

2020 Meeting of the Long Grove Village President and the Long Grove Homeowner Association Presidents March 2, 2020

General Issues Regarding Long Grove Conservancy Areas

Most residential subdivisions within the Village of Long Grove contain some areas which have been designated as “conservancy” which were identified as part of a plat of subdivision for a particular development. Recently the Village has received some complaints of encroachments into these areas of some subdivisions. As subdivisions age and new residents move into the Village, some people may not be aware of Conservancy Areas or the restrictions associated with them on their property. The following is offered as an attempt to educate (or perhaps re-educate) residents and minimize encroachments into these protected areas.

What is a Conservancy Area?

Conservancy areas are identified by an easement which is established on the property at the time of subdivision and restricts the use of property so designated. Once established conservancies are intended to be permanent; alteration of the boundaries of these areas is generally difficult if not impossible and strongly discouraged.

In general conservancy areas are established to protect lands which may have limitations for building construction (wetlands & flood hazard areas), are groundwater recharge areas, and also function as a mechanism to protect open space and contribute greatly to the character of the community. Specific types of soils are the principal factor in the determination of conservancy areas.

There are two types of Conservancy District identified in the Village Zoning regulations. These are the Upland and Lowland Conservancy Districts. The zoning ordinance identifies specific uses which may occur in these districts. Of the two the Lowland Conservancy District is much more restrictive than the Upland Conservancy District. In general, **conservancy districts are intended to remain in their natural and undisturbed state.** However, maintenance and the removal of nonnative, invasive or noxious vegetation is encouraged. No permit is required for the removal of nonnative invasive or noxious vegetation. Replanting or other restoration may occur when in conformance with the conservancy district regulations as prescribed by the Village Code.

The Conservancy District regulations as prescribed by the Village Code may be viewed on the Village web page www.longgroveil.gov.

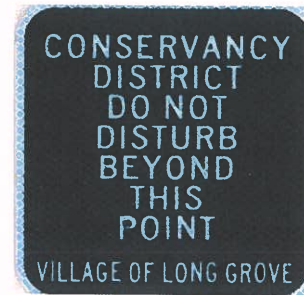
Additional restrictions may be found on the plat of subdivision for a particular development. This plat should also be checked for restrictions of use with regard to conservancy areas. Most encroachments into conservancy areas, when permitted, require

an application to and the review and approval of the Conservancy and Scenic Corridor Committee (CSCC) as well as the Village Board.

Homeowner Responsibilities for Conservancy Areas

Homeowners have certain responsibilities per the Village Code with regard to the identification of conservancy areas. These include:

- Posting of signs on four inch by four inch (4" x 4") treated posts three feet (3') in the ground and extending three feet (3') above the ground at locations with signs as provided by the Village (locations as designated by the Building Commissioner).
- These signs shall be maintained at all times by the owner of the lot.
- The signs shall indicate in substance to all persons that the easement areas are not to be disturbed.



As subdivisions become older these markers may become knocked down or otherwise displaced. Replacement signs are available at a cost of \$10.00 each from Village Hall. Encroachments into conservancy areas constitute a violation of the Village Code and may result in fines or other remedial action on the part of the Village.

Scenic corridor easements may also be found on certain properties within the Village. These are different from and are generally less restrictive than Conservancy Easements but still require application to and approval by the CSCC & Village Board prior to any non- maintenance alteration of these areas. No permit is required for the removal of nonnative invasive or noxious vegetation in a Scenic Corridor Easement (i.e. maintenance).

Additional information as well as applications and procedures for requests to the CSCC may be obtained by contacting James Hogue, Village Planner @ 847-634-9440.

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Maintenance of Natural Areas Invasive Plants

Invasive plants are often found in native areas and eradication of these unwanted items almost always take more than a one-time effort and in some cases the elimination of some invasive non-native plants.

The following undesirable (“invasive/noxious”) plants are commonly found in natural areas:

- Buckthorn



- Canada Thistle



- Garlic Mustard



- Phragmites



- Purple Loosestrife



- Reed Canary Grass



- Teasel



Removal of Invasive/Noxious Vegetation

Nonnative species may be removed as well as invasive or noxious vegetation. No permit is required for the removal of nonnative invasive or noxious vegetation including, but not limited to, those listed above and other such invasive or noxious vegetation.

There is a wide range of methods to control these plants from pulling them up by hand (Garlic Mustard, etc.) to large machinery to get rid of dense infestations of invasive trees and shrubs. There are several herbicides that are used to control some of the plants; but the specific

instructions for use should be followed and the chemicals should not be over-used. Special care is required in or around water and herbicides that are used in these areas normally are used only by a licensed professional.

Maintaining Conservancy Districts and Scenic Corridor Easements

Management of conservancy districts and scenic corridor easements areas are permitted and encouraged. Conservancy district and scenic corridor easement areas may be periodically maintained, renovated, and replanted, but only in accordance with the specific provisions which govern these areas. Protected areas may be replanted with native species (from the approved plant species list) but any such activities require the prior review of the CSCC and final approval by the Village Board.

Controlled burning is a management strategy to enhance and restore these areas. Burning is encouraged when done in a safe manner and in accordance with applicable regulations.

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**Maintenance of Natural Areas
Burning**

Natural Areas in Long Grove are often found in Conservancy and Scenic Corridor Easements; some residents have created natural areas for the benefits they bring to their lives and property. Natural areas of all types need management and periodic maintenance. Controlled burning is a management strategy to enhance and restore these areas. A spring burn is the most common and allows old vegetation to protect the natural area over winter and minimize soil erosion. Fall burning is also acceptable, particularly in wetlands and lowlands, when a spring burn is not a viable alternative.

Burning is encouraged when done in a safe manner and in accordance with applicable regulations. While an excellent management tool, burning is a potentially dangerous activity. Individuals or Homeowners Associations, desirous of burning conservancy areas or other natural area should contact their Fire Protection District for permits and recommended procedures and guidelines.

Planning is a critical step in conducting a safe controlled burn. Permits must be obtained from the fire protection districts in conjunction with the Illinois EPA. Additionally, notification to Fire Protection Districts, the Lake County Sheriff and adjacent property owners must occur. Proper equipment (clothing, shovels or flappers, water supply for emergencies, etc.) and fire breaks must also be planned for. Burns should not be conducted during periods of high winds or anticipated high winds.

A safe burn requires a “crew” of people and in the past has been a focal point of community and neighborhood activity, particularly in the spring. It is highly desirable that a crew member(s) have participated in a previous planned burn. Educational Workshops are sometimes offered through various agencies such as “Chicago Wilderness Burn Crew Training”. A search on-line may offer more opportunities for such training.

Many local landscape companies offer professional controlled burn services as well.

RESOURCE LIST*
**Natural Areas & Long Grove Conservancy / Scenic Corridor Easement
Restoration**

Conservation Groups

- Ancient Oaks Foundation
 - 52 Robertson Road, Long Grove, IL 60047
 - (224) 286-1312
 - <https://www.ancientoaksfoundation.org>

- Chicago Botanic Garden
 - 1000 Lake Cook Road, Glencoe, IL 60022
 - (847) 835-5440
 - <https://www.chicagobotanic.org/>

- Citizens for Conservation
 - 459 IL-22, Barrington, IL 60010
 - (847) 382-7283
 - <https://citizensforconservation.org>
 - Habituate Corridors: home visits
 - Native Plant Sales in May and Fall

- Lake County Forest Preserve District
 - 1899 West Winchester Road, Libertyville, IL 60048
 - (847) 367-6640
 - <https://www.lcfd.org>
 - Native Plant Sale in May

- Openlands - Lake County
 - <https://www.openlands.org/livability/lakecounty>
 - Conserve@Home: for Lake County property owners
 - Native Plants Sale in May

- The Morton Arboretum
 - 4100 IL-53, Lisle, IL 60532
 - (630) 968-0074
 - trees@mortonarb.org
 - <https://www.mortonarb.org/>

- Wild Ones, Lake-to-Prairie Chapter
 - P.O. Box 37, Round Lake Beach, IL 60073
 - (847) 546-4198
 - wildones.laketoprairie@gmail.com
 - <https://laketoprairie.wildones.org/>

Conservation Businesses

- Bluestem Ecological Services
 - 19812 West Coral Road, Marengo, IL 60152
 - (815) 568-2927
 - info@bluestemeco.com
 - <https://bluestemeco.com>

- Conservation Land Stewardship
 - 2727 IL 53, Long Grove, IL 60047
 - (630) 559-20345
 - <https://www.conservationlandscapestewardship.com>

- E.J. General Landscaping Service
 - 30 Sandhurst Road, Mundelein, IL 60060
 - (847) 815-7458

- Eubanks Environmental
 - 34475 N. Circle Drive, Round Lake, IL 60073
 - (847) 456-5604
 - eubanksinc@gmail.com
 - www.eubanksenvironmental.com

- Integrated Lakes Management (ILM)
 - 110 Le Baron St., Waukegan, IL 60085
 - (847) 244-6662
 - info@ilmenvironments.com
 - ilmenvironments.com

- Liberty Prairie Restorations
 - 928 Bartlett Terrace, Libertyville, IL 60048
 - (847) 367-6311

- almoody@ameritech.net
- <http://www.libprairierestore.com/>
- McGinityBrothers, Inc
 - 3744 E Cuba Road, Long Grove, IL 60047
 - (847) 438-5161
 - mcgintybros.com
- Ringers Landscaping
 - 104 Northwest Highway, Fox River Grove, IL 60021
 - (847) 989-5593
 - info@ringerslandscaping.com
 - <https://ringerslandscaping.com>
- Stantec
 - (866) 782-6832
 - askstantec@stantec.com
 - <https://www.stantec.com/en>
- Tallgrass Restoration, LLC
 - 2221 Hammond Drive, Schaumburg, IL 60173
 - (847) 925-9830
 - <https://tallgrassrestoration.com>
- Woods to Wetlands LLC (W2W)
 - Streamwood, IL 60107
 - (708) 408-2933
 - w2w@woodstowetlands.com
 - woodstowetlands.com

Retail Native Plant Nurseries

- Agrecol Native Seed & Plant Nursery
 - 10101 North Casey Road, Evansville, WI 53536
 - (608) 223.3571
 - ecosolutions@agrecol.com
 - www.agrecol.com
- Natives Haven Nursery
 - 13809 Durkee Road, Harvard, IL 60033

- (815) 344-6623
 - nativeshaven@yahoo.com
 - <http://www.nativeshaven.com/>
- Possibility Place Nursery
 - 7548 W Monee-Manhattan Road, Monee, IL 60049
 - (708) 534-3988
 - <https://www.possibilityplace.com/>
- Red Buffalo Nursery
 - 5515 Hill Road, Richmond, IL 60071
 - (815) 648-4848
 - jack@redbuffalonursery
 - <http://www.redbuffalonursery.com/>

On-line Native Plant Nurseries

- Natural Communities
 - 19 Circle Drive, Algonquin, IL 60102
 - (331) 248-1016
 - naturalcommunities.net
 - www.naturalcommunities.net
- Pizzo Native Plant Nursery
 - 10729 Pine Road, Leland, IL 60531
 - (815) 981-8000
 - pizzonursey.com
- Prairie Moon Nursery
 - 32115 Prairie Lane, Winona, MN 55987
 - (866) 417-8156
 - www.prairiemoon.com
- Prairie Nursery
 - W5875 Dyke Avenue, Westfield, WI 53964
 - (800) 476-9453
 - www.prairie.com

* THIS LIST IS INTENDED AS A RESOURCE FOR THE RESTORATION OF
NATURAL AREAS INCLUDING CONSERVANCY AND SCENIC
CORRIDOR EASEMENTS

* THIS LIST IS NOT ALL INCLUSIVE AND SHOULD NOT BE
CONSTRUED AS A RECOMMENDATION OR ENDORSEMENT OF ANY OF
THE COMPANIES LISTED HEREIN

The following general selection criteria should be considered when hiring a certified contractor:

- Knowledge of the local ecology and woodland management.
- Obtain proposals from more than one certified contractor to compare pricing.
- Proper insurance coverage (copy of the contractor's Certificate of Insurance on file with Village).
- Valid Herbicide Applicator's License issued by the State, and a copy on file with the Village.
- Tree contractors should have a Certified Arborist on staff.
- The contractor must have proper burn training if implementing a prescribed burn.

Certified Ecological Restoration Contractors

<p>ENCAP, Inc. 1709 Afton Road Sycamore, IL 60189 Phone: (815) 899-1621 Contact: Kenny McPeek www.encapinc.net</p>	<p>Hey & Associates, Inc. 26575 W. Commerce Dr. Suite 601 Volo, IL 60073 Phone: (847) 740-0888 Contact: John Hines www.heyassoc.com</p>	<p>Integrated Lakes Management, Inc. 120 LeBaron Street Waukegan, IL 60085 Phone: (847) 244-6662 Contact: Kelley Black www.lakesmanagement.com</p>
<p>Liberty Prairie Restorations, LLC 928 Bartlett Terrace Libertyville, Illinois 60048 Phone: (847) 367-6311 Contact: Al Moody www.libprairierestore.com</p>	<p>McGinty Bros., Inc. 27788 W. Case Road Wauconda, IL 60084 Phone: (847) 526-9322 Contact: Taylor Abrahamson www.mcgintybros.com</p>	<p>Native Restoration Services, Inc. 403 Rockland Road, Suite 2 Lake Bluff, IL 60044 Phone: (847) 347-4685 Contact: Ryan Bovgn www.nativerestorationservicesco</p>
<p>Natural Environments 23520 Old McHenry Road Lake Zurich, IL 60047 Phone: (847) 438-5315 Contact: Robert Boyce www.mnatural1@att.net</p>	<p>Pizzo and Associates 10729 Pine Road Leland, IL 60531 Phone: (815) 495-2300 Contact: Joe Pizzo www.pizzo.info</p>	<p>Tallgrass Restoration, Inc. 2221 Hammond Drive Schaumburg, IL 60173 Phone: (847) 925-9830 Contact: Doug Dewitt www.tallgrassrestoration.com</p>