



Illinois Department of Natural Resources

One Natural Resources Way Springfield, Illinois 62702-1271
<http://dnr.state.il.us>

Pat Quinn, Governor
Marc Miller, Director

March 12, 2010

Scott Weiner
Sheppard Morgan and Schwaab
215 Market Street
Alton, IL 62002

RE: Hoffman Gardens
IDNR Project 1006438

Dear Applicant:

This letter concerns the Endangered Species Consultation for the Hoffman Gardens located on Illinois Route 100 in Godfrey. This project was submitted for consultation in accordance with the *Illinois Endangered Species Protection Act* [520 ILCS 10/11], the *Illinois Natural Areas Preservation Act* [525 ILCS 30/17], and Title 17 *Illinois Administrative Code* Parts 1075 and 1090.

The development will consist improving an abandoned rock quarry into a public park.

Protected resources in the vicinity of the project include timber rattlesnakes (*Crotalus horridus*), the Olin Tract Illinois Natural Areas Inventory Site and the John M. Olin Nature Preserve. The Department has completed its review of the project and determined that the action is likely to have an adverse impact on timber rattlesnakes.

To minimize these impacts, the Department recommends that IDOT incorporate the following measures in its project authorization.

1. Educate work crews about the presence of snakes and explain they are protected and to harm one is a criminal offence.
2. Place educational signs (with photos) informing the public that timber rattlesnakes inhabit the park and they are protected.
3. Use native vegetation in landscape plantings, whenever possible.

A review of the National Wetlands Inventory (NWI) maps indicates no wetlands present within 250 feet of the proposed project.

Consultation on the part of the Department is completed. In accordance with 17 Ill. Adm. Code 1075.40(h), IDOT must notify the Department of its decision regarding these recommendations, whether they will:

- Allow the action to proceed as originally proposed;
- Require the action to be modified per Department recommendations (please specify which measures if not all will be required); or
- Forgo the action.

This consultation is valid for two years unless new information becomes available that was not previously considered; the proposed action is modified; or additional species, essential habitat, or Natural Areas are identified in the vicinity. If the project has not been implemented within two years of the date of this letter, or any of the above listed conditions develop, a new consultation is necessary.

The natural resource review reflects the information existing in the Illinois Natural Heritage Database at the time of the project submittal, and should not be regarded as a final statement on the site being considered, nor should it be a substitute for detailed site surveys or field surveys required for environmental assessments. If additional protected resources are encountered during the project's implementation, you must comply with the applicable statutes and regulations. Also, note that termination does not imply IDNR's authorization or endorsement of the proposed action.

Please contact me if you have questions regarding this review.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Tracy Evans".

Tracy Evans
Impact Assessment
(217) 782-7940

cc: Jenny Skufca, Nature Preserves Commission
Deb Newman, Nature Preserves Commission