

# 14<sup>th</sup> Annual Fox River Summit Program

## Thursday, March 12<sup>th</sup>, 2026

See Website for more details at [2026 Program Speakers](#)

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| 7:15 AM  | <b>Registration-coffee/tea/assorted small danish &amp; muffins, juices</b>  |
| 8:00 AM  | <b>**Welcome and Introductions**</b>  |
| 8:10 AM  | <b>State of the Fox River Address</b> --Gary Swick, Friends of the Fox River  |
| 8:30 AM  | <b>Fabulous Fox! National Water Trail-updates</b> --Karen Miller, Kane County /Jeff Mengler, Hey and Associates, Fox River Ecosystem Partnership                              |
| 8:50 AM  | <b>Paddle for Parks: 2025 Fabulous Fox National Water Trail Challenge</b> --Wally Werderich, Illinois Park and Recreation Foundation/ Michael Kies, St. Charles Park District |
| 9:10 AM  | <b>Aquatic Plant Management in High Quality Waters &amp; Wetlands in the Mukwonago River Watershed</b> --Brian Miner, The Nature Conservancy (TNC)                            |
| 9:30 AM  | <b>Reconstructing Historical Nearshore Nongame Fish Assemblages in Southern Wisconsin Glacial Lakes</b> --Dave Marshall, Underwater Habitat Investigations LLC                |
| 9:50 AM  | <b>Break-coffee/snacks</b>  |
| 10:10 AM | <b>Fox River Watershed-Based Planning Efforts in Lake County, Illinois</b> --Jacob Jozefowski / Sharene Gould Dulabaum, Lake County Stormwater Management Commission          |
| 10:30 AM | <b>Surface Water Chloride Conditions and Trends in Southeastern Wisconsin</b> --Tom Slawski, Southeastern Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission (SEWRPC)                     |
| 10:50 AM | <b>The ABC's of RCPP – Oak Conservation for Private Landowners</b> --Tommy Gunn, American Bird Conservancy  |
| 11:10 AM | <b>Cover crops, pay or not?</b> --Jim Stute Ph.D., Certified Crop Advisor, Watershed Protection Committee of Racine County  |
| 11:30 AM | <b>Protecting Delavan Lake with Partners</b> --Brian Smetna, (retired) Walworth County Land Conservation Department   |
| 11:50 AM | <b>Fox-Illinois TMDL: Findings and Approaches to Reduce Nutrients and Sediment</b> --Eric Hettler, Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR)                           |
| 12:10 PM | <b>Lunch break</b>  |
| 1:00 PM  | <b>Protecting What We Share: Relationship-Driven Strategies for Advocacy Success</b> --Mila Marshall, Sierra Club Illinois Chapter  |
| 1:30 PM  | <b>Economic Benefits of Conservation</b> --Matthew Winden, UW-Whitewater  |
| 2:00 PM  | <b>Native Bee Life Histories and Conservation in the Fox River Watershed</b> --Dr. KC Carter, Illinois Natural History Survey   |
| 2:20 PM  | <b>Fireflies: Precious Jewels of the Night</b> --Brandie Dunn, Xerces Ambassador  |
| 2:40 PM  | <b>Break-coffee/snacks</b>  |
| 3:00 PM  | <b>eDNA Data from the Fox River</b> --Yoel Stuart, Loyola University Chicago  |
| 3:20 PM  | <b>Nippersink Creek Rebirth and Renewal</b> --Steve Byers / John Peters, Friends of Hackmatack and McHenry County Conservation District                                       |
| 3:50 PM  | <b>Fox River Valley Dam Removal</b> --Art Malm, Friends of the Fox River  |
| 4:10 PM  | <b>Carpenter Dam Botanizing</b> --Susanne Masi, Friends of the Fox River  |
| 4:30 PM  | <b>Social/informal time</b>   |
| 5:00 PM  | <b>Raffle/Adjourn</b>   |