

# GLACIAL PARK Conservation Area Pioneer Landing Woodland Restoration

## EXAMPLE PROJECT :



### Pioneer Landing Woodland Restoration Project

**Who:** McHenry County Conservation District, Natural Resource Management Department

**What:** A habitat improvement project on 125 acres of land owned by the District at the Glacial Park Conservation Area.

**When:** Work began with brush removal on Jan. 15, 2011 and will continue through several stages through June, 2011.

**Where:** Located along the west side of Pioneer Road, north of Harts Road, south of Nippersink Creek.

**Why:** To restore high quality oak woodlands systems, remove exotic and invasive plants, enhance woodland bird breeding habitat, and improve stream quality in Nippersink Creek by reducing erosion.

### Coming Soon

- Ancient Oak Groves
- Open Vistas
- Spring Wildflowers
- Improved Wildlife Habitats
- Increased Flood Storage Capacity

Glacial Park Conservation Area is among the most ecologically diverse sites owned by the McHenry County Conservation District. This 125 acre portion of Glacial Park was selected for its large mature oaks, three headwater streams feeding Nippersink Creek, diverse displays of spring wildflowers and close proximity to Pioneer Landing.

This once beautiful woodland has become overgrown with invasive woody plants and weeds from other continents such as European Buckthorn, Asian honeysuckle and garlic mustard. These species have no natural controls on their populations and can destroy native wildflowers while inhibiting the reproduction of sun loving trees such as oaks. Left unchecked these invasive species can obliterate native woodland communities over time.

Look for a much healthier Pioneer Landing in the months to come. At first glance, the brush and tree removal may seem destructive, but allowing sunlight and water to flow freely through the ecosystem once more will create positive and noticeable changes over the next several years.

For more information contact : McHenry County Conservation District  
MCCDistrict.org 815-338-6223

### Pioneer Landing

### Project Schedule

**Jan. 15, 2011** Brush removal of invasive species such as box elder, European buckthorn and Asian honeysuckle.

**Spring, 2011** Re-seeding of native woodland wildflowers and grasses.

**Fall, 2011** Headwater stream and wetland restoration.