



# Libertyville Township Open Space Report 2019

# 2019 Accomplishments

- 11,470 plugs planted
- 3,593 gallons of herbicide applied
- 3,843 lbs. native seed sowed
- 266 acres Rx burned
- 226 acres rough-cut mowed
- 63 individual volunteers
- 23 brush piles burned
- 15 volunteer workdays
- 9.86 acres cleared of invasives
- 5 seasonal employees
- 4 trees planted



# 319 Grant

- Matching grant for the reduction of nonpoint source pollution
- Administered by Lake County SMC
- Funding provided in part by the Illinois EPA through Section 319 of the Clean Water Act
- Focused on 42 acres of retired agricultural land north of Casey Rd.



# 319 Grant

## ○ Goals:

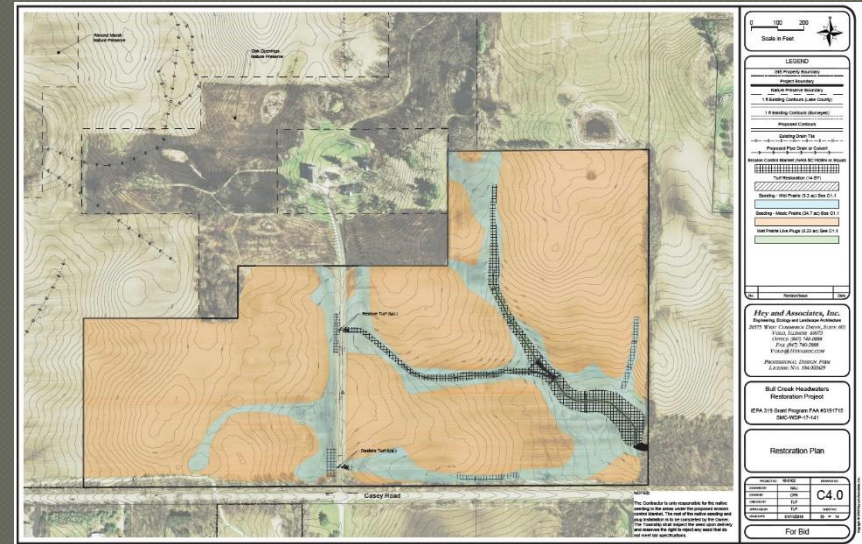
- Eliminate soil erosion
- Slow the movement of water through the site
- Reduce the amount of runoff
- Provide habitat for plants and animals
- Promote downstream water quality



# 319 Grant

## ○ Plan:

- 18,658 SqYds erosion control blanket
- 5,141 LF drain tile removed
- 9,950 plugs installed
- 2,662 lbs. native seed sowed over -
- 42 acres
- 14 rock grade control structures
- 2 culverts



# 319 Grant

- Construction Entrance/staging
- Excavation/grade control structures



# 319 Grant

- Drain tile removal



- Erosion control blanket installation



# 319 Grant

● Plug planting



● Seeding





# 319 Grant

BEFORE



AFTER



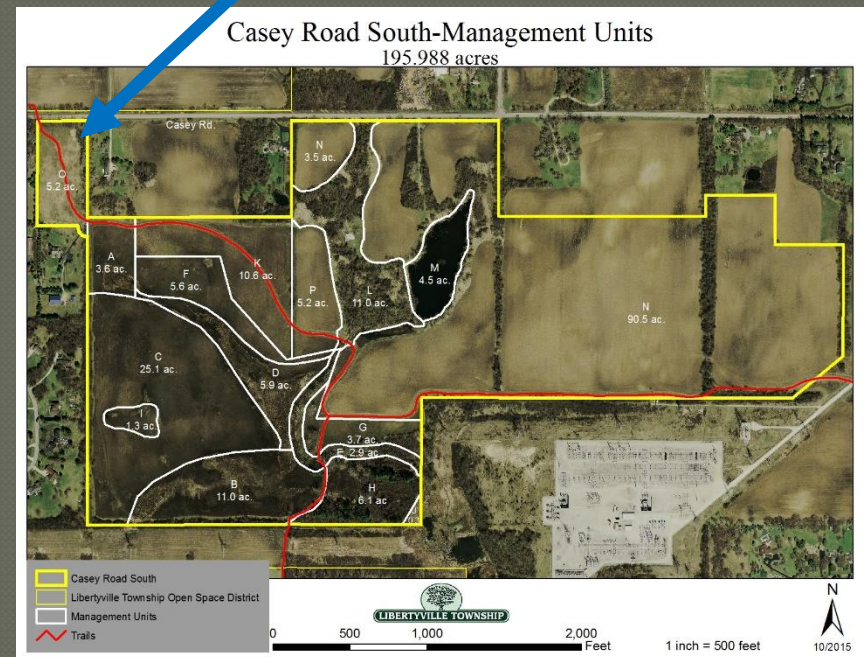
# Native Seeding Projects

- 1,181 pounds of native seed sowed
- Interseeding
  - Bott Prairie – Unit A
  - Liberty Prairie – Throughout site
  - Canterbury – Unit A
  - Milwaukee – Unit A
  - Rt. 137 – Unit E
- New restoration areas
  - Liberty Prairie – Unit O
  - River Road – Unit F
  - Lindholm Park



# Liberty Prairie – Unit O Restoration

- Retired Pasture between Liberty Prairie Nature Preserve and Casey Road
- Casey trail bisects unit
- Restoration bridges gap between north and south restoration areas
- Frontage clearing, Rx burn, herbicide application, seeding, plug planting and mowing



# Liberty Prairie – Unit O Restoration

○ Frontage clearing



○ Plug Planting



# Rt. 137 Wetland Restoration

## ○ Prescribed Burn



- Integrated Lakes Management
- ~ 30 Acres burned for the 1<sup>st</sup> time
- Discovery of natural features
- Downed debris

# Rt. 137 Wetland Restoration

## ○ Herbicide Invasives



- Integrated Lakes Management
- ~32 Acres sprayed
- *Phragmites australis*
- Machine application
- 4 applications

# Rt. 137 Clearing – A Continuation

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- Further thinning of undergrowth, dead and diseased trees, and invasive species
- Increased light penetration through canopy to understory
- Promotes prairie/savanna vegetation establishment



# Liberty Prairie Clearing-Before



- Over 5 acres cleared
- Vines - Oriental Bittersweet
- Broken tree tops
- Thick brush



# Liberty Prairie Clearing-During



- Cleared line
- Machine and hand work
- Continuation of earlier clearing

# Liberty Prairie Clearing-After



- 10 brush Piles (2020)

# Restoration Mowing

- Final year of mowing Donnelley Prairies and Oaks
- Restoration mowing at Liberty Prairie, River, St. Mary's, Rt. 137, Oak Openings



# Prescribed Burning

- 266 total acres burned
  - 105 acres in-house
  - 142 acres contracted
    - Canterbury, Rt. 137
- 6 In-house burn days



# Liberty Prairie



# Liberty Prairie – March 20

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# Liberty Prairie – May 10th

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# Oak Openings





# Oak Openings



# Tree Work



- Dead and dying trees- *Populus alba*
- Extreme lean
- Target - private property & buildings



# Tree Work



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# Tree Work



- Contracted with Clean Cut
- 10 trees
- Climbed and Crane removal

# Tree Work



- In-house removals
- Wind/storm damage
- Dead and dying trees
- Target - driveway easement, Casey Rd, trails, utility lines

# Tree Work



# Conservation Easement Monitoring

- Annual monitoring visits on Township held conservation easements:
  - Bott, Brennan, Getz and Maxey
- Bleck Easement monitoring – Owner exercising reserved rights



# Equipment Auction



- 2007 Ford F150 sold at auction
- 71,000 miles
- 12 years old - associated maintenance issues & needs
- Didn't meet current needs - no 4X4, low towing/hauling capacity, etc.

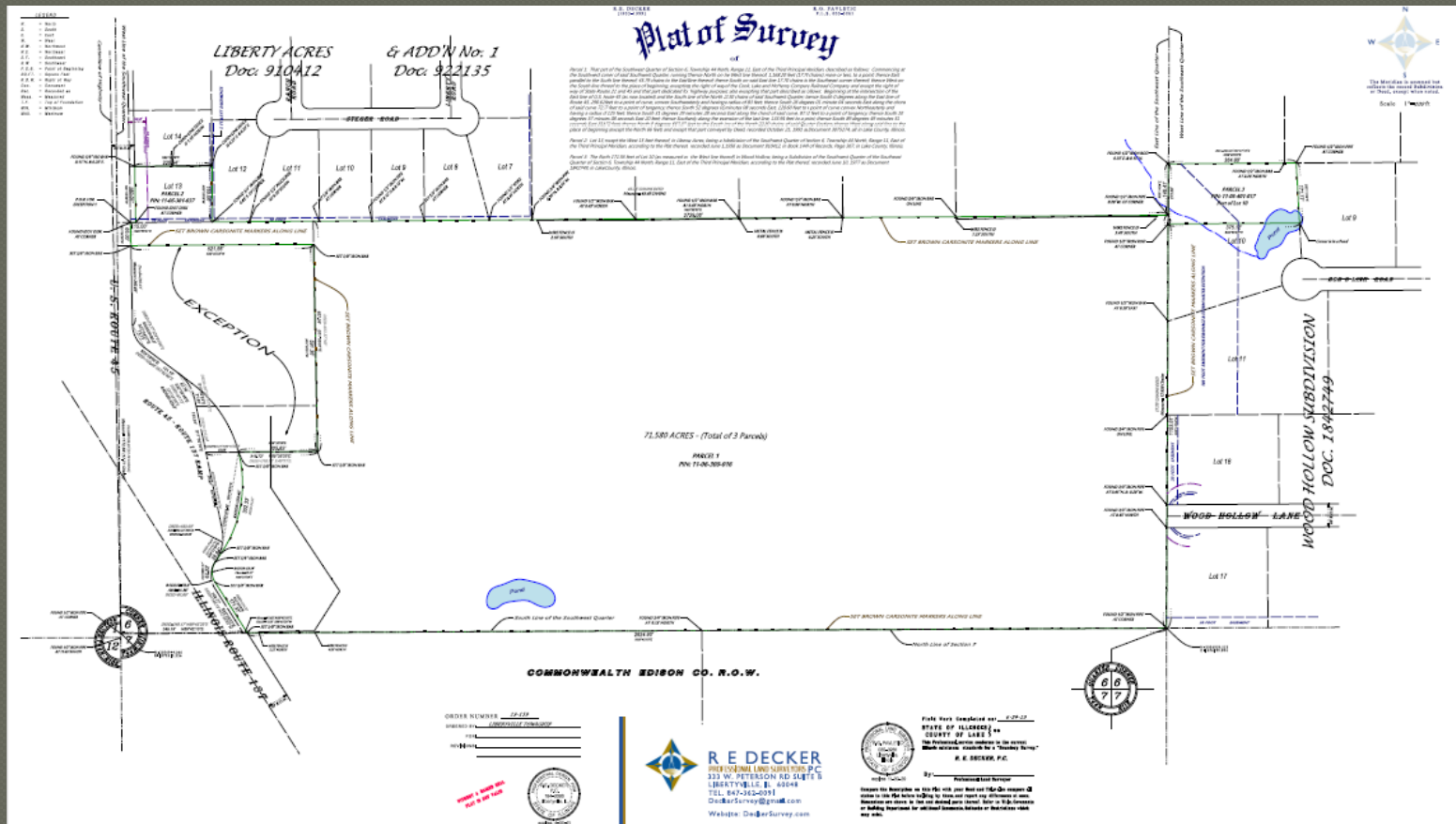


# Equipment Purchase



- 2019 F350 4X4 long bed
- Increase capacities - Towing and cargo
- Necessary features - 4X4, long bed, weight rating, Bluetooth

# Property Surveys and Boundary Marking



- Contracted with RE Decker
- Completed Rt. 45 parcel & east line of Winchester Rd.

# Project Kick Off- Egidi Lane Drainage



- Flooding and drainage concern
- Background - Rt. 21 construction, siltation
- Associated Issues - erosion, ice, sediment
- Engineering services - Pearson Brown
- Begin construction soon



# Project Kick Off- Egidi Lane Drainage

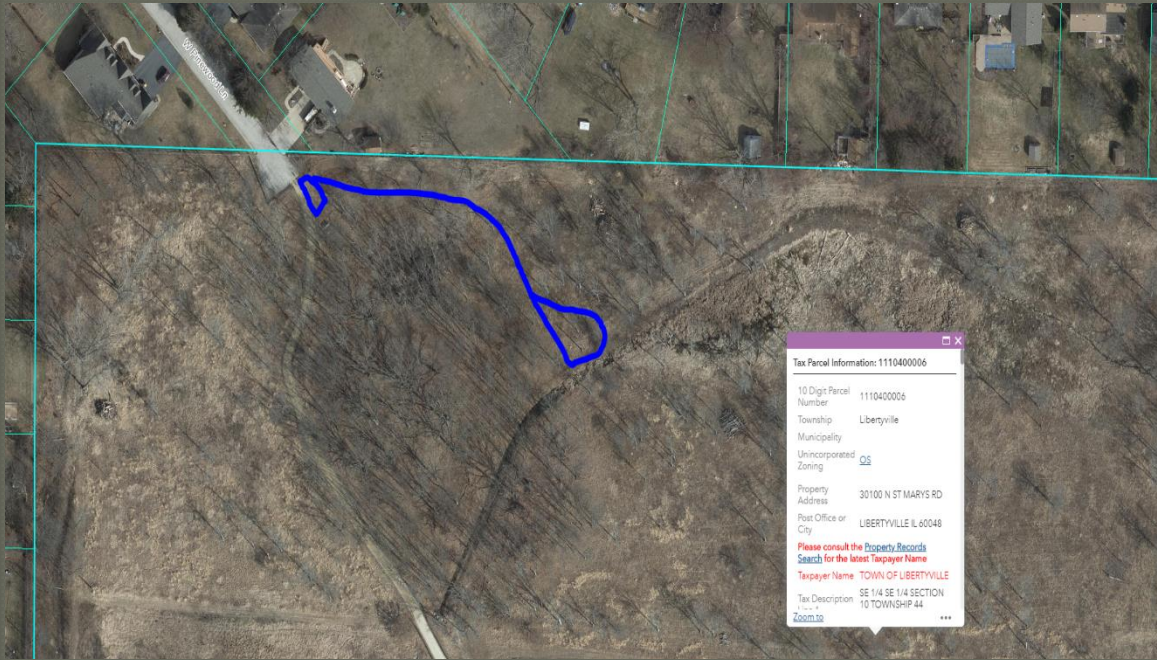


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# Project Kick Off- St. Mary's Drainage

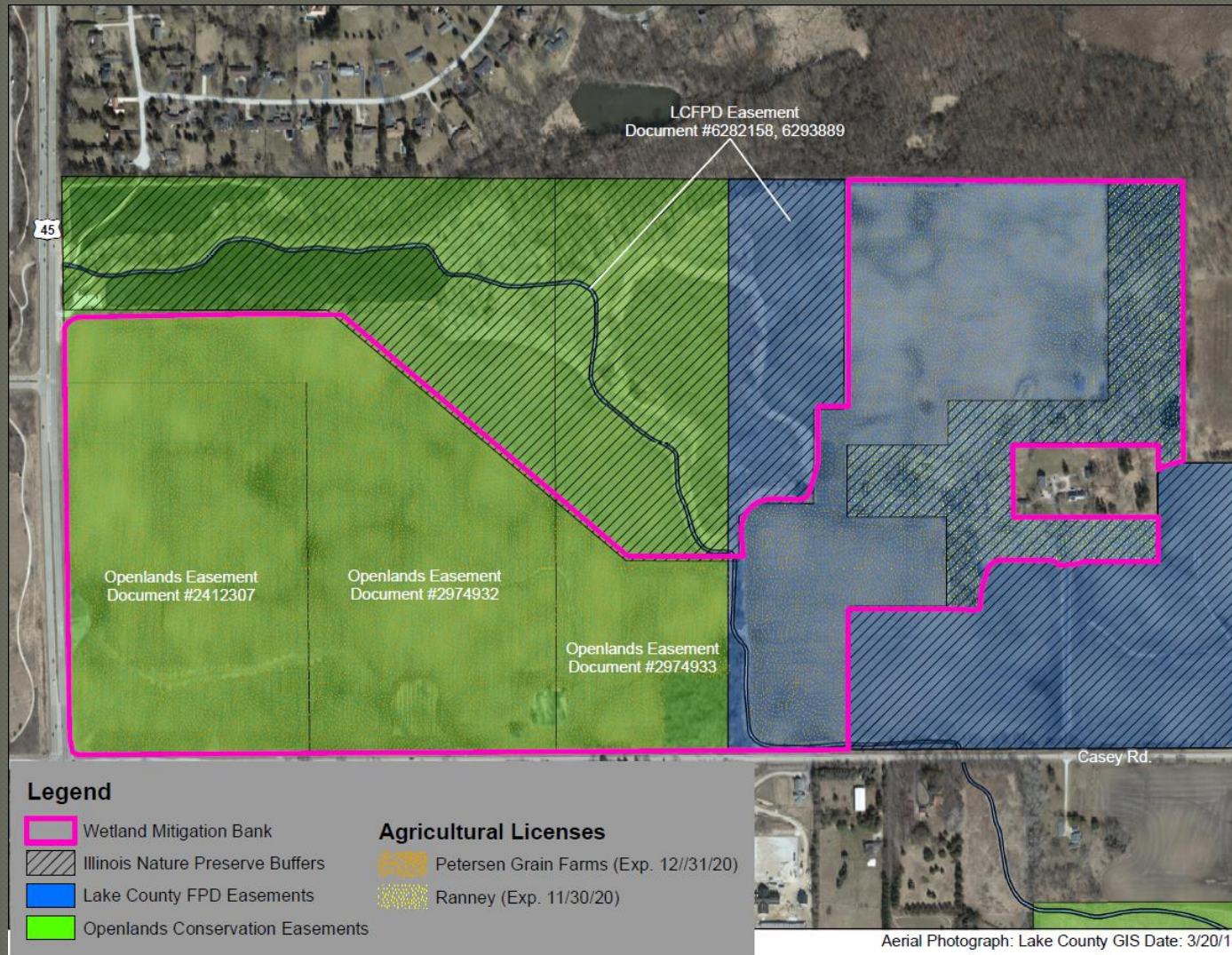


- Flooding & drainage concern
- Background
- Increased and concentrated stormwater flow
- Contracted with Pearson Brown
- Remedy/construction plan
- Construction to start soon

# Project Kick Off- St. Mary's Drainage



# Project Kick Off-Donnelley Mitigation Bank



# Volunteer Herbicide Class

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- Held on January 9<sup>th</sup>, 2019
- 8 participants
- Training allows the participants to apply herbicides to invasive plants during volunteer workdays



# Volunteer Projects

- Plug planting & native seeding with the Sierra Club at Liberty Prairie Unit
- 319 Plug Planting
- Carmel High School seed collecting at Canterbury



# Provide Assistance

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT



FOOD PANTRY & GROUNDS



# Office & Planning



- Management plans
- Budgeting needs
- Request For Quotes
- Reporting
  - Open Space/MS4 monthly reports
  - Grants
  - Illinois Nature Preserve Commission
- Scheduling
- Ball Field permits
- Rx burning & clearing
- Daily logs

# 2020 Preview

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## ○ Spring

- Rt. 137 prescribed burn and herbicide application bid – Second application
- Turf herbicide application
- Egidi Ln. drainage project
- Begin 319 Grant maintenance

## ○ Summer

- Continue Casey Road Restoration Phase I maintenance

## ○ Fall

- Prescribed burn at Atkinson Rd., Rt. 137

## ○ Winter

- Rt. 137 wetland seeding

# Thanks!

- Residents and Neighbors
- Volunteers
- Seasonal Employees
  - Elizabeth Friday
  - Jack McDonnell
  - Matt Apgar
  - Mike Geary
  - Will Ford
- Questions?

