



## The Lower Fox River Land Conservation Planning Project

### Stakeholder Planning Committee:

Alan & JoAn Adams, Sandwich  
Megan Andrews, Kendall Co.  
SWCD

Mark Baran, LaSalle Co. NRCS  
Paul Barrett, Ottawa  
Paul Botts, The Wetlands Initiative  
Mark Caldwell, Newark  
Diane Dillow, Millington  
Steve Eisenaugle, Millbrook  
Jerry Enger, Serena  
Heather Fiala, Yorkville  
Whitney French, Plano  
Jim Friedrich, Newark  
Ken Gortkowski, Yorkville  
Steve & Kathryn Graves,  
Downers Grove  
Mayor Bob Hausler, Plano

Vicki Heath, LaSalle Co. SWCD  
Erich Hess, Kendall Co. Health Dept.  
Mike Hoffman, Plainfield  
Dan Reedy, Kendall Co. Farm Bureau  
Joan McEachern, Yorkville  
John & Cindy McKee, Ottawa  
Pam Parr, Oswego  
Bill Perkins, Millbrook  
Jason Pettit, Kendall Co. Forest Preserve  
Chuck Roberts, Yorkville  
Amy Serby, Kendall Co. Health Dept.  
Edmund Thornton, Ottawa  
Stephanie Todd, Oswego  
Todd Volker, Ottawa  
Jeff Wehrli, Oswego  
Steve Wiggins, Ottawa  
Angela Zubko, Kendall Co. PBZ

### Technical Assistance:

Jason Pettit, Kendall Co. Forest Preserve  
Kim Roman, IDNR  
Nancy Williamson, IDNR  
Steve Pescitelli, IDNR  
Kendall & LaSalle County  
LFR municipalities  
Oswegoland Park District  
Fox Valley Park District

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IL Clean Energy Community Foundation  
In-kind - Christopher B. Burke  
Engineering . Ltd.  
- Newark Fire Department

**Facilitated by:** The Conservation Foundation staff  
John Church  
Dan Lobbes

**To learn more about the plan or about  
protection tools, please contact:**

**John Church**

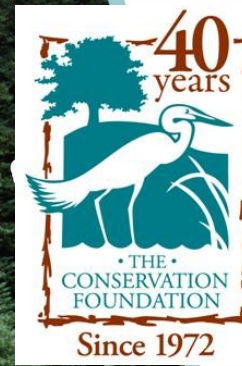
**The Conservation Foundation**

**Ph. 630-553-0687, Ext. 304**

**[jchwrch@theconservationfoundation.org](mailto:jchwrch@theconservationfoundation.org)**

**or go to the Lower Fox Planning website at:**

**[www.theconservationfoundation.org/lower-fox-land-planning.html](http://www.theconservationfoundation.org/lower-fox-land-planning.html)**

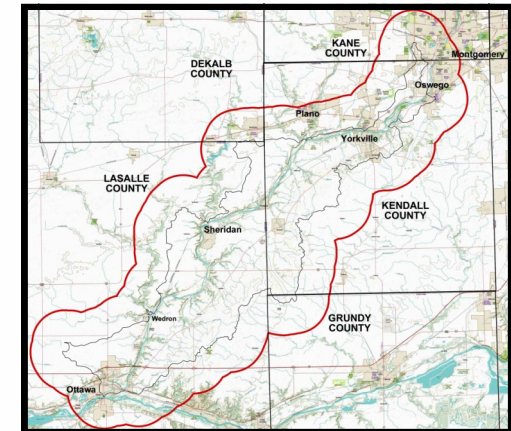


*We save land.  
We save rivers.*



# The Lower Fox River

## Voluntary Land Conservation Planning



### WHY PRESERVE THE LOWER FOX?

The Lower Fox River basin from Yorkville in Kendall County to where it joins the Illinois River at Ottawa in LaSalle County is widely known as **one of the most scenic and highest quality river segments in Illinois** and is adorned with towering sandstone cliffs, hill prairies and spring wetland seeps.

These environmental features provide economic and recreational opportunities, and have enticed a rapidly increasing number of people to the area over the past decade. Such rapid population increases can put pressure on the viability and quality of many of the river basin's resources if protection is not adequately planned.



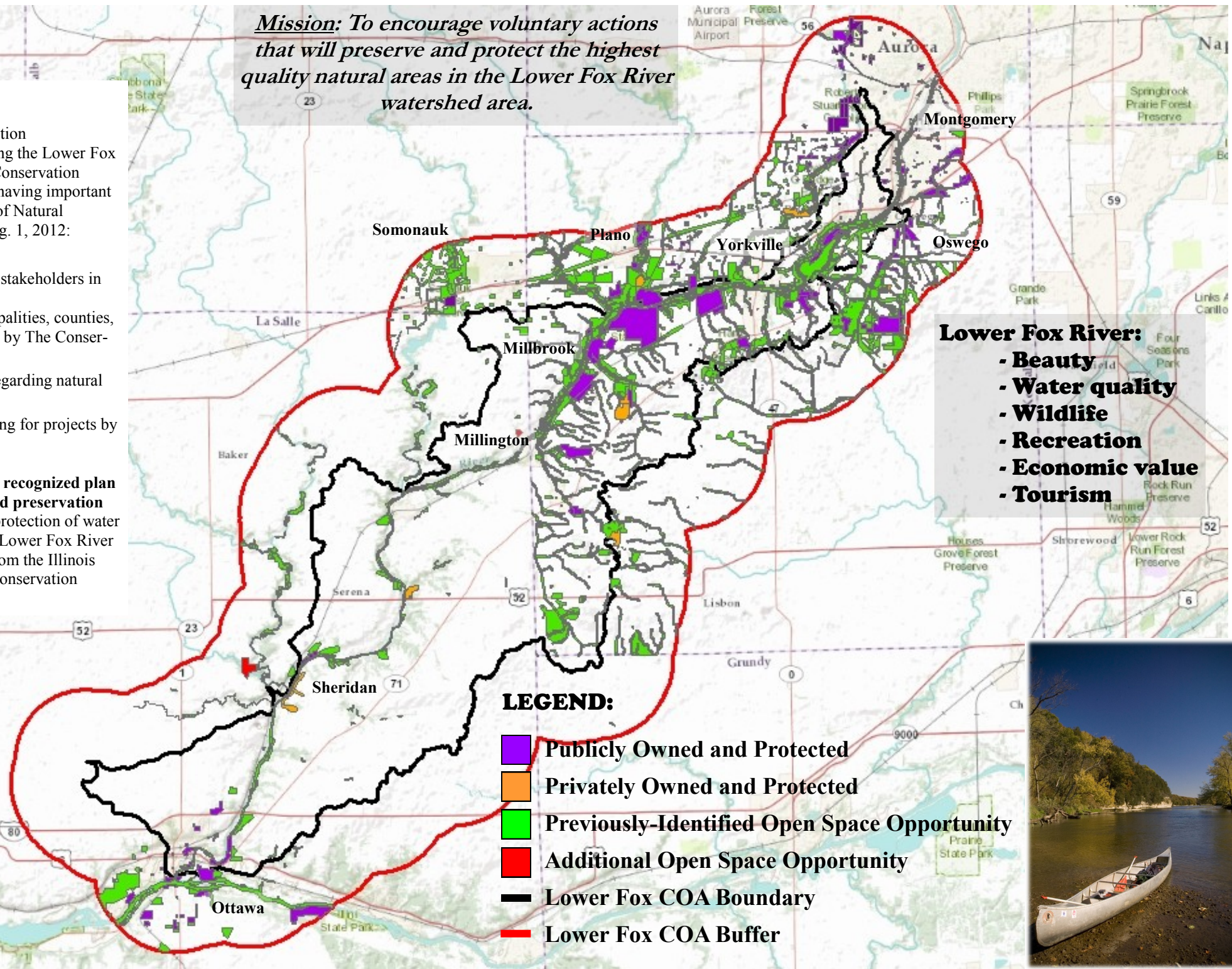
## THE PROJECT

The voluntary Lower Fox River Land Conservation Planning Project concentrates on land areas along the Lower Fox River, its tributaries and the Lower Fox River Conservation Opportunity Area (COA), an area identified as having important conservation value by the Illinois Department of Natural Resources. The plan, which was completed Aug. 1, 2012:

- Is strictly voluntary.
- Was developed by a diverse group of local stakeholders in Kendall and LaSalle Counties, including private landowners, local municipalities, counties, agencies and other groups, with facilitation by The Conservation Foundation.
- Help stakeholders to determine priorities regarding natural resource protection.
- May raise the likelihood of obtaining funding for projects by complying with the local and state plans.

The overall goal of the project is to develop a recognized plan for local entities and individuals to use in land preservation efforts in the Lower Fox River basin for the protection of water quality, natural resources and open space. The Lower Fox River Planning Process was funded through a grant from the Illinois Clean Energy Community Foundation to The Conservation Foundation.

**Mission:** To encourage voluntary actions that will preserve and protect the highest quality natural areas in the Lower Fox River watershed area.



**Lower Fox River:**

- Beauty
- Water quality
- Wildlife
- Recreation
- Economic value
- Tourism

- LEGEND:**
- Publicly Owned and Protected
  - Privately Owned and Protected
  - Previously-Identified Open Space Opportunity
  - Additional Open Space Opportunity
  - Lower Fox COA Boundary
  - Lower Fox COA Buffer

