Introduction

The Lake County Forest Preserve District (LCFP) is a special unit of local government. Part of the mission of the Lake County Forest Preserves is engaging local citizens in appreciating the values of natural community preservation and participating in habitat restoration. The LCFP has an active and growing volunteer stewardship program, involving over 2000 citizens annually in restoration work throughout the county. These volunteers, led by staff and forest preserve volunteer stewards, provided over 11,000 hours of time toward these efforts. With the growth of the program over the past several years, providing enough tools at centralized regional distribution points throughout the county has become challenging. These Stewardship workdays are also becoming a popular activity for youth and corporate groups who often bring out groups exceeding 100 people. This strains our ability to provide enough tools when we do have enough staff and seasoned volunteers to lead these groups.

This grant sought funds to provide an increased number of tools to lessen logistical problems in distributing tools across a rapidly developing (read that as traffic congested) county, and to take full advantage of the volunteers who come out to our workdays. It will benefit natural areas by increasing the amount of brush that is removed in the winter workdays, opening up more areas for rejuvenation by native species. The success of the program from our perspective will be determined by the satisfaction of volunteers who are able to obtain enough tools for special large workdays without having to drive around the whole county rounding up tools, and then returning them after the workday.

Materials

Through the use of Illinois Wildlife Preservation Funds the LCFP:

1. Purchased tools, some of them "child friendly" and tool bags for the use of the volunteers during stewardship workdays on preserves around the county.
2. Distributed the tools in three regional repositories in Deerfield, Libertyville, and Lindenhurst for easy access.
3. Used tools in advertised workdays.

Methods

August, 2002 Planned workday calendar for winter workdays
Bought tools, duffel bags, and first aid kits for tool bags and deliver to distribution sites.

November 2002 – April 2003 Use tools in supervised stewardship workdays with youth and corporate groups.

Results

We adhered to the time table outlined in the grant proposal (see workday attachments), and began with the use of the tools in the winter workdays in early November and continued with brush cutting at a wide variety of sites through mid April.

Discussion

The additional tools we purchased through the grant were invaluable as our student participation mushroomed, particularly in the fall. The new Fiskar loppers are much easier for the students to use because of the ratcheting action of the loppers, allowing them to be successful in cutting the

brush. The additional tools also eased tool distribution issues, allowing us to station tool sets regionally reducing both staff and volunteer time in getting the tools and returning them to the regional distribution points. The additional tools also facilitated big workdays by corporate and student groups by enabling us to have enough tools so everyone could be actively involved in the workdays.

Summary
The increased supply of tools allowed regional tool distribution points to be established or fortified. This system reduced staff and volunteer time spent in picking up and returning tools, and also facilitated student participation in brush clearing workdays.

Expenditures (see attached invoices)
Labor
Stewardship Volunteer Coordinator:

46.5 hours supervising workdays and getting and distributing new tools	$1361*

* includes benefits

Volunteer hours

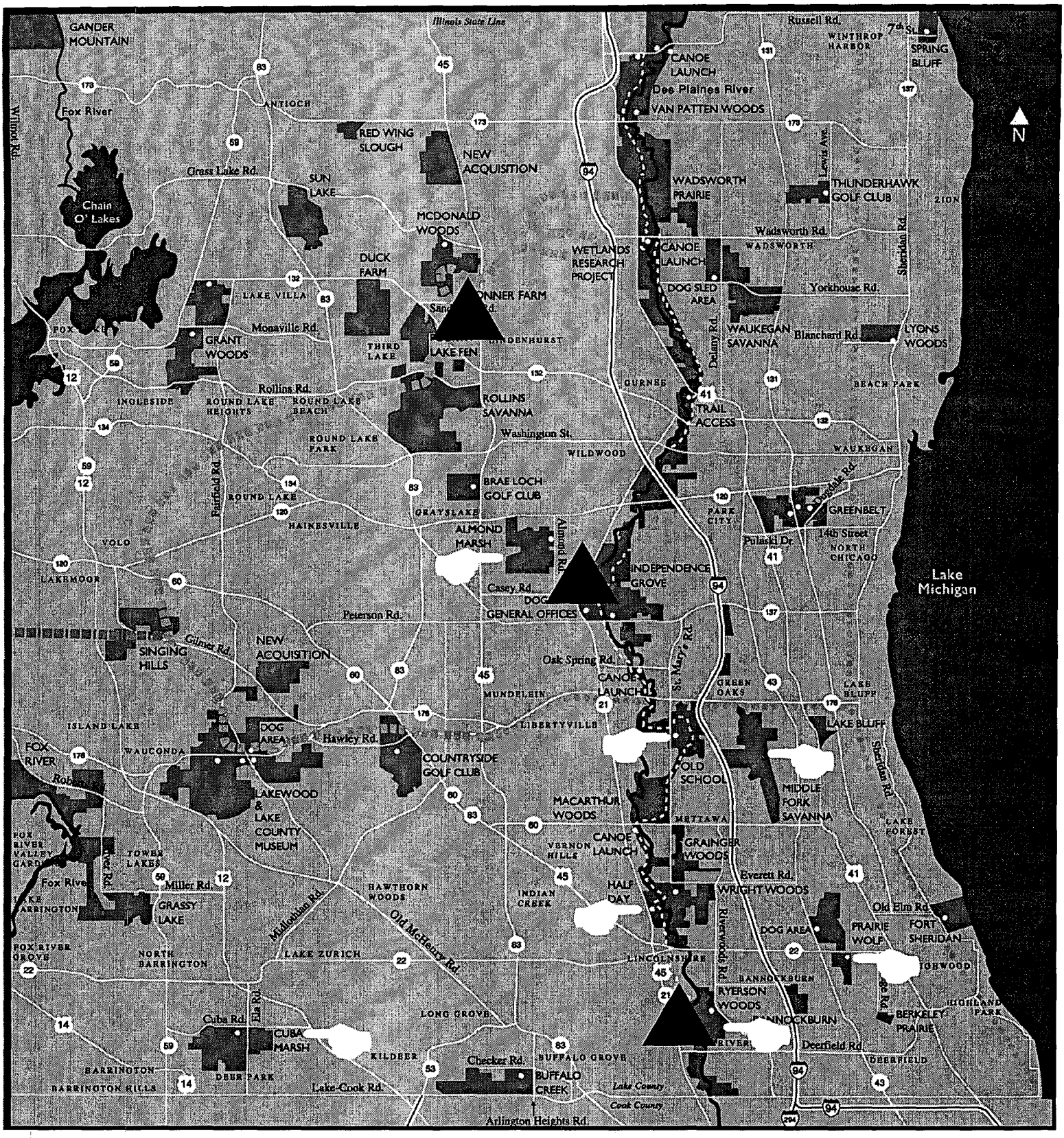
638 hours at workdays (see attached Time Sheet) @ $10/hour	$6380

Commodities

37 Fiskars Anvil Loppers	737.60	
30 Bow Saws	319.00	
		$1056.60
	TOTAL	**$8797.60**

Attachments:
Map of Project Area
Press Release
Photos of Project
Project Time Sheet
Tool Invoices
Payment Request Certification

Attachment 2: Sites where tools were used in the winter of 2002-2003



Lake County Forest Preserves

Indicates regional tool storage sites where the tools would be distributed to the volunteers.

Indicates sites where workdays took place using the new tools.

NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE USE

OCTOBER 1, 2002

CONTACT:
Lynn Hepler, Outreach & Stewardship Manager, 847-968-3331

ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES SUPPORT LAKE COUNTY FOREST PRESERVES STEWARDSHIP EFFORTS

The Lake County Forest Preserves Volunteer Stewardship program has received a grant from the Illinois Department of Natural Resources with contributions from the Illinois Wildlife Preservation Fund.

The $1,000 grant will help supply the necessary tools used by the Lake County Forest Preserves Volunteer Stewards. Stewards help Forest Preserve land managers and ecologists restore vital habitat by hosting restoration workdays at various Forest Preserves throughout Lake County.

The grant will help accomplish three important goals of the Stewardship program. New tools will supplement current inventory to provide extra tools for big workdays when scouts and corporate groups come out. The funding will help supply "child friendly" tools for scout groups who sometimes find adult sized tools too heavy and awkward to use effectively. Finally, the tools will be distributed around the county at strategic distribution points to reduce Volunteer Steward travel time.

With over 11,000 hours of Volunteer Stewardship efforts, the program has become a vital component to the overall mission of the Lake County Forest Preserves.

-more-

Through the generosity and support of the Illinois Department of Natural Resources in conjunction with the Illinois Wildlife Preservation Fund efforts will be more effective in clearing brush from natural areas, allowing for rejuvenation by native species.

To learn more about Volunteer Stewardship opportunities please contact Tom Smith, Stewardship Coordinator, at 847-968-3329. Visit our website at www.LCFPD.org to find out where a restoration workday is occurring in a Preserve near you.

###

452-5884

IDNR Grant Tool - Hours

Volunteer G					
Date	Preserve	Group	Number of Participants	Number of Hours	Total man hours
11-9-02	Cuba Ela	Scouts Students	38	3	114 0.0
11-16-02	Old School	Students	23	3	69 0.0
11-23-02	Ryerson	Student & Volunteer + P²	31	3	93 0.0
12-28-02	Middle Fork	volunteers	4	3	12 0.0
1-4-03	Half Day	Students & Volunteers	8	2	16 0.0
2-8-03	Cuba Ela	Volunteers Students	9	2½	22 0.0
2-13-03	Old School		10	3	30 0.0
2-15	Prairie Wolf		10	3	30 0.0
3-22-03	Ryerson		14	~~42~~ 3	~~588~~ 0.0 42
3-03	Ryerson		5	9	45 0.0
4-12-03	Old School	Sidal	18	6	108 0.0
4-19-03	Old School		19	3	57 0.0
					0.0
					0.0
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					0.0
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					0.0
					0.0
					0.0
					0.0

Total ~~[illegible]~~ hours
638

Gardenscape Ltd.

2373 Queen St.E.
Toronto, Ontario M4E 1H2
1-888-472-3266 fax (416) 698-9068

Invoice No.

INVOICE

Customer

Name	Bill Thompson	Lake County Forest Preserves	
Address	27230 Forest Preserve Drive		
City	Wauconda	IL	60084
Phone	847-968-3374		

Date	8/30/02
Order No.	1717-8598-2713
GST#	87124368
FOB	

Qty	Description	Unit Price	TOTAL
37	Fiskars Anvil Lopper	$18.00	$666.00

RECEIVED BY:
BILL THOMPSON
ACCOUNT CODE
~~100000000169000~~
6530 3800 643000 -42032
9-9-02

	SubTotal	$666.00
	Shipping & Handling	$71.60
	Taxes	
US $	TOTAL	$737.60

Payment Details

- ○ Cheque
- ◉ Credit Card
- ○ Auth#: 049282

Name
CO #
Expires

Office Use Only

RETURNS:

30 Days Gaurantee - return in original (unused) condition by REGULAR POST or AIR MAIL POST and we will refund or give an exchange or credit of the item.

NOTE: Shipping costs are not refundable unless the item is defective.

WE DO NOT ACCEPT RURNS BY COURIER SERVICES SUCH AS UPS, FEDEX, ETC. *as there is an additional customs brokerage charge at the border.*

Call us at 1-888-472-3266 or email info@gardenscape.on.ca with any questions or concerns.

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Phone 1-937-773-2694 Fax 1-937-773-9993
FEDERAL IDENTIFICATION NO. 310558693

PACKING SLIP

Acct. #: 0009751439 Ord. #: 0180587600016
LAKE COUNTY FOREST PRESERVES
BILL THOMPSON
27230 FOREST PRESERVE DR
WAUCONDA, IL 60084

Ship To:
LAKE COUNTY FOREST PRESERVES
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27230 FOREST PRESERVE DR.
WAUCONDA, IL 60084

PO# BILL THOMPSON (847) 968-3374

QTY.	ITEM NO.	DESCRIPTION	UNIT PRICE	% DISCOUNT	EXTENDED PRICE	WAREHOUSE LOCATION
10	3914	SAW 21 IN BOW BAHCO	9.80	NET	98.00	AA00AA02
		The following items have been backordered				
20	3914	SAW 21 IN BOW BAHCO				

RECEIVED BY:
BILL THOMPSON
ACCOUNT CODE
~~1000000160000~~
653038006430 00-42032

09/03/02 WWW02 INT0902 09/03/02 0000226557 08 01

Net Product $	98.00
P & H	25.00
Total Shipment $	123.00
Amt Charged to MC	123.00

Paid BY

This is your receipt for your credit card order.
Please do not pay.

A.M. Leonard, Inc.
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Piqua, Ohio 45356-0816

476733
ID 001203722010
UPS Ground

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ID 001203722027
UPS Ground

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27230 FOREST PRESERVE DR
WAUCONDA, IL 60084

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241 Fox Drive
Piqua, Ohio 45356-0816

476733
ID 001203722034
UPS Ground

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Phone 1-937-773-2694 Fax 1-937-773-9993
FEDERAL IDENTIFICATION NO. 310558693

PACKING SLIP

Acct. #: 0009751439 Ord. #: 0180587600024
LAKE COUNTY FOREST PRESERVES
BILL THOMPSON
27230 FOREST PRESERVE DR
WAUCONDA, IL 60084

Ship To:
LAKE COUNTY FOREST PRESERVES
BILL THOMPSON
27230 FOREST PRESERVE DR
WAUCONDA, IL 60084

PO# BILL THOMPSON (847) 968-3374

QTY.	ITEM NO.	DESCRIPTION	UNIT PRICE	% DISCOUNT	EXTENDED PRICE	WAREHOUSE LOCATION
20	3914	SAW 21 IN BOW BAHCO	9.80	NET	196.00	AA00AA0
		The following items shipped separately on: 09/03/02				
10	3914	SAW 21 IN BOW BAHCO				

RECEIVED BY:
BILL THOMPSON
ACCOUNT CODE
~~100000000169900~~
653038006430000-42032

09/03/02 WWW02 INT0902 09/10/02 0000227090 01 01

Net Product $ 196.00
Total Shipment $ 196.00
Amt Charged to MC 196.00

Paid

This is your receipt for your credit card order
Please do not pay.

A.M. Leonard 476733
TOOLS THAT WORK, SINCE 1885
ID 001206029017
UPS Ground
241 Fox Drive
Piqua, Ohio 45356-0816

LAKE COUNTY FOREST PRESERVES
BILL THOMPSON
27230 FOREST PRESERVE DR
WAUCONDA, IL 60084

PO# BILL THOMPSON

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27230 FOREST PRESERVE DR
WAUCONDA, IL 60084

PO# BILL THOMPSON

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TOOLS THAT WORK, SINCE 1885
ID 001206029031
UPS Ground
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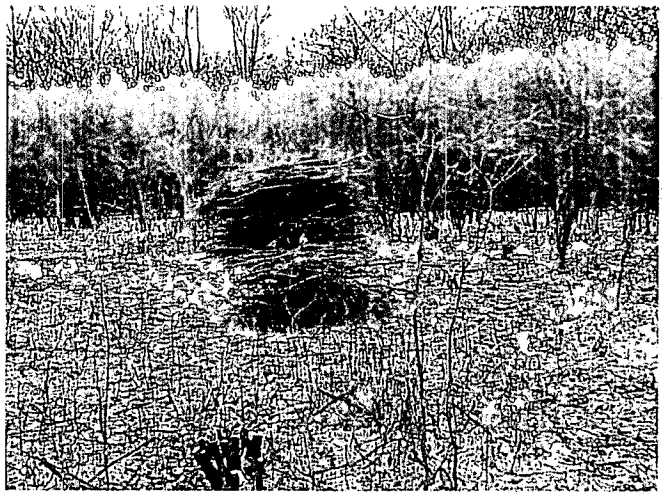
27230 FOREST PRESERVE DR
WAUCONDA, IL 60084

PO# BILL THOMPSON

Attachment 3: Pictures of the project Grant # 03-063W

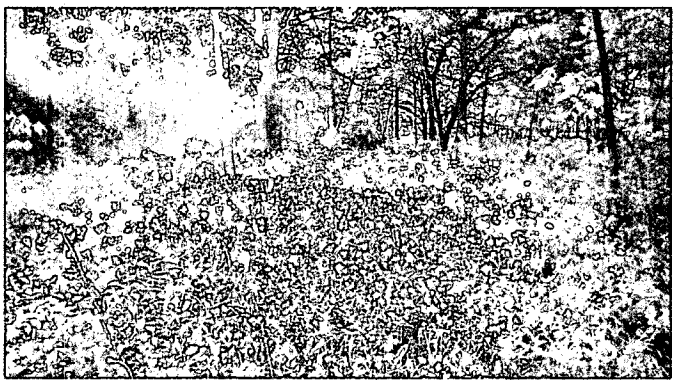
Students clearing brush at a workday.



A good workday – brushpiles built!

After a lot of man hours using the tools many brushpiles are scattered in the woods.

Burning the brushpiles with a crew of volunteers. (46 were burned that day!!!) Who has the marshmallows?



The understory springs to life after the brush is removed using the tools purchased with grant money (see brush piles in background)