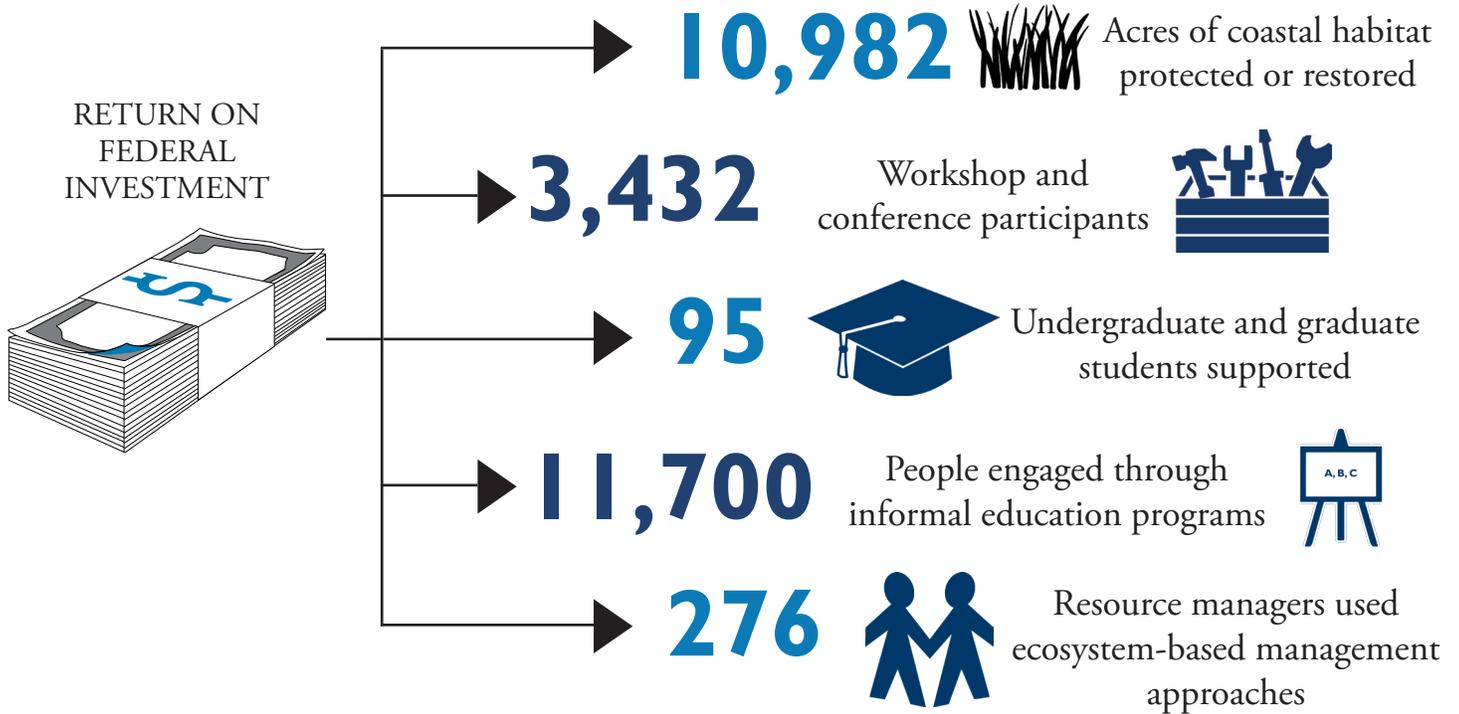


ILLINOIS-INDIANA SEA GRANT



\$100,000
economic impact in 2015

*Metrics reported to National Office in June 2016
for work completed Feb 2015 to Jan 2016.*



Sea Grant helps launch medicine collection programs to reduce health and environmental risks

“I do the [medicine] take-back monthly and every month I think it will be less. I literally have people standing in the police department lobby waiting for me to get my table and boxes set up.”

- Officer Winslow,
West Lafayette Police Department

How we choose to use and dispose of pharmaceuticals and personal care products impacts water quality—the water that we drink, bathe in, and use for recreation. Most of us dispose of our unused medicine in the toilet or trash, but this can put people, animals, and the environment at risk. Illinois-Indiana Sea Grant has helped establish a total of 49 medicine collection programs in the two states. In 2015, these programs collected more than 28,577 pounds of medicine.

web.extension.illinois.edu/unusedmeds



Friends of Lincoln Park members join clean up efforts. Credit: Carly Norris

“After just three hours of work, volunteers filled 30 garbage bags to the brim. Everyone was enthusiastic to be contributing to Lincoln Park’s restoration efforts.”

- Sally Callan,
Friends of Lincoln Park member

Sea Grant engages community in restoration efforts

Lincoln Park, part of the Milwaukee Estuary Area of Concern, was contaminated from industrial and municipal pollution to the point that eating fish from these waters posed health concerns. In 2011, a \$43 million restoration project was initiated to remediate 171,000 cubic yards of sediment and restore 12.5 acres in a Milwaukee County Park. Illinois-Indiana Sea Grant worked in partnership with many other organizations from beginning to end to ensure the community was engaged in the project.

In 2016, a ceremony was held by local officials to celebrate the rebirth of the park. Throughout the cleanup process, Illinois-Indiana Sea Grant was on the ground, keeping the community informed and facilitating the creation and growth of the Friends of Lincoln Park. This volunteer organization is committed to playing an active role in restoration and stewardship to help the community celebrate and enjoy the park.

iiseagrnt.org/newsroom/milwaukee-celebrates-the-rebirth-of-lincoln-park

Lawn to Lake program saves residents one billion gallons of water annually through natural lawn care guidance

Illinois-Indiana Sea Grant initiated the “Lawn to Lake” program to promote natural, low-input, lawn care practices to reduce the use of water and lawn care chemicals. Between 2011-2015, the Lawn to Lake program reached over 300 lawn care professionals, 400 Master Gardeners, and 2,000 homeowners with training and information on natural lawn care. Surveys revealed that 25,000 acres were converted to natural lawn care, which led to a water savings of one billion gallons every year. Dozens of partners participated in the program throughout the region.

The average American family uses 320 gallons of water per day, about 30 percent of which is devoted to outdoor uses. Addressing water use proactively could mitigate effects of population growth in northeastern Illinois, which is cited as a potential cause of water shortages as demand outpaces supply. Additionally, nutrient runoff from lawns is a contributor of lake pollution. Natural lawn care greatly reduces nutrient use and subsequent runoff.

iiseagrnt.org/l2l.php



Contact information

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