

YOU ARE IMPORTANT

When the first settlers came to Whiteside County, they were greeted with a rich diversity of woods, wetlands, tall waving grasses, and a myriad of flowers, butterflies, and mammals. The growth of NAG groups in Illinois is one of the most positive steps being taken to save what remains of our local natural heritage for those who are yet to come.

When asked if a small group could really make a difference, Margaret Mead replied, "They are the only ones who make a difference."

The Whiteside County NAGs meet on the second Thursday of each month. Winter meetings are normally held in Morrison. Summer meetings are held in various locations in conjunction with field trips or work projects. Members receive minutes and notices of activities. Both "hands on" members and those who contribute moral and monetary support are of vital importance to the group.

The ability to view a delicate shooting star in bloom or a vast sea of pale purple coneflowers is perhaps the most precious legacy you can pass on to your grandchildren. Join us and become part of a group that strives to "make a difference."



**Native Species to Whiteside County:
Bottle Gentian and Black-eyed Susan**

**WHITESIDE
COUNTY**

NATURAL AREA GUARDIANS



TEL: (815) 772-2124 ext. 3

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

HOME PHONE _____ WORK PHONE _____

Annual Dues:

- Student \$5.00
- Single \$10.00
- Family \$20.00
- Patron \$25.00

Donation are tax deductible



Mail to:

Whiteside County NAGs
16255 Liberty Street
Morrison, IL 61270

Phone: (815) 772-2124 ext. 3

WHAT WE DO

- 🌸 Manage several prairie cemeteries in the county
- 🌸 Continue the Lyndon Agnew Prairie restoration along I-88
- 🌸 Continue restoration & management of two wetland tracts purchased by the NAGs: Agnew, 10 acres, and Spring Slough, 24 acres
- 🌸 Lease and manage a 58 acre section of Spring Slough wetland owned by four landowners in northwest Montmorency Township
- 🌸 Work with the Sterling Park District in the management of the Thomas Park Prairie Restoration
- 🌸 Manage the expanded prairie restoration project on the campus of Sauk Valley Community College
- 🌸 Assist landowners dealing with natural land management
- 🌸 Provide scholarships for college students pursuing careers in conservation related fields of study
- 🌸 Offer monetary grants to teachers for environmental projects
- 🌸 Assist with Eagle Scout and 4-H club projects
- 🌸 Published "The Self-Guided Tour of Whiteside County," and "Prairie Plants of Whiteside County"
- 🌸 Conduct field trips and participate in programs such as Bald Eagle Days
- 🌸 Hold annual art show to celebrate nature and the beauty of natural art forms

WHO WE ARE

The Whiteside County Natural Area Guardians, formed as a sub-committee of the Whiteside County Soil and Water Conservation district in 1988, is a group of volunteers dedicated to the preservation, restoration and management of the remaining natural areas and their flora and fauna in Whiteside County.

OUR GOALS

- 🌸 Locate and inventory natural areas in Whiteside County
- 🌸 Encourage preservation and management of natural areas
- 🌸 Obtain funding to purchase or lease natural areas in the county
- 🌸 Promote awareness through field trips and educational programs
- 🌸 Manage natural areas received by Whiteside County SWCD
- 🌸 Help establish seed banks of endangered species
- 🌸 Preserve for future generations the remaining natural areas
- 🌸 Work closely with Natural Land Institute, IL Department of Transportation, Illinois Nature Preserves Commission, Department of Natural Resources and other related agencies
- 🌸 Provide mutual support to the SWCD