February 4, 2014

Maggie Cole
Illinois Department of Natural Resources
2050 W. Stearns
Bartlett, IL 60103

Dear Ms. Cole:

On behalf of the Rockford Park District, I want to thank the Illinois Department of Natural Resources for the Wildlife Preservation Fund Grant #13-020W that allowed us to purchase and install 6 interpretive signs for Natural Areas.

I have enclosed our final report complete with our Payment Request Certification form, the billing details, and photos of the completed signs. If you are in need of any other information to complete this grant and allow for payment, please feel free to contact me.

Thank you so much for your assistance. We look forward to partnering with you again in the future.

Sincerely,

Wendy Adams

Wendy Adams
Grant Writer

ROCKFORD
PARK DISTRICT

Final Report

Grant Agreement Number: 13-020W

Grant Name, address, and telephone number:

Park Interpretive Signs for Natural Areas
Rockford Park District
401 S. Main Street
Rockford, IL 61101
815-987-8695

Time-Frame of the report: 7/18/12 to 12/31/13

Name, telephone number and email of Grantee representative completing the report:

Wendy Adams, Grant Writer
815-987-8695
wendyadams@rockfordparkdistrict.org

Project objective as described in the application and grant agreement:

Creation and installation of 2 large interpretive signs at Sinnissippi Park and Shorewood Park along the Rock River Recreation Path. The signs describe the Rock River (Shorewood Park) and a backwater marsh (at Shorewood Park) along with their natural features, benefits, plants, inhabitants, etc. with the goal of educating park patrons on what they are seeing. The Rock River Recreation Path is known as the "backyard of our community". Visitors can see sculptures, the Nicholas Conservatory & Gardens, Rose Gardens, quiet spaces and small mammals, and birds along the river and in the park. Fishermen enjoy casting from the shores and Bald Eagle are often seen soaring over the river. Nearly one million people a year visit the riverfront to enjoy it's natural beauty. This project continues the Rockford Park District's interpretive sign efforts that were started in 2011 with the Upland Prairie sign placed in Atwood Park. Other signs are planned as funding is available.

Summary of the Project accomplishments:

Six signs were designed with text and high resolution images and placed at Sinnissippi and Shorewood Parks. The signs were fabricated for outdoor display with a ten-year warranty against fading and mounted on powder-coated aluminum bases. The Rockford Park District staff assembled and mounted the signs. Concrete was used to anchor the signs in post holes.

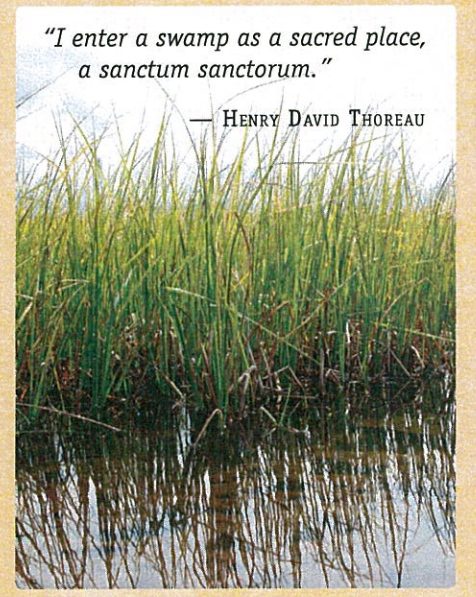
The interpretive signs describe the natural areas features, benefits, plants, animals, birds, etc. with the goal of educating park patrons on the natural features and habitats they are seeing along the Rock River in Sinnissippi and Shorewood Parks.

WETLANDS

Searls Park Prairie Nature Preserve

"I enter a swamp as a sacred place, a sanctum sanctorum."

— Henry David Thoreau



Silphium perfoliatum, Cup Plant

Helianthus grosseserratus, Sawtooth Sunflower

What is a wetland?

A wetland is generally defined as an area that is part land and water. This combination creates a hydric, or wet, soil that is able to support vegetation that can only grow in or on water. Searls Park contains three types of wetlands: wet prairie, sedge meadow, and marsh.

What is an Illinois Nature Preserve?

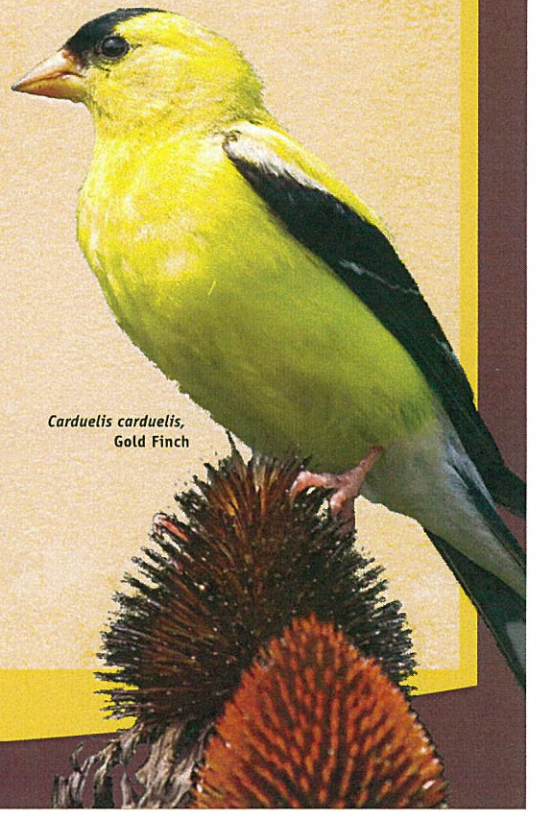
An Illinois Nature Preserve is an area of land that has been formally dedicated and protected as a sanctuary for native plants and wildlife. It is maintained in its natural condition so that present and future generations can see an example of the historic Illinois landscape.

Cistothorus platensis, Sedge Wren

Cistothorus platensis, Sedge Wren

Photo by Henry Dumke, henrydumke.com

Spartina pectinata, Cordgrass



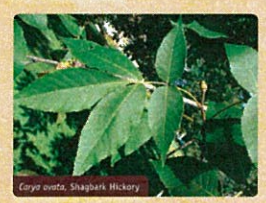
***Carduelis carduelis*, Gold Finch**

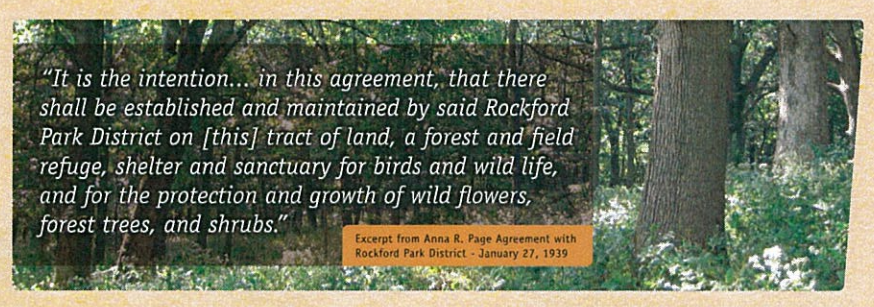
ROCKFORD PARK DISTRICT | rockfordparkdistrict.org

UPLAND FOREST

Anna R. Page Conservation Forest

Quercus, White Oak leaf


Carya ovata, Shagbark Hickory

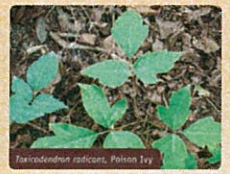

"It is the intention... in this agreement, that there shall be established and maintained by said Rockford Park District on [this] tract of land, a forest and field refuge, shelter and sanctuary for birds and wild life, and for the protection and growth of wild flowers, forest trees, and shrubs."

Excerpt from Anna R. Page Agreement with Rockford Park District - January 27, 1939

What is a forest?

Forest habitat is a closed canopy woodland dominated by trees that seasonally lose their leaves, with an under story of shade tolerant shrubs and plants.

Quercus macrocarpa, Bur Oak


Toxicodendron radicans, Poison Ivy

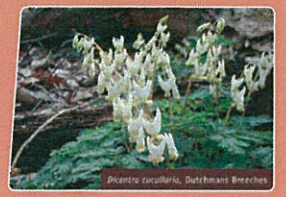
Invasive species

Plants found in a forest that are not native are called invasive species, or weeds. They can diminish the population of native plants that are crucial for the sustainability of our natural areas.

Alliaria petiolata, Garlic Mustard — Lonicera maackii, Honeysuckle

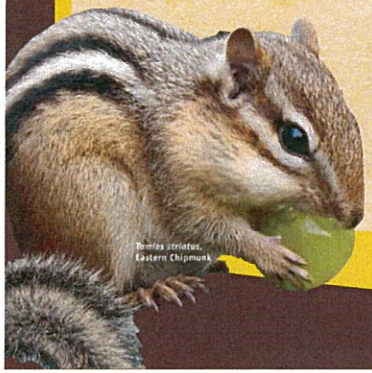
Erythronium albidum, Trout Lily

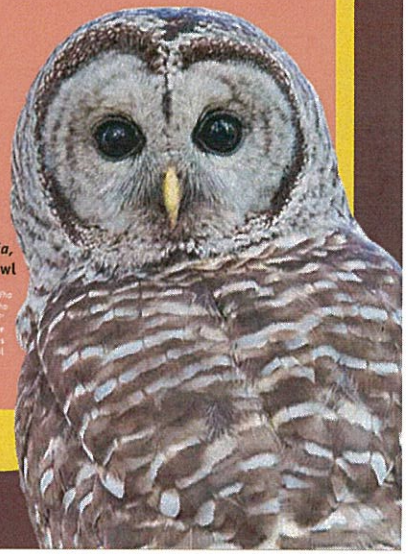
Arisaema triphyllum, Jack in the Pulpit


Dicentra cucullaria, Dutchmans Breeches

Ground layer activity

Spring wildflowers thrive in a forest during the early part of spring, before the canopy of tree leaves fully develop. This allows the sun to cut through the trees and give extra light to the wildflowers for rapid growth. By late summer, wildflowers become dormant, resisting drought and giving late-blooming plants the opportunity to receive more sunlight and populate the ground layer.


Tamias striatus, Eastern Chipmunk


***Strix varia*, Barred Owl**

The familiar "Who cooks for you? Who cooks for you all?" is the signature call of this common owl.

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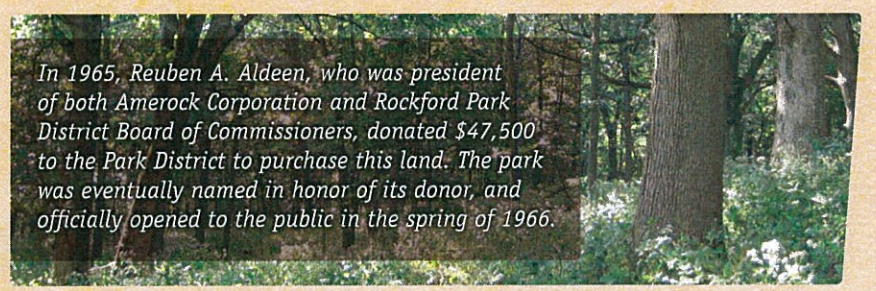
UPLAND FOREST

Reuben A. Aldeen Park

Acer saccharum, Sugar Maple leaf

Carya ovata, Shagbark Hickory

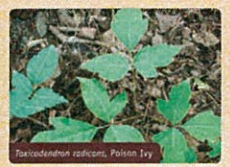


In 1965, Reuben A. Aldeen, who was president of both Amerock Corporation and Rockford Park District Board of Commissioners, donated $47,500 to the Park District to purchase this land. The park was eventually named in honor of its donor, and officially opened to the public in the spring of 1966.

What is a forest?

Forest habitat is a closed canopy woodland dominated by trees that seasonally lose their leaves, with an under story of shade tolerant shrubs and plants. Aldeen Park holds 88 acres of maple-oak woodland, prairie, and creek habitat.

Quercus macrocarpa, Bur Oak


Toxicodendron radicans, Poison Ivy

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Arisaema triphyllum, Jack in the Pulpit

Dicentra cucullaria, Dutchmans Breeches

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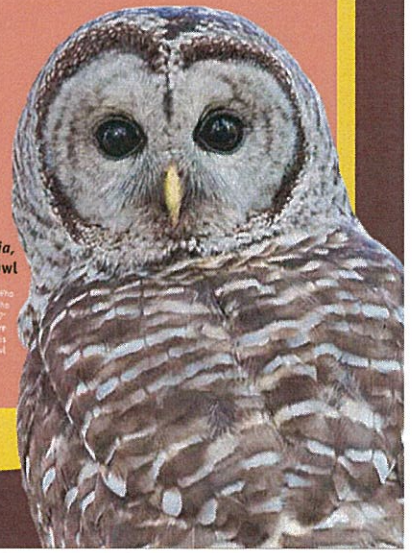


***Strix varia*, Barred Owl**

The familiar "Who cooks for you? Who cooks for you all?" is the signature call of this common owl.

Tamias striatus, Eastern Chipmunk

ROCKFORD PARK DISTRICT | rockfordparkdistrict.org

One of six interpretive signs

Total Project Expenditures:

Vendor	Address of Vendor	Description	Quantity	Date Purchased	Amount of purchase
Vacker, Inc.	948 Sherren St.W., Roseville, MN 55113	NPS traditional style base with 24"x42"frant for ground installation,	6	12/2/13	4,214.00
Prographics	4404 Boeing Dr., Rockford, IL 61109	Large Format Rec. Path Map Interpretive Signs	6	12/19/13	$767.86
Schmeling Lumber	1031 School Street Rockford, IL 61101	50# bags of Concrete	8	6/19/13	$35.34
				Total	$5017.20

'prographics'

Professional Graphics, 4404 Boeing Drive, Rockford, IL 61109
Phone: 815-226-9422 Fax: 815-226-9830

INVOICE

TERMS:
Net amounts are due within 30 days.
Interest at 1.5% per month will be charged on all overdue accounts, which is 18% per annum.
Unless customer-initiated arrangements are made with our firm, invoices over 90 days old will be reported to Dun & Bradstreet Business Credit Services for collection and legal action if necessary.
Thank you for understanding. If you have a problem in this regard, please contact our management.

Rockford Park District
ATTN: Nathan McDonald
401 S. Main
Rockford, IL 61101

Customer P.O. No. :
Customer Project No. :
Description : Rec. Path Map Interpretive Signs

Account No.	Date Shipped	Salesman	Customer Rep.	Invoice Date	Quote No.	PGI/Invoice No.
1443	12/19/13	Curt Ennenga	Spickler, Dee	12/19/13	15343.02	75631

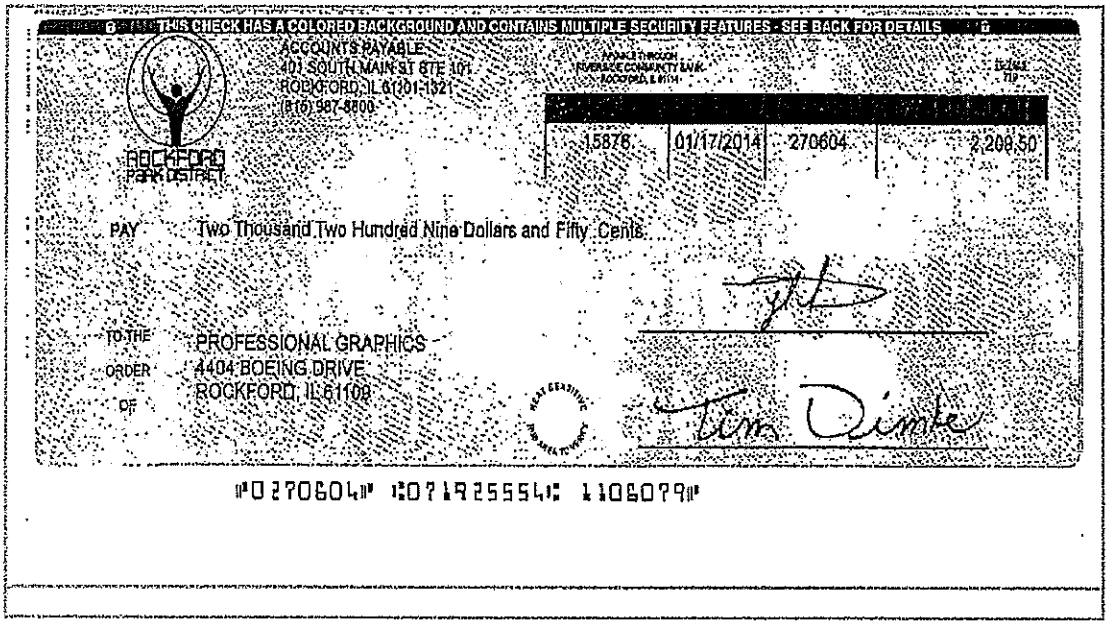
Quantity	Description	Price
1	Large Format – (6) Rec. Path Map Interpretive Signs	$767.86

Tax	
Total	**767.86**

L1

Check Image

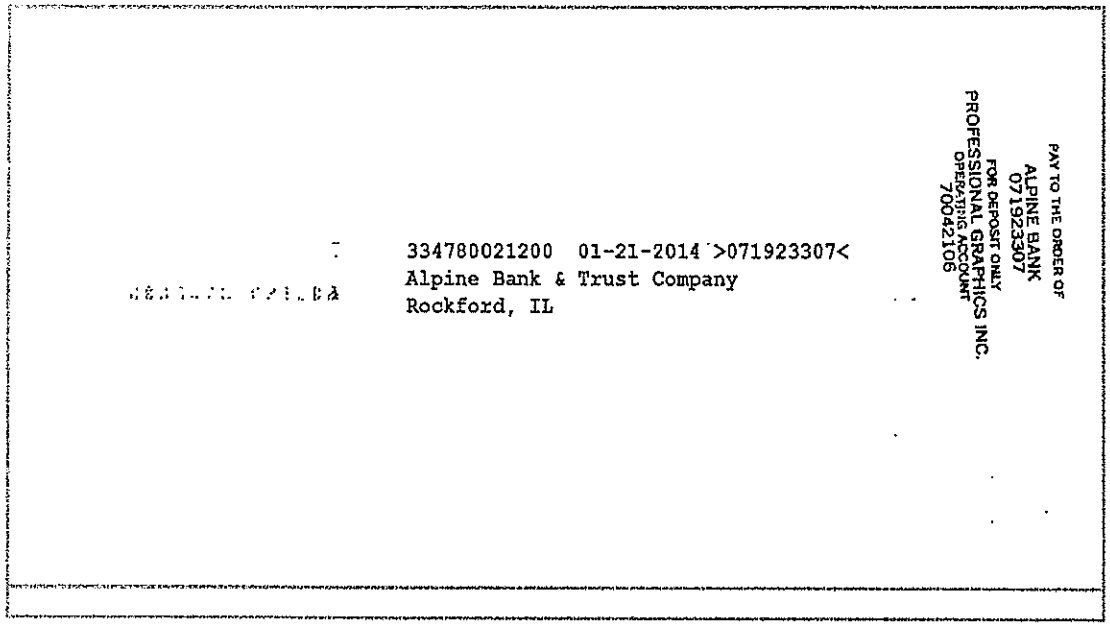
Item Reference	270604
Amount	$2,209.50



Riverside Community Bank

Check Image

Item Reference	270604
Amount	$2,209.50



Riverside Community Bank

Invoice

Date	Invoice #
12/13/2013	1018

VACKER INC.
SIGNS FOR PARKS & TRAILS
948 Sherren St. W., Roseville, MN 55113
Phone: 651.487.3100 Fax: 651.487-0304
www.vackersign.com

Bill To

Rockford Park District
Nathan McDonald
401 S Main St
Rockford, IL 61101

P.O. No.	Terms	Project
	30 days	

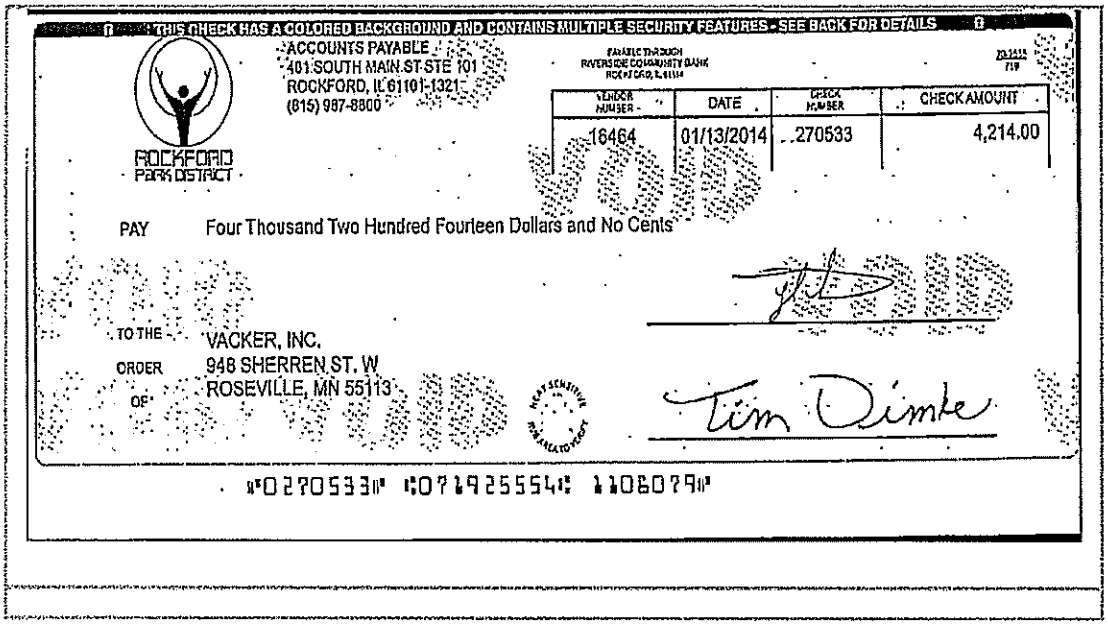
Quantity	Description	Rate	Amount
6	NPS traditional style base with 24"x42" frame, for in ground installation, 45 degree angle mount, NPS brown powder coat. Extra 12" post length for bury depth of 28"-31".	654.00	3,924.00
1	Shipping costs	290.00	290.00
	Sales Tax		0.00

Thanks for the project!

Total $4,214.00

Check Image

Item Reference	270533
Amount	$4,214.00


THIS CHECK HAS A COLORED BACKGROUND AND CONTAINS MULTIPLE SECURITY FEATURES - SEE BACK FOR DETAILS

ROCKFORD PARK DISTRICT

ACCOUNTS PAYABLE
401 SOUTH MAIN ST STE 101
ROCKFORD, IL 61101-1321
(815) 987-8800

PAYABLE THROUGH RIVERSIDE COMMUNITY BANK ROCKFORD, IL 61114

VENDOR NUMBER	DATE	CHECK NUMBER	CHECK AMOUNT
16464	01/13/2014	270533	4,214.00

PAY Four Thousand Two Hundred Fourteen Dollars and No Cents

TO THE ORDER OF VACKER, INC.
948 SHERREN ST. W
ROSEVILLE, MN 55113

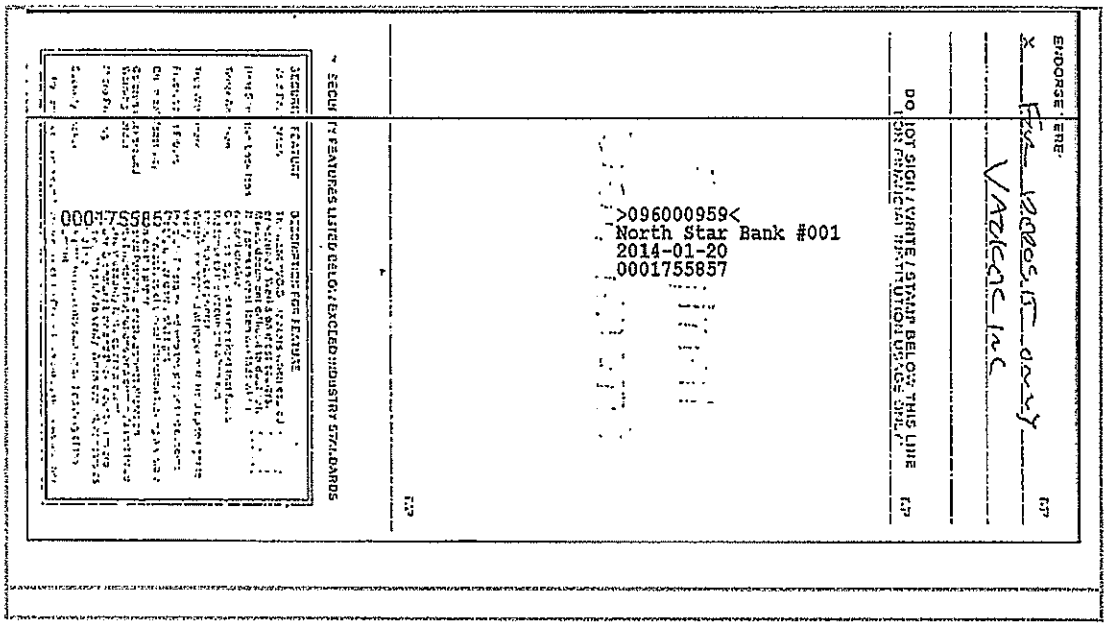
Tim Dimke

⑈0270533⑈ ⑆071925554⑆ 1106079⑈

Riverside Community Bank

Check Image

Item Reference	270533
Amount	$4,214.00



Riverside Community Bank

THIS CHECK HAS A COLORED BACKGROUND AND CONTAINS MULTIPLE SECURITY FEATURES - SEE BACK FOR DETAILS

ROCKFORD PARK DISTRICT

ACCOUNTS PAYABLE
401 SOUTH MAIN ST STE 101
ROCKFORD, IL 61101-1321
(815) 987-8800

PAYABLE THROUGH
RIVERSIDE COMMUNITY BANK
ROCKFORD, IL 61114

70-2555
719

VENDOR NUMBER	DATE	CHECK NUMBER	CHECK AMOUNT
05052	06/28/2013	266402	220.59

PAY Two Hundred Twenty Dollars and Fifty Nine Cents

TO THE ORDER OF
SCHMELING BUILDING SUPPLY, INC
1031 SCHOOL ST
ROCKFORD, IL 61101-5930

Jack L. Gunthorp

Tim Dimke

HEAT SENSITIVE - RUB AREA TO VERIFY

⑈026640 2⑈ ⑆071925554⑆ 1106079⑈

Date:07/08/2013 ImgFile:ceinc001 Account:1106079 Amount:$220.59 Serial:266402 Sequence:7131672 Transit/Routing:71925554
TranCode:81 DbCr:D BankID:3 EAF:0 OrigSequence:7131672 Pocket:1 RepassPocket:99 Old BankID:3

ENDORSE HERE:

X

Pay to the Order of
Northwest Bank of Rockford
071923857
DO NOT SIGN FOR Deposit Only THIS LINE
FOR ENDORSEMENT Schmeling Supply, Inc

Original Document

* SECURITY FEATURES LISTED BELOW EXCEED INDUSTRY STANDARDS

SECURITY FEATURE	DESCRIPTION OF FEATURE
Void Pantograph	The word "VOID" appears when copied or scanned. When on most copiers. Makes document difficult to duplicate. Responds to Hitt Icon will fade when rubbed briskly.
Heat Sensitive Lock Icon	Chemical applied to the sheet that fuses the toner to the sheet when run through a laser printer.
Toner Adhesion	Watermark applied at paper mill. Hold up to light to verify.
True Watermark	Resin fibers embedded into the paper that become visible under ultraviolet light.
Fluorescent Fibers	Paper reacts to chemical alteration leaving a visible stain on the paper.
Chemical Reactivity	Colored Pattern protects against alteration. Alerts financial institutions and criminals that fraud deterrent security features are present.
Colored Background Warning Border	Border, Signature Line and Backer contain micro printing. Magnify to verify. When copied, appears as dotted line.
Micro Printing	Back pattern prevents cutting and pasting of the document.
Security Backer	* Padlock design is a certification mark of the Check Payment Systems Association

ROCKFORD PARK DISTRICT
401 S MAIN ST. ROCKFORD, IL 61101

ACCOUNTS PAYABLE CHECK NO. 266402

INVOICE NUMBER	DATE	P.O. NUMBER	DESCRIPTION	DISCOUNT	AMOUNT
1304-178577	04/18/2013	B-0801198	WOOD STAKES	0.00	40.82
1304-178922	04/26/2013	B-0801198	WOOD STAKES	0.00	54.43
1305-179549	05/10/2013	B-0801198	CONCRETE MIX	0.00	35.34
1305-180121	05/22/2013	B-0801198	TIMBERS	0.00	90.00
					220.59

only concrete is part of grant scope

PLEASE DETACH BEFORE DEPOSITING

ROCKFORD PARK DISTRICT

ACCOUNTS PAYABLE
401 SOUTH MAIN ST STE 101
ROCKFORD, IL 61101-1321
(815) 987-8800

PAYABLE THROUGH
RIVERSIDE COMMUNITY BANK
ROCKFORD, IL 61114

70-2555
719

VENDOR NUMBER	DATE	CHECK NUMBER	CHECK AMOUNT
05052	06/28/2013	266402	220.59

PAY Two Hundred Twenty Dollars and Fifty Nine Cents

TO THE ORDER OF
SCHMELING BUILDING SUPPLY, INC
1031 SCHOOL ST
ROCKFORD, IL 61101-5930

NON-NEGOTIABLE

NON-NEGOTIABLE

COPY COPY COPY COPY COPY

"Tradition Of Quality And Service"

Schmeling

Building Supply, Inc.

1031 School Street Rockford, Illinois 61101

Schmeling Building Supply
1031 School Street
Rockford, IL 61101
815-963-6455
Fax: 815-963-6573

CUSTOMER COPY

INVOICE

1305-179549 PAGE 1 OF 1

SOLD TO	JOB ADDRESS
ROCKFORD PARK DISTRICT 401 SOUTH MAIN ST STE 101 ROCKFORD IL 61101	TALCOTT PAGE 987-8815

RETURNS FOR CREDIT MUST BE MADE WITHIN 30 DAYS OF INVOICE DATE.

ACCOUNT	JOB
RFDPKD	1
SOLD ON	5/10/2013 8:19:53 AM
DELIVER ON	
BRANCH	1000
CUSTOMER PO#	B-0801198
STATION	POS1
CASHIER	STEVE
SALESPERSON	KEVIN
ORDER ENTRY	

Quantity	UM	Item	Description	D	T	Price	Per	Amount
8	BAG	80C	80# CONCRETE MIX		Y	4.4175	BAG	35.34

Concrete for kiosk sign posts

01-6130-1121

NATHAN HILL

Payment Method(s)

Charge to Acct 35.34

EXEMPT 0.00% EXE: 9992372603	SubTotal	35.34
	Sales Tax	0.00
	Deposit	
Please Pay This Amount		35.34

X _____

Signature

PR

New Park Signage Helping Us Appreciate Nature

WTVO WQRF Newsroom ()

Like 0 Tweet 0 7

01/17/2014 09:49 PM 01/17/2014 09:55 PM

ROCKFORD - The Rockford Park District is hoping new signage will make us a little more aware and appreciative of mother nature.

A $2,000 grant will pay for six interpretive signs highlighting features of the natural area, which plants, birds and wildlife might be found at each location. For example, the sign along the Rock River Recreation path will describe the bald eagles in their natural habitat.

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news

More From The Web

Rich Gold Miners And Their Extravagant Hotels (http://learni.st/users/Klondike/boards/58982-where-the-rich-miners-stayed) (Learnist)

Things To Do On A Trip To the United Arab Emirates (http://learni.st/users/60/boards/21697-things-to-do-on-a-trip-to-the-united-arab-emirates) (Learnist)

What is OpenStack? (http://www.buildyourbestcloud.com/26/what-openstack) (Build Your Best Cloud)

Higher Ground for Stomping Grounds (http://www.indiegogo.com/projects/higher-ground-for-stomping-grounds/x/5501970) (Indiegogo)

Using Google Hangouts for your Business (http://hangoutplugin.com/tv/using-google-hangouts-for-your-business/) (Hangout Plugin)

24 oz Beef Porterhouse (http://celebritychef.tv/2014/01/20/24-oz-beef-porterhouse/) (Celebrity Chef)

More From This Site

Madigan Proposes Measure To Make Illinois More Business Friendly (http://www.mystateline.com/story/d/story/madigan-proposes-measure-to-make-illinois-more-bus/11250/turFpMqhNEyw6kbWn5fdMQ)

An Inside Look at Nutcracker (http://www.mystateline.com/story/d/story/an-inside-look-at-nutcracker/21799/umEz0tztjkeIYL5Zg_meDw)

Car Accident Near Janesville Kills One, Injures Another (http://www.mystateline.com/story/car-accident-near-janesville-kills-one-injures-ano/d/story/pr4_8KyPMUq-AsXNX4yXiQ)

Man Shot Outside Wisconsin Bar (http://www.mystateline.com/fulltext-news/man-shot-outside-wisconsin-bar/d/fulltext-news/xTsOov-RekibXfKs9RESiw)

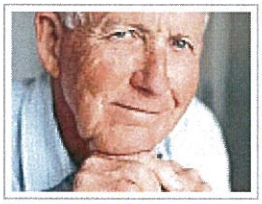
A Rockford Staple To Close Its Doors (http://www.mystateline.com/fulltext-news/a-rockford-staple-to-close-its-doors/d/fulltext-news/hf_OI37iTkS1dlB2zlnpKQ)

Rockford Woman Needs Stateline Help Finding Her Dog (http://www.mystateline.com/fulltext-news/rockford

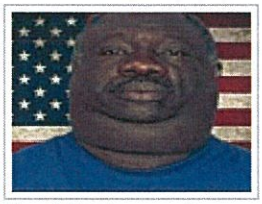
"Receiving this grant is a great way for the Rockford Park District to continue to increase public awareness about environmental issues and practices of sustainability," said Rockford Park District Grant Writer Wendy Adams.

Interpretive sign efforts in the Rockford Park District began in 2011. Other interpretive signs are planned as funding becomes available.

From around the Web ADVERTISEMENT

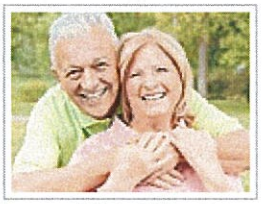


Top Investor Reveals 19 Stocks That You Must Have In Your Portfolio in 2014



Rockford arrest records. Who do you know?

A Gallery of Famous Seinfeld Guest Stars



Learn This Phrase and get the Best Rate for Your Life Insurance Policy....

23 WIFR 2523 North Meridian Road Rockford, IL. 61101 Business: 815-987-5300 Fax: 815-965-0981
News: 815-987-5330 Fax: 815-987-5333

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NEWS NOW Prep Wrestling: Hononegah heavy favorite in NIC-10 meet ... Man being rescued from Winnebago County grain bin 'in good spirits'

Rockford Park District uses grant for interpretive signs

The Rockford Park District will put up new interpretive signs with grant money from the Illinois Department of Natural Resources, Illinois Wildlife Fund.

Get unlimited access to all our digital content for just 99 cents

DON'T MISS THIS ONE-MONTH TRIAL OFFER, AND LOCAL STORIES THAT MATTER TO YOU

ROCKFORD — The Rockford Park District will put up new interpretive signs with grant money from the Illinois Department of Natural Resources, Illinois Wildlife Fund.

The $2,000 grant will allow six large signs to be installed at Sinnissippi Park, Shorewood Park and the Rock River Recreation Path. Using pictures and definitions, the signs will educate residents on plants, birds and wildlife at their location.

For information: 815-987-8800, rockfordparkdistrict.org.

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Grants funds interpretive signs for Rockford Park District

Posted: Jan 17, 2014 10:14 AM CST

By Samantha Jeffreys - email

ROCKFORD (WREX) - The Rockford Park District received a $2,000 grant to install new interpretive signs in area parks.

The grant from the Illinois Department of Natural Resources and the Illinois Wildlife Preservation Fund will help the park district install six educational signs that will teach residents about the natural features of the parks, including native plants, birds, and wildlife.

Signs will be placed at Sinnissippi Park, Shorewood Park, and the Rock River Recreation Path.

"Receiving this grant is a great way for the Rockford Park District to continue to increase public awareness about environmental issues and practices of sustainability," Rockford Park District Grant Writer Wendy Adams explained.

The park district began interpretive sign efforts in 2011. More are planned as funding becomes available.

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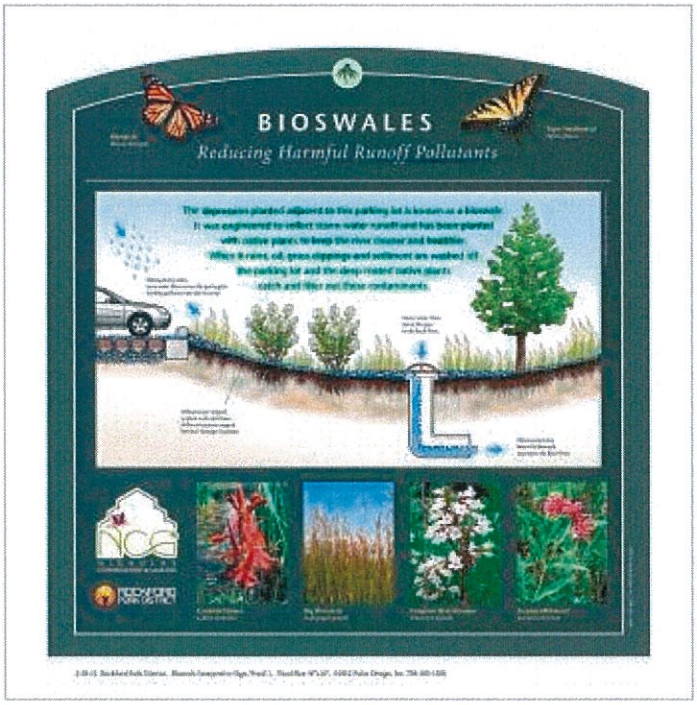
Grant Funds Signs in Rockford Park District

By: WIFR Newsroom
Posted: Sun 8:50 AM, Jan 19, 2014



ROCKFORD (WIFR) – Be on the lookout for new interpretive signs in the Rockford Park District. The Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IDNR), Illinois Wildlife Preservation Fund awarded the Rockford Park District $2,000 to install six large interpretive signs like the one shown below. Interpretive signs will help educate residents through illustrations and definitions about the features of natural areas, and which plants, birds, and wildlife might be found at the location.

New signage is being placed at the following locations:

- Sinnissippi Park, 1401 N. 2nd Street, Rockford
- Shorewood Park, 235 Evelyn Ave., Loves Park
- Rock River Recreation Path

The Rock River Recreation Path is 10 miles long, and winds along the Rock River. Signage will help describe the natural beauty found along the riverfront, a place where small mammals and birds such as Bald Eagles enjoy their natural habitat.