



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: October 31, 2011
Contact: Brandi Beckley, Public Information Supervisor
935 Maple Avenue
630-963-1300
www.dgparks.org
bbeckley@dgparks.org

Park District awarded 2011 Conservation and Native Landscaping Award *Lyman Woods Streambank Stabilization Project*

DOWNERS GROVE, Ill. – The US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and Chicago Wilderness selected the Downers Grove Park District as recipient of the 2011 Conservation and Native Landscaping Award for the Lyman Woods Streambank Stabilization Project. The award recognizes sites that are exemplary in the use of native landscaping, ecosystem restoration and protection, and/or conservation design.

The Lyman Woods Streambank Stabilization Project began with phase one in 2004 and was completed in 2009 with its third and final construction phase, although ongoing maintenance & monitoring will continue over the next several years as required by state and federal permitting agencies. Heavy storm water run-off had severely eroded numerous stream banks and deposited soil and pollutants into existing wetlands, and reduced water quality within the Lacey Creek Watershed. The Park District initiated this priority restoration project with the goal of restoring the streambank, improving and protecting the water quality of Lacey Creek by reducing pollution, and utilizing bioengineering solutions such as vegetated geolifts, rock riffles and stepped pools to capture, store and filter storm water prior to discharge into two tributaries.

The US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and Chicago Wilderness commended the Park District and Forest Preserve District for enhancing the habitat and biodiversity of the property by protecting water quality and increasing the ecological health of the 159 acres of preserve. They recognized the hard work and commitment to biodiversity conservation by the Park District

through the protection of habitat via active monitoring and management plan, as well as inspiring hands-on learning from the community. The Park District will receive the award at a ceremony to be held at the Chicago Botanic Garden Auditorium on December 7th.

The Downers Grove Park District is dedicated to providing a wide variety of year-round recreation programs, facilities, parks, open space and natural areas that respond to the articulated needs and desires of residents. For more information, call (630) 963-1300, or visit www.dgparks.org.

#