

# THE FRANKLIN CREEK CHRONICAL



Spring 2022

- Preserve - Engage - Understand -

## #40MoreYearsAtFranklinCreek

It may come as a surprise to you, but Franklin Creek Conservation Association has been involved at Franklin Creek State Natural Area (FCSNA) for just over forty years! We have accomplished (with your help) so much since FCCA's inception in 1981 as Franklin Grove Creek and Preservation Corporation. It is friends like you that have helped us get this far and will continue to allow us to do great work at Franklin Creek in the future.

### 1980s: Building trails and infrastructure for FCSNA



© Rick Pettitt



© Rick Pettitt

### 1990s: Planning, Fundraising, and Building the Grist Mill



© Rick Pettitt



© Rick Pettitt

*Continued on Page 2*

Franklin Creek Conservation Association

Franklin Grove, IL 61031

## 2000s: New fishing pier and the creation of the Headwaters

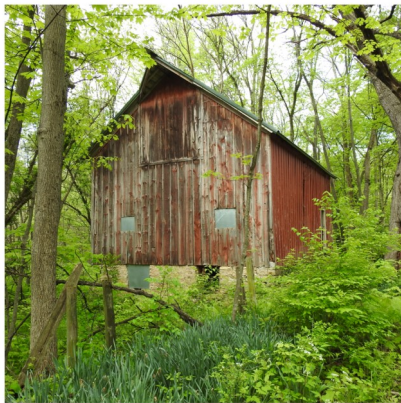


© Dee Hudson



© Megan Sneyd

## 2010s: Two nature preserves added and an asset restored

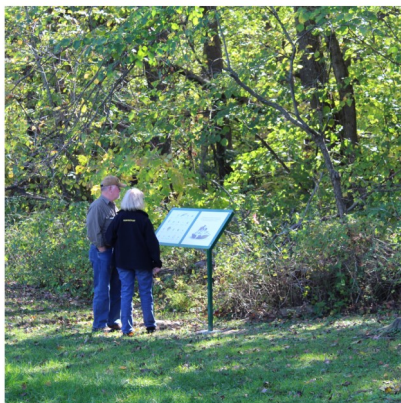


©Alyssa Rod



© Jim Lillyman

## 2020s so far: Storybook Trail and addition to Headwaters



© Megan Sneyd

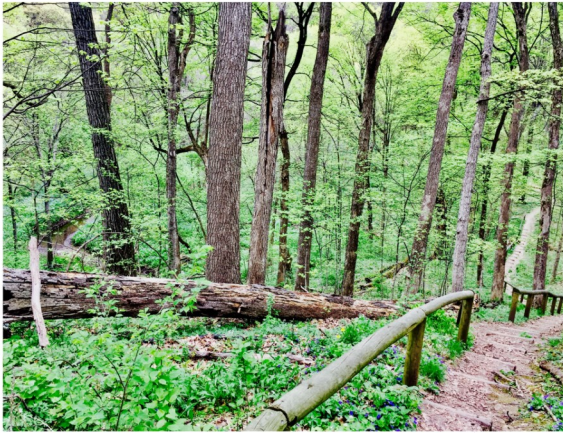


© Heather Herakovich

With your help, we have accomplished a lot and we will continue to do much more! On Page 3 find out why we care about Franklin Creek and why we want to be here for the next 40 years and beyond.



## Why We are Passionate About Franklin Creek Conservation:



© Lisa Ayres

"I go back to the beginning. A great friend had donated some of the most beautiful land in Illinois to the state. A local businessman had proposed to place a quarry on an adjacent property. The establishment of this quarry would have changed the area forever. To deter this operation, the FCPAC was formed. The quarry operation was stopped and the beauty remained. At that time, the appreciation for nature and the beauty of it was etched in the mind of area residents. Through the work of the initial group (FCPAC) and subsequent groups (FCCA), the land has been expanded and set aside for people to reflect on

and enjoy. Hopefully our children and their descendants will enjoy and appreciate the efforts of those who chose to take the time to preserve, donate funds, and expand this beautiful place."

*~John Nicholson, Board of Directors*



© Lisa Ayres

"Even though I have not been in the organization for very long, I have enjoyed my time volunteering at FCCA! I grew up in Dixon with family property close by the Mill and my brothers and I often would play in the creek catching crayfish, looking for snails, and hiking the different trails all summer long. I have a lot of great memories out at Franklin creek, including school field trips where we learned how the Mill works. I am passionate about providing other people the opportunity to have great memories similar to mine and hope they fall in love with nature just like I did.

*~Taylor Ufkin, Board of Directors*



9-year old Taylor playing in Franklin Creek

Have any more memories to add? Please contact us!



## Franklin Creek Grist Mill

We will be re-opening for the season on April 2nd of this year! Come early to make sure you can grab your very own Franklin Creek hoodie, while supplies last! Mill rentals, school groups, and private tours will be available by request. Please check our website and social media for more information before heading out. Open Sat-Sun 12PM-4PM April-October and also on Fridays 12PM-4PM June-August.

## Connect and shop with us!



1893 Twist Rd.  
Franklin Grove, IL 61031



(815) 456-2718



[www.franklincreekconservation.org](http://www.franklincreekconservation.org)



@CreekFranklin



/franklincreekconservation



© Lynn Garrison

## Events this year

We will be having a variety of events this year. Not all have a solidified date so please check our social media and website for the full line up throughout the summer. If you would like to help our Events Committee plan and execute our events or if you have an event suggestion, please contact Heather at [engage@franklincreekconservation.org](mailto:engage@franklincreekconservation.org) for more information.



© Megan Sneyd



© Kelly O'Neil

## Save The Dates

### Events

April 2-3—Mill Opening Weekend  
April 30—Pollinator Trivia  
May 14—Wildflower Escape Trail  
June 3—First Friday Mill Open  
June 25—Evening at the Mill with Marques Morel

### Nature Hikes

Last Saturday of the Month  
May-Sept

\*More information can be found on our website:

[www.FranklinCreekConservation.org](http://www.FranklinCreekConservation.org)\*

\*Some events will require RSVP. You can RSVP on our website, by phone 815.456.2718 or email [engage@franklincreekconservation.org](mailto:engage@franklincreekconservation.org). All programs and dates are subject to change.\*

## Volunteers Needed!

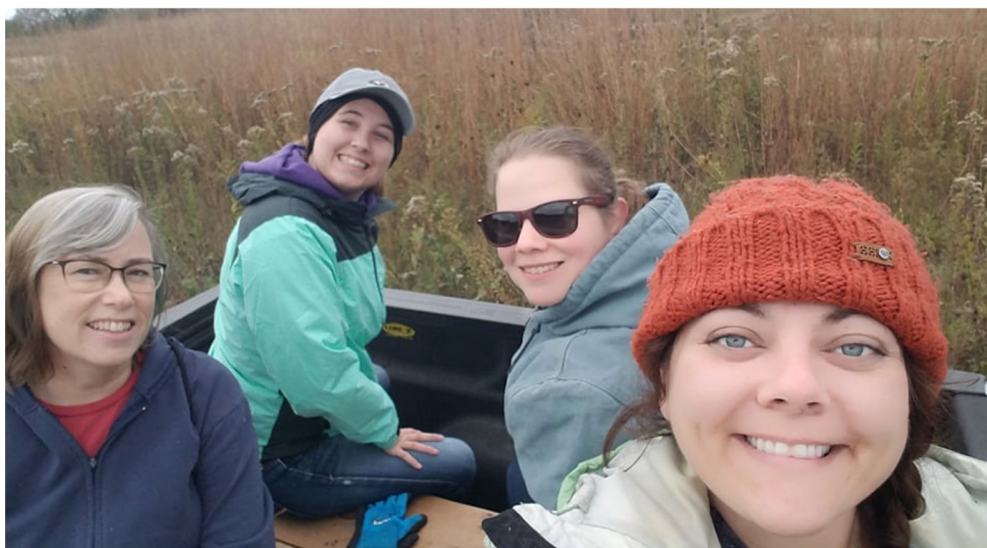
FCCA provides a variety of different volunteer activities for all age groups and experience levels. From stewardship and maintenance to Grist Mill Docent, we have opportunities for everyone!



© Katie McBride



© Katie McBride



© Jennifer LeMoine

If you would like to learn more about how YOU can get involved at FCCA please contact Heather at 815.456.2718 or at [engage@franklincreekconservation.org](mailto:engage@franklincreekconservation.org).

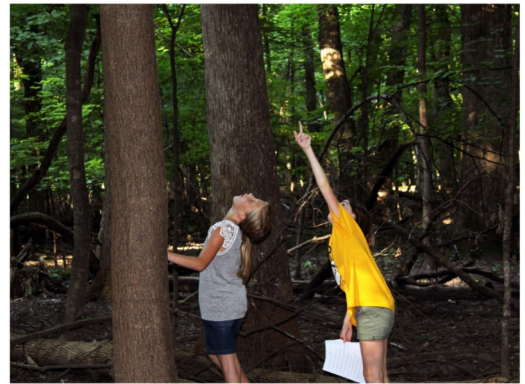


## Have You Made Someone's Day?

**We need your help! Help us get families and individuals involved in local history and nature, and protect, restore, and maintain the natural areas we all love so much!**



**"Our mission is to care for the natural areas of Franklin Creek for current and future generations."**



© Megan Sneyd

### Yes, I wish to support FCCA!

- ☐ BFF, \$1000 and up \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ Ally, \$500-\$999 \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ Buddy, \$250-\$499 \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ Friend, \$100-\$249 \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ Supporter, \$1-\$99 \$ \_\_\_\_\_

### Please indicate if anything applies to your donation

- ☐ Undesignated, to be used to fulfil our mission where most needed.
- ☐ Designated for land purchase.
- ☐ In Memory/ Honor (circle one) of: \_\_\_\_\_.
- ☐ Please contact me about how I can be a lifelong supporter through legacy giving options (estate plan, stocks, bonds, mutual funds, and qualified charitable distributions (QCDs)).
- ☐ Please contact me about volunteering.

\_\_\_\_\_  
FULL NAME(S)

\_\_\_\_\_  
ADDRESS

\_\_\_\_\_  
CITY

\_\_\_\_\_  
STATE & ZIP CODE

\_\_\_\_\_  
PHONE NUMBER

\_\_\_\_\_  
EMAIL ADDRESS TO GET PROMPT FRANKLIN CREEK UPDATES

Checks should be made out to Franklin Creek Conservation Association and mailed to:  
**1893 Twist Road, Franklin Grove, IL 61031**

Online one-time and reoccurring credit card donations can be made at our website:  
**[www.franklincreekconservation.org](http://www.franklincreekconservation.org)**

Franklin Creek Conservation Association is a non-profit registered 501(c)(3). Your gift is tax-deductible to the fullest extent of the law.

