program, and a dedicated neighbor brought Styrofoam from his West Chicago neighborhood to our program.

- Some members who dropped off materials would recycle the packing material for their own projects or small businesses.
- One woman collected the larger coolers and took them to food pantries, where they had another life.
- Another visitor collected boxes that she turned into winter shelters for feral cats.
- Organizations and businesses inquired about expanding the shed locations to their facilities.

We did so well with this program that our volume exceeded our capacity to keep the stuff moving!

We are very grateful for the community's support of the Styrofoam program and we recognize the positive impact this program has brought to members. If you have any questions or comments, please email Barb Day at barbjday1934@gmail.com.



Densifier being filled at Chicago Logistic Service



Densified logs to be reused



Volunteers bagging materials in Crystal Lake



Volunteers sorting materials to be correctly recycled

MCSEEP

McHenry County School Environmental Education Program

Written by Hannah Pfaff & Abby Winters, Directors of MCSEEP

As we head into winter here in McHenry County, MCSEEP has been hard at work. The McHenry County Schools Environmental Education Program has seen some big changes. Pamela King, a dedicated educator, environmental advocate and longtime Defender member has handed the directorship over to us, Hannah Pfaff and Abby Winters. The transition has felt very smooth and we are excited about our new roles. We also have seen a push in momentum with the passing of a new climate bill in Illinois. IL HB4895 declared it is now mandatory that all public schools in Illinois address not only climate change in every grade but that age-appropriate tools be taught to the students to actively fight climate change. The bill also states that the teachers should be properly educated on the subject. Great news for us all and the planet!



Environmental Educator Gigi Carlson in the classroom

MCSEEP has visited numerous schools already this fall and has reached over a thousand students from preschool to middle school age. We brought earthworms into preschools, much to the delight of the children, and studied their movements and benefits. We have brought wagons filled to the brim with globes, games, groundwater models and water cycle bracelet makings to inspire the next generation to wonder where their water comes from and how electricity uses our natural resources. The questions and astonishment are never dull and there is no doubt the awareness continues to benefit the community.

We also have a new educator on board, Leslie Krebs, longtime Defender, environmental activist and educator in the community. Our own Gigi Carlson still brings her amazing "can-do" attitude and contagious energy into the classroom along with both of us remaining in the classroom.

Our goals for the winter season are to hit the pavement and work to increase our reach in the county. There are a number of schools in which we have lost our coordinators and unfortunately have not been brought back in after the pandemic. With this new bill in our favor we hope that we can help teachers and the county reach its goal to educate future generations on the precious resources we continue to consume. We hope to empower the youth to take action no matter how small by using past, present, and future knowledge and technology to connect to the planet.

If you or someone you know is active in one of the county schools and you would like to help facilitate the program please reach out to mcseepdirector@gmail.com and we can work together to inspire awareness and empower action. Also if you or a business you know would like to donate to contribute in the funding of our program, please reach out!

U.S. Clean Energy Transition

Hobbled but Moving Forward

Written by Beth Holland, McHenry County Chapter of Citizens' Climate Lobby member

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

The Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) of 2022 is considered the most significant clean energy legislation in U.S. history. In a nutshell, the IRA provided incentives for clean energy, electric cars, and electric homes. It invested in the green technology and manufacturing needed by the heightened demand.

The One Big Beautiful Bill Act (OBBA/BBB) 2025 ended the IRA's clean energy credits for residential solar and storage, home efficiency improvement, clean vehicles, and clean hydrogen; most by 2026. Support for solar and wind energy, and the manufacturing of wind energy components will be phased out. Only the geothermal projects and nuclear power of the IRA remain.

Since the BBB, the projected reduction of carbon dioxide emissions is one billion tons over the next ten years. The projected reduction of the IRA was three billion tons;

for the IRA and EPA regulations as they were in 2022, the projected reduction was seven billion tons. But one billion tons is not insignificant; it's like closing 26 coal-fired power plants or removing 23 million cars from U.S. highways.

Despite the limitations enacted by the BBB, the clean energy transition continues. The IRA was in effect from August 2022 to July 2025, nearly two and a half years. During that time most of the projects its grant and loan funding intended were accomplished. In 2024, solar installation increased capacity by 21% over that of 2023, and both years were record-breaking. Community solar capacity reached its largest in 2024, 35% over 2023. Of all new electrical power in 2024, 66% was solar. Utility-scale solar and wind are cheaper than fossil fuels, and the cost of battery storage is decreasing. Those factors would make the continuing transition to low-carbon energy likely.

Sources

"What we achieved by passing and protecting the IRA", Dana Nuccitelli, Citizens' Climate Lobby Research Manager, August 20, 2025

Solar Energy Industries Association Report, 2024

"U.S. Cumulative and Annual Clean Power Capacity Growth", American Clean Power Annual Market Report, 2024

Climate, Columbia Business School, July 16, 2025; MIT Climate Portal, May 7, 2024

"What the 2025 Green Investment 'Boom' Means for Business, Tech, And The Climate Next Year", Monica Sanders, December 3, 2025



Our Craft and Sip at Kishwaukee Brewing

Gratitude, Celebration, and a Call for Future Volunteers

Written by Anne Basten, Fundraising Action Team Chair

A CRAFTY FUNDRAISER

The Fundraising Action Team wants to extend a heartfelt thank you to everyone who attended our recent Craft & Sip Fundraiser at Kishwaukee Brewing where we made flower "vases" out of used books and garage sale artificial flowers. Your enthusiasm, creativity, and camaraderie made the afternoon truly special. Whether you were a seasoned crafter or trying something new, it was wonderful to see so many smiling faces enjoying great company and fantastic brews.

A special shout-out goes to our fundraising team, whose clear and helpful instructions ensured that everyone could participate and create something beautiful. Their dedication and support are what make events like this possible and enjoyable for all.

SHARE YOUR CREATIVITY

As we look ahead to future Craft & Sip gatherings, we invite volunteers who are willing to share their craft projects, ideas, or even lead a session. If you have a craft you're proud of or want to help keep the creative spirit alive, please reach out! We are especially seeking crafts which reuse, recycle or reduce waste or otherwise continue the mission of the Defenders while creating a beautiful or useful item. Your involvement will help us continue building a welcoming and inspiring community for our members.

Thank you again for being part of our Craft & Sip tradition. We look forward to seeing your creations and welcoming new volunteers at our next event!



Solar Project Update

Update on the Defenders' Dean Street Property Community Solar Project

Written by Erin Kennedy, Executive Director

The Environmental Defenders of McHenry County (EDMC) acquired approximately 10 acres on Dean Street in Woodstock, located at the headwaters of the Kishwaukee River, in 2004. The property was purchased in partnership with the McHenry County Conservation District and the McHenry County Soil and Water Conservation District. Since its acquisition, EDMC has explored various opportunities to utilize the land in ways that advance our mission and provide meaningful benefits to the community.

In 2018, the Defenders embarked on an ambitious vision to develop McHenry County's first community solar project on the Dean Street property. To advance this effort, EDMC formed a solar committee composed of committed members and board members who worked closely with a solar development partner to create a site plan, establish a development timeline, and navigate the complex application process. The proposed 700 kW project was submitted to the Illinois Solar for All (ILSFA) program and was accepted in 2021, shortly after the Climate and Equitable Jobs Act (CEJA) was signed into law.

The Illinois Solar for All program (ILSFA) is designed to expand access to clean energy for income-eligible households, nonprofits, and public facilities. The program offers participants bill savings, no or low upfront costs, and strong consumer protection without requiring rooftop installation. ILSFA supports equitable clean energy development by providing incentives through Renewable Energy Credits (RECs), particularly focused within environmental justice communities.

Acceptance into the ILSFA program requires that EDMC facilities use at least 10% of the energy generated from the solar project. The original estimate, made in 2020, included EDMC facilities, work-from-home employees, and board member home consumption. In 2021, however, work-from-home and board member consumption were not allowed in the newly defined ILSFA program rules.

Furthermore, Since the project's acceptance, the Defenders have implemented energy efficiency improvements and reduced our facility footprint, resulting in a substantial decrease in overall energy consumption. Additionally, rulemaking updates to the ILSFA program clarified the definition of direct nonprofit energy consumption. As a result of these combined factors, the Dean Street community solar project does not meet the qualifications of ILSFA and is no longer financially or programmatically viable because the Defenders simply do not consume 10% of the energy generated by the potential project. While this outcome is disappointing, these changes are beyond EDMC's control and reflect broader shifts at the state program level.

While we do not currently qualify to host our own project, EDMC is very involved with the development of quality community solar projects in McHenry County. The EDMC solar committee remains an active group that is dedicated to reviewing and weighing in on proposed projects throughout the County and encouraging community solar participation for eligible residents. We have hosted a Community Solar Summit in conjunction with the County to help educate residents about the benefits of solar and to help correct misinformation about the risks of solar developments.

EDMC remains committed to advancing clean energy and sustainability in McHenry County and will continue to support thoughtful solar and renewable energy projects that respect and protect the county's natural resources. We are grateful to our members for their continued support and engagement, and we will share updates as new opportunities emerge.

If you have questions or would like to learn more about EDMC's sustainability initiatives, or if you would like to participate in the solar committee, please contact our office at 815-338-0393 or visit mcdef.org.

Thank you for your continued commitment to protecting McHenry County's environment.

Interactive Watershed Mapping Tool

McHenry County's New Interactive Watershed Mapping Tool

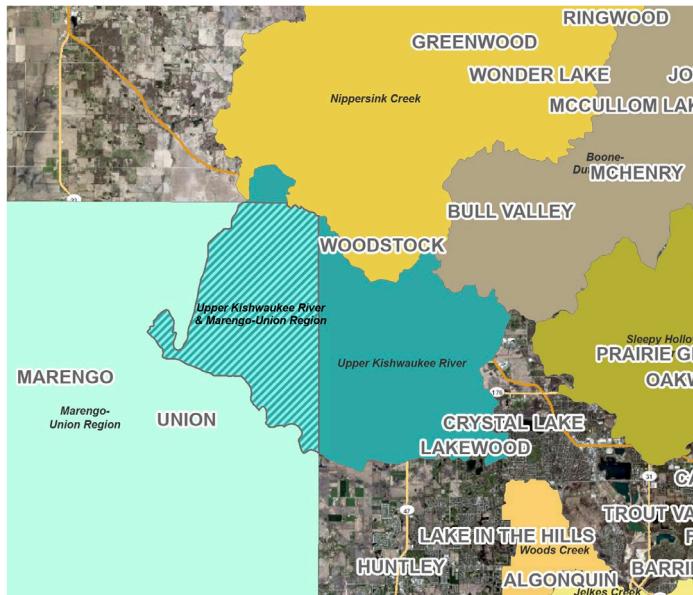
Written by Scott Kuykendall, McHenry County Water Resources Specialist

UNDERSTANDING WATERSHEDS

An understanding of how watersheds work is incredibly important to protect our water and natural resources in McHenry County. In simple terms, a watershed is the boundary of high ground that directs the flow of water to a specific stream or water body. By looking at potential sources of pollution, erosion, or flooding within a watershed, we can efficiently identify potential problems and implement the most effective solutions to correct or prevent them. Over the years the Environmental Defenders and many of their stakeholders have actively participated in preparing and implementing watershed plans throughout McHenry County.

Because watershed planning is so vital to water resource protection, the McHenry County Department of Planning and Development is currently working on a Countywide approach to watershed planning. These efforts include the creation of an interactive online mapping tool that enable the public to play a direct role in watershed planning. The public can access the County's new Watershed mapping Tool at:

mchenrycountygis.org/watersheds



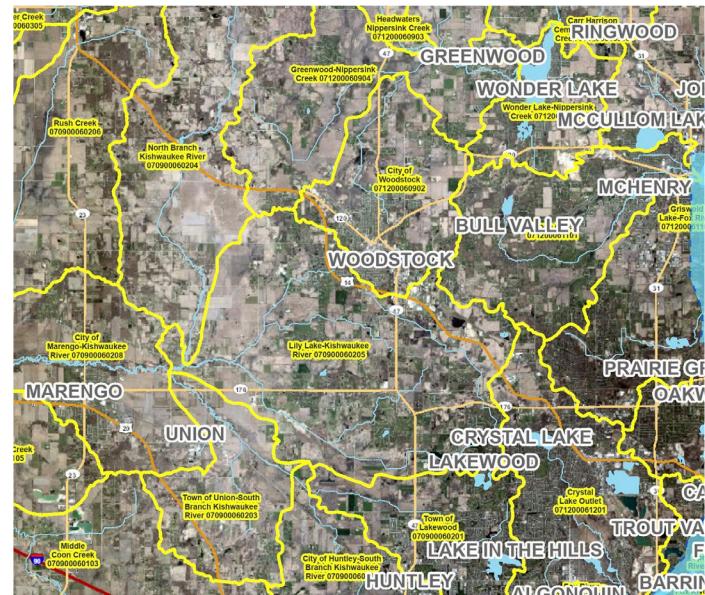
Example 1 of Interactive Map

People who use this mapping tool can locate their area of interest, turn on data layers to help them understand site conditions, view historical aerial photos from 2025 back to 1939, and share detailed information about their concerns directly with the McHenry County staff who are implementing the watershed planning program. Users can even upload photos to help others understand the issues even better.

EMPOWERING RESIDENTS

This easy-to-use watershed mapping tool empowers residents to share information about water quality issues, areas prone to flooding, or ideal locations to implement best management practices. Please explore this exciting new watershed planning tool to learn more about the county's amazing resources and to share information that helps protect those resources for future generations.

For more information, visit mchenryh2o.com or contact Scott Kuykendall, McHenry County Water Resources Specialist at SHKuykendall@mchenrycountyil.gov



Example 2 of Interactive Map

Kishwaukee Headwaters Restoration Grant

Nicor Gas Awards Grant Towards Kishwaukee Headwaters Restoration

Written by Cindy Skrukrud, Water & Natural Resources Protection Action Team Chair

RESTORATION WORK AHEAD

Defenders' Water and Natural Resources Protection Action Team has secured a 2025 Environmental Stewardship Grant of \$5,000 from Nicor Gas. Grant funds will be used to continue the efforts of the Defenders and the McHenry-Lake Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) to control invasive species and restore habitat on the 15.75 acres that the two groups have owned since 2001 at the headwaters of the Kishwaukee River.

The Defenders and the SWCD have been working to convert the pasture land and degraded wetland on their parcels into native habitat including oak and hickory savanna, prairie and sedge meadow. Both groups have engaged volunteers in controlling invasive species and have hired Red Buffalo Nursery, a professional natural

areas restoration service, to tackle the most intransigent weedy species.

Plans are for crews of Defenders volunteers and summer interns with 4H and Boy Scouts volunteers to work on wild parsnip and woody brush control in upland areas. Red Buffalo Nursery will control phragmites and reed canary grass in wetland areas, do follow-up re-sprout control in the areas where volunteers conduct woody brush control, and address wild parsnip and sweet clover where needed.

If you would like to volunteer to help with the restoration work at the Kishwaukee Headwaters, please reach out to Cindy Skrukrud, Water and Natural Resources Protection Action Team, at 815-353-5123.



Dean Street Property in Summer

Pioneer Christmas Tree Farm

Sustaining a Valued Tradition

Written by Nancy Schietzelt, Fundraising Action Team



THANK YOU

All was merry and bright at Howenstine's Pioneer Christmas Tree Farm during the last long weekend of November and first weekend of December 2025! Over 800 trees, over 700 packages of cookies, and assorted gift items were sold as the farm was blanketed by two snowfalls! Over 85 Defenders' volunteers and others baked cookies, drove the tractors, shook and baled the trees, and helped create candles and wood crafts, all while enjoying the fun of engaging with visitors, many of whom have been obtaining their Christmas trees from the farm for five decades! Our volunteer greeters and those who

served hot chocolate and coffee in the warming house enjoyed the opportunity to connect with these people who treasure their tradition of visiting the farm every year with their kids and now their grandkids.

We extend our sincere appreciation to all volunteers who helped create a memorable experience for guests and supported fundraising efforts for the Defenders. We are also grateful to the Howenstine family for sustaining this valued tradition. If you would like to take part in the fun of volunteering at the tree farm next year, please email basten1@sbcglobal.net.



Woodworking Tent



Warming House with baked goods & craft vendors



Candle Making Tent

Our Team

DEFENDERS' STAFF

Erin Kennedy
Executive Director

Grace Turcich
Manager of Communication & Membership

Pam Johnson
Manager at The Green Read and The Green Spot

Diane Greenman
Assistant Manager at The Green Read
and The Green Spot

DEFENDERS' OFFICERS & BOARD MEMBERS

Bev Dow President

Kim Compton First Vice President

Kim Hankins Second Vice President

Carl Edstrom Treasurer

Zak Dolezal Secretary

Rico Rotta

Ken Santowski

Ashley Lange

Elly Salazar

Kathy Slover

ABOUT EARTHCONNECT NEWSLETTER

Published Quarterly by The Environmental
Defenders of McHenry County
LOC, ISSN# 1938-9795

114 S. Jefferson Street, Woodstock IL 60098
815-338-0393 | www.mcdef.org

Calendar

Winter Events of 2026

FEB

SAT 7 | The Great Seed (and Soil) Event

10am – 2pm at McHenry County College

FRI 13 | Donation Due Date for Annual Auction

5pm. Donations should be brought to office.

FRI 20 | Online Auction Opens

8am. Please visit mcdef.org for link to online auction.

SAT 28 | Natural Landscaping Seminar

8am – 4pm at McHenry County College

MAR

SUN 8 | Annual Meeting & Brunch

11am – 2pm at Oruga Social in Crystal Lake

RECURRING EVENTS

GREEN DRINKS First Wednesday of Every Month

5PM – 7PM | Duke's Alehouse & Kitchen

In-Person and on Zoom. Presentation begins at 5:45pm

STERNE'S FEN RESTORATION WORK DAY

Fourth Sunday of Every Month

9am – 11am | 5617 Hillside Dr, Crystal Lake

ACTION TEAM MEETINGS

Monthly | Visit mcdef.org for more information



Join our Compost Community

Want to reduce your food waste? Sign up for our local composting program! Avoid food waste and turn food scraps into rich soil.

For \$3-5/month, members get access to a local compost drop-off site in Downtown Woodstock.



Sign Up for Compost Drop-Off Program

Waste Reduction Action Team
wastereductionCL@gmail.com

Environmental Defenders
of McHenry County
114 S Jefferson St.
Woodstock, IL 60098



Open Monday – Saturday 10am – 4pm
CLOSED SUNDAY
815-527-7122
110 S. Johnson Street, Woodstock IL



Open Monday – Saturday 10am – 5pm
CLOSED SUNDAY
779-220-4945
61 N. Williams St, Crystal Lake, IL



One of the easiest ways to donate to The Environmental Defenders is by contributing to EarthShare in your workplace charity campaign. Talk with your employer or contact the Environmental Defenders at 815-338-0393.

Follow us on our Socials



@ENVIRONMENTAL_DEFENDERS @ENVIRONMENTALDEFENDERS
@GREENREADBOOKSTORE @THEGREENREAD