

ILLINOIS PRAIRIE PATH (IPPC)

Website: www.ipp.org

Address / PO Box 1086 - Wheaton, IL 60187 / Phone: (630) 752-0120 / Follow Us: [Twitter](#) | [Facebook](#) | [Flickr](#)
Conference Contact: Mary Jo Malach, Secretary (maryjomalach@gmail.com)

The location of The Illinois Prairie Path (IPP) is in the western suburbs of Chicago, from Maywood in Cook Country through DuPage County to Aurora and Elgin in Kane County. The IPP, the first rails-to-trails conversion established and maintained by VOLUNTEERS in the United States, follows the right of way of a former railroad.

Be sure to read the *National Geographic Traveler/IntelligentTravel* blog: ***Rails-to-Trails America: 7 Urban Escapes*** by Jeanine Barone. The Path is one of the 7 urban trails highlighted.

<http://intelligenttravel.nationalgeographic.com/2015/07/15/rails-to-trails-america-7-urban-escapes/>

We invite you to EXPLORE the prairies and abundant nature along the Path as a walker, biker, runner or equestrian; VOLUNTEER and help maintain the Path; become a MEMBER and your dues will help create and maintain Path amenities and special projects such as the Food Forest.

NORTH CENTRAL COLLEGE ARCHIVES

North Central College Archives | Oesterle Library | 320 E. School St. | Naperville, IL | 60540
Conference Contact: Kim Butler, Archivist (630) 637-5714 | kjbutler@noctrl.edu

Come and visit the Illinois Prairie Path collection of photographs, artifacts, documents, journals, and correspondence collected over 50 years. An online guide to the collection is available on the website.

Guide to the Illinois Prairie Path Archives

<http://library.noctrl.edu/archives/collections/suburbanstudies/prairie.html>

ELMHURST GREAT WESTERN PRAIRIE

Conference Contact: Keith Olson (keitholson@usa.net)

<http://www.epd.org/elmhurst-great-western-prairie>

Prairie is the middle name
of the Illinois Prairie Path!
and Illinois is "The Prairie State",
where the prairie is Illinois' 'rain forest',
something to be treasured and protected.

PLANTS fill the prairie, but grasses are dominant - a prairie is a grassland.
Big Bluestem (turkey foot, the state grass) and Indian Grass are key grasses.
From the shooting star of May through blazing star in July to the asters of October, something is always
blooming under the full sun on the prairie

Of the many BOOKS about prairies and the environment, for starters, look for:

Where the Sky Began, Land of the Tallgrass Prairie by John Madson

(for an introduction to prairie, there's no better book)

A Sand County Almanac by Aldo Leopold

You Are the Difference – Workshop Notes

HISTORY – Kim Butler

What **ACTIONS** or **IDEAS** from the Path History will be helpful to your organization?

ACTIONS

IDEAS

PRAIRIES – Keith Olson

What **ACTIONS** or **IDEAS** from the Elmhurst Great Western Prairie will be helpful to your organization?

ACTIONS

IDEAS