

Project Description:

Land and Water Resources, Inc., (LAWR) a member of the Working Lands Investment Partners team, designed, permitted, and constructed the Skare Park project, which focused on the restoration of Deer Creek. This unique stream restoration project was for the first stream mitigation bank in the State of Illinois. Skare Park was selected by LAWR based on specific site characteristics that maximized the ecological uplift for this a high-quality stream and riparian corridor restoration project. Additionally, the entire floodplain associated with Deer Creek was reconnected allowing for the successful floodplain functions of this re-meandered stream as well as its riparian corridor.



Client Needs:

The State of Illinois required the design, permitting, and construction of the Skare Park project, which focused on the restoration of Deer Creek.



Solution:

The Skare Park project resulted in a total of 5,280 linear feet of stream restored, including adjacent prairie and wetland buffers consisting of wet and wet mesic prairie, sedge meadow and bottomland savannah communities. All existing wetlands within bank boundaries were also significantly enhanced. The public further benefited by improved water quality benefits as well as other ecosystem services for the Rock River Watershed. The completed project created 57,735 credits in accordance with the Illinois Stream Mitigation Method for Processing Section 404 Clean Water Act Permit Applications.



Partnerships and Community Involvement:

At Working Lands, we pride ourselves on community engagement and close working relationships with regulatory agencies across the U.S. The Skare Park project involved the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, U.S. Fish and Wildlife, and the Illinois Department of Natural Resources.

Working Lands Investment Partners (WLIP) has a long history of pioneering and implementing water and soil remediation, restoration, rehabilitation, and regeneration. Our ecosystem restoration work delivers economical, sustainable and verifiable solutions that alleviate the negative impacts of ecological damage resulting from human activity.

Dedicated to Sustainability. Driven by Stewardship. Powered by Science.