



McHenry County

CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Board of Trustees 2010-2015



Our Mission

The McHenry County Conservation District exists to preserve, restore and manage natural areas and open spaces for their intrinsic value and for the benefits to present and future generations.

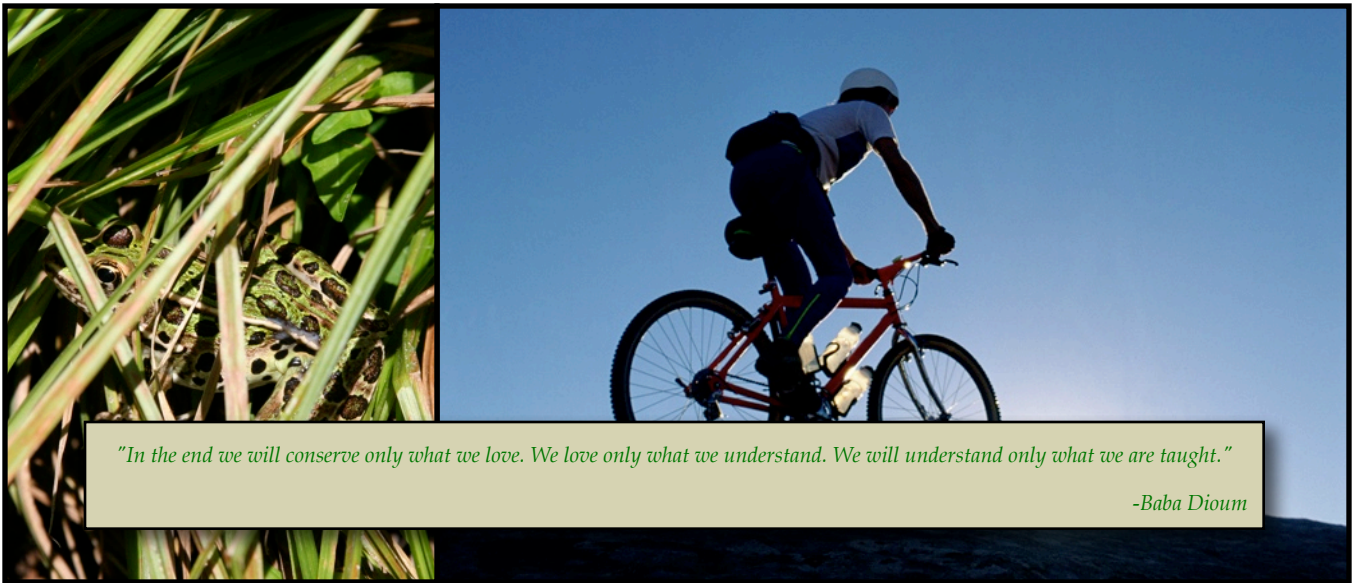
Our Vision

McHenry County Conservation District is a highly motivated and fiscally responsible organization composed of professional staff, volunteers and Board of Trustees.

We aspire to promote the long term viability of the county's biodiversity while encouraging and providing opportunities for responsible use of lands in concert with natural resources.

We inspire respect for the land community by exposing people to the wonders of nature and the knowledge of sound environmental practices.

We recognize that accomplishing these efforts requires working cooperatively with both public and private initiatives to promote sound stewardship practices.



"In the end we will conserve only what we love. We love only what we understand. We will understand only what we are taught."

-Baba Dioum

General Description

The McHenry County Conservation District's Board of Trustees, comprised of seven (7) members, represent the interests of ALL citizens in the County (people, flora and fauna) in a non-partisan role. Board members develop long-range plans, establish policy and chart a strategic course and direction for the preservation of, education about, and recreational use of the county's natural and cultural resources.

Qualifications

- Resident of McHenry County.
- Qualified voter, and cannot hold any other political office and are not officers of any political party.
- Demonstrated interest in purposes of the District (preservation, education and recreation).

Term

- Serves 5-year term; beginning July 1, 2010 and expires on June 30, 2015.
- A Trustee that has served a full 5-year term is ineligible to serve as a Trustee for a period of one year following the expiration of his/her term.

Appointment Process

Application Submittal. Interested candidates should submit completed application to the County Board office, McHenry County Government Center, 2200 North Seminary Avenue, Woodstock, IL 60098, no later than 3 p.m., Thursday, March 25, 2010.

Interviews. Interviews of candidates are conducted by the County's Environmental and Natural Resource Committee, with a recommendation to the County Board Chairman.

Appointment. County Board Chairman, with approval of the County Board, appoints Trustee no later than June 1, 2010.

Time Commitment & Compensation

Regular Meetings. Regular meetings of the Board of Trustees are held the third Thursday of the month at Brookdale Conservation Area - Administrative Offices, 18410 US Highway 14, Woodstock, IL 60098. The meetings generally begin at 6 p.m. and depending upon the length of the agenda will last approximately 3 to 4 hours.

Committee Meetings. Committee meetings of the Board of Trustees are held monthly or as needed. The two standing committees of the Board of Trustees are Finance and Outreach & Advocacy.

Other Meetings/Events. Trustees are also encouraged to attend other public body / community meetings, special events, volunteer workdays.

No Compensation. Trustees shall serve without salary or other compensation, but may be paid their actual and necessary expenses incurred in the performance of their official duties.

General Functions of the Board of Trustees

"Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world. Indeed, it's the only thing that ever has." - Margaret Mead

Serving on a volunteer board can be demanding, but it can also be one of the most rewarding experiences you can have for it repays the individual not in dollars, but in even rarer attributes - the gratitude of how you serve and the inner peace that comes from service given freely for the benefit of all.

- Determines the District's mission and purposes as defined within the Conservation District Act [70 ILCS 410].
- Selects the Executive Director who is responsible for the day-to-day operations of the District.
- Supports the Executive Director and assesses performance periodically (usually measured against the Strategic Plan).
- Ensures effective organizational planning (short-term, long-term, master plans, capital projects, etc.).
- Adopts ordinances, resolutions and/or motions specifying the board's duties, as well as clarifying the manner in which the board governs its work.
- Ensures adequate resources (funds, time, volunteers, staff, technology, etc.).
- Approves annual budget and the securing of funds.
- Approves expenditures for land acquisition and purchases within approved budget.
- Formulates general policies, rules and regulations for which the District was established.
- Determines, monitors and strengthens the District's programs, land management and services.
- Promotes the District's image and works to establish a good public relations program.
- Encourages intergovernmental and civic cooperation.
- Reviews and discusses matters brought to its attention such as executive proposals, citizen complaints, special committee reports, monthly reports, and requests of a general policy nature from local organizations and groups. Refers all matters to the Executive Director for action.
- Ensures legal and ethical integrity and maintains accountability.
- Participates in legislative advocacy.
- Recruits and orientates new board members and assess board performance.
- Ensures collective decision making and that no one person dominates the board.
- Assures that all board members understand and complete their duties and responsibilities.
- Works for mutual respect between fellow board members and the Executive Director.
- Promotes the spirit of cooperation and teamwork.

For more information contact:
Elizabeth S. Kessler, Executive Director
18410 US Highway 14, Woodstock, IL 60098
815.332.6223 MCCDistrict.org