Section 2, Chapter 6
Financial and Technical Resources

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Introduction

Potential funding and technical assistance is available through various grant agencies and local environmental organizations suggested in this chapter. Costs can be deferred by organizing volunteer efforts, as grant agencies recognize the value of volunteer time and allow that value to provide matching funds for their grant dollars. For example, if a grant is secured to support 60% of the cost of implementing a $100,000 project, then the financial assistance would be $60,000 from the grant agency and the local community would need to budget $40,000 in cash and value of volunteer time to match the other 40%.

Local sources of matching funds are recommended and usually required to qualify for grant funding. Local match can come from several sources, including local environmental organizations and associations, businesses, developers, municipalities, and private citizens. Funds can be in the form of cash or the value of volunteer time. The national average for the estimated value of volunteer time in 2013 was $22.55 per hour according to the Independent Sector. It is important to recognize this value, as many projects that benefit water quality rely on dedication and many hours spent by volunteers.

There are many potential funding and technical assistance resources for the planning and implementation of conservation practices. *Table 6.1* lists potential agencies that provide funding and/or technical support for implementing these types of conservation projects and practices. The pages that follow provide more detail into each organization.

Table 6.1 Funding and Technical Support Agencies
*denotes a local agency

Abbr.	Agency	Funding/ Technical Support	Mission or Program Goal	Website
IDNR	Illinois Department of Natural Resources	Funding	Recreation facilities and trails, wildlife habitat, water quality, open space protection, etc.	http://www.dnr.illinois.gov/Pages/default.aspx
IEPA	Illinois Environmental Protection Agency, Bureau of Water	Funding	"Ensure that Illinois' rivers, streams, and lakes will support all uses for which they are designated including protection of aquatic life, recreation, and drinking water supplies."	https://www2.illinois.gov/epa/topics/water-quality/Pages/default.aspx
NRCS	Carroll County Natural Resources Conservation District	Technical, Funding	Reducing runoff of pollution from agricultural areas into streams and lakes.	No direct website. Go to: http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/main/national/water/
USFWS	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service	Funding	Protects waterfowl and migratory birds and their habitat.	http://www.fws.gov/grants/

Abbr.	Agency	Funding/ Technical Support	Mission or Program Goal	Website
USDA	U.S. Department of Agriculture, Farm Service Agency	Funding	Provides yearly rental payment to farmers who convert environmentally sensitive land from agricultural production to native plantings.	https://www.fsa.usda.gov/programs-and-services/conservation-programs/conservation-reserve-program/crp-continuous-enrollment/index
	Illinois Department of Agriculture, Partners for Conservation	Funding	Provides funding, cost-share assistance and technical assistance for natural resource management projects.	https://www2.illinois.gov/sites/agr/Resources/Conservation/Pages/default.aspx http://www.iira.org/rdrg/partners-for-conservation-streambank-stabilization-and-restoration-program-ssrp/
UofIL-Extension	University of Illinois Extension Soil Testing	Technical	Offers soil testing assistance and educational materials.	https://extension.illinois.edu/soiltest/
McKnight	McKnight Foundation	Funding	"We use our resources to restore the water quality and resilience of the Mississippi River."	http://www.mcknight.org/
Patagonia	Patagonia Corporate Grants Program	Funding	Donates funds to non-profit, community-based groups working towards a positive change for the planet.	https://www.patagonia.com/grant-guidelines.html
Grand Victoria	Grand Victoria Foundation, Vital Funds	Funding	Provides land acquisition funds to assist projects that pursue permanent protection and long-term stewardship of Illinois' vital lands.	https://grandvictoriafdn.org/what-we-fund/environment/
Trees Forever	Trees Forever: Illinois Buffer Partnership	Funding	Funds voluntary efforts of farmers and rural landowners in planting, maintaining, and enhancing conservation practices and buffers.	http://www.treesforever.org/Illinois_Buffer_Partnership
Illinois Clean Energy	Illinois Clean Energy Community Foundation, Natural Areas Program	Funding	Offers funding for conservation group organization capacity, community stewardship engagement, land acquisition, and planning for land acquisition.	https://www.illinoiscleanenergy.org/natural-areas-program
NLI	Natural Land Institute*	Technical	Assists landowners and groups with native planting, invasive species removal, and advice on improved mowing practices.	naturalland.org

Abbr.	Agency	Funding/ Technical Support	Mission or Program Goal	Website
bhrc	Blackhawk Hills Regional Council*	Technical	Supports land management and water conservation by promoting restoration of native vegetation along streams and upland soil conservation.	blackhawkhills.com
LCA	Lake Carroll Association*	Technical	Maintains and enhances the assets of the Lake Carroll 5,000+ acre complex.	golakecarroll.com
	Lake Carroll Prairie Club	Technical	Seed collection efforts. Potential for these efforts could qualify as a funding match.	
JDCF	Jo Daviess Conservation Association*	Technical	Promotes land stewardship (including registries, easements, and land donations) and resource conservation.	jdcf.org
	Pheasants Forever*	Technical	Conserves pheasants, quail and other wildlife through habitat improvements, public awareness, and land management policies and programs.	pheasantsforever.org
NWTF	National Wildlife Turkey Federation*	Technical	Conserves wild turkey and preserves our hunting heritage.	nwtf.org
TU	Trout Unlimited*	Technical	Conserves, protects, and restores North America's coldwater fisheries and their watersheds.	tu.org
Ducks	Ducks Unlimited*	Technical	Conserves, restores, and manages wetlands and associated habitats for North America's waterfowl.	ducks.org
	AmeriCorps	Technical	Restore natural areas by treating a removing invasive plant species.	https://www.nationalservice.gov/programs/americorps

Financial and Technical Assistance Resources

Programs funded through NRCS:

The Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) provides financial and technical assistance as well as easement programs to assist agricultural producers and landowners implement and maintain conservations practices that help protect agricultural land and natural resources. Applying for grant funding, organizing and planning for the workload, and implementing the specific conservation practices is completely left to the willingness of the farmer. Information about guidelines and specifications for conservation practices can be found in the State of Illinois Old Section IV of the NRCS electronic Field Office Technical Guide (FOTG).

Below are more details on programs that offer assistance:

- Financial Assistance:
  - Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP)
  - Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP)
  - Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP)
- Easement Programs:
  - Agricultural Conservation Easement Programs (ACEO)

https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/main/national/programs/farmbill/

Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP)

Through EQIP, NRCS and grant recipients finance solutions that conserve natural resources while also improving agricultural operation. NRCS assists agricultural producers with financial resources, the development of a unique conservation plan, and implementation of conservation practices. With NRCS acting as a co-funder for conservation practice implementation, the participating agricultural producer voluntarily implements these practices. The best way to learn if EQIP is a good fit for you is by contacting your local NRCS office.

https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/main/national/programs/financial/eqip/

Carroll County NRCS conservationist: James Ritterbusch, District Conservationist, (815) 618-3156, james.ritterbusch@il.usda.gov

One of EQIP's Water-Based Landscape Initiatives is the Mississippi River Basin Healthy Watershed Initiative, which utilizes Farm Bill programs including the Environmental Quality Incentives Program and the Agricultural Conservation Easement Program to aid landowners in conserving natural resources by voluntarily implementing conservation practices. The overall goals of MRBI are to improve water quality, restore wetlands and enhance wildlife habitat while ensuring economic viability of agricultural lands.

https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/detailfull/national/programs/initiatives/?cid=stelprdb1048200

Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP)

The Conservation Stewardship Program partners qualifying farmers with NRCS to maintain and improve existing conservation plans and fund conservation practices, including brush management, residue and till management, conservation cover, cover crop, critical area planting, filter strip, grade stabilization structures, grassed waterways, streambank and shoreline protection, and more. This program helps to build on your existing conservation efforts while strengthening your operation. Funding is based off the conservation performance, i.e. the higher the conservation performance results in increased funding. Applications are accepted throughout the year. CSP contracts last 5 years, with the option to renew if

participant has reached contract goals and agrees to implement additional conservation objectives. CSP contracts have a $1,500 minimum annual payment. To be eligible, one must have current farm records with USDA Farm Service Agency and must be in compliance with highly erodible land and wetland conservation requirements.
https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/detailfull/national/programs/financial/csp/?cid=nrcseprd1288620

Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP)
Through RCPP, NRCS provides funding to landowners and agricultural producers via RCPP contracts and RCPP easements. Funding projects are allocated for effective, innovative solutions to natural resource challenges. **Funds have been set aside for specific use in northwest Illinois, including the East Fork Creek Watershed.**
https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/main/national/programs/financial/rcpp/

Agricultural Conservation Easement Programs (ACEO)
ACEQ protects wetlands and agricultural lands from being developed and converted to alternative uses via agricultural land easements and wetland reserve easements. Agricultural Land Easements protect the nation's long-term food supply by protecting productive agricultural land from conversion to non-agricultural uses. NRCS may fund up to 50% of the fair market value of the agricultural land easement. If NCRS determines that grasslands with environmental significance are protected, then additional funding may be provided. Through Wetland Reserve Easements, NRCS offers technical and financial assistance to private landowners who protect, restore, and improve wetlands with the procurement of a wetland reserve easement.
https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/main/national/programs/easements/acep/

Programs funded through Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (IEPA)

- Section 319
- State Revolving Fund (SRF): Water Pollution Control Loan Program (WPCLP)

Section 319 Program
Through the Clean Water Act, the United States EPA provides Section 319 grants to state environmental protection agencies in order to attain and preserve the beneficial use of water. Section 319 provides watershed project funding for planning grants and implementation grants. States are required to use at least 50% of the annual appropriation of Section 319 funds to implement watershed projects that focus on restoring impaired waters and are guided by watershed-based plans. The federal contribution may not exceed 60% of the entire implementation cost. Administrative costs may not exceed 10% of the funding. Cost-sharing is available, but only for costs related to implementing demonstration projects. Demonstration projects are used to show the effectiveness of an approach as it applies to solving a water-quality issue in a specific area and its unique hydrogeological and sociological features. States can allow these grant funds to be made available via subgrants to both public and private entities. Subgrants to individuals are limited to demonstration projects.
https://www.epa.gov/nps/319-grant-current-guidance
https://www.epa.gov/nps/funding-resources-watershed-protection-and-restoration

State Revolving Fund (SRF) Loan Programs: Water Pollution Control Loan Programs
Through the State Revolving Fund, a combination of federal and state funds provide loans to eligible recipients for wastewater, stormwater, and drinking water projects, including controlling nonpoint sources of pollution; implementing green infrastructure projects; developing and implementing watershed projects that are within the CWA section 122 criteria; and managing, treating, and recapturing stormwater or subsurface drainage water. In order to be considered for annual funding, applicants must submit a funding nomination form (FNF) on or before January 31st preceding the fiscal year in which the funding is requested and receive approval by January 31st. Once the FNF is in and the project is reviewed and qualifies, then projects with approved planning will be ranked and considered for placement on the Intended Funding List (IFL). This is a low interest loan program, not a grant funding program. For Wastewater/Stormwater Loan Program Forms, please visit: https://www2.illinois.gov/epa/topics/grants-loans/state-revolving-fund/Pages/state-revolving-fund-forms.aspx To view some of the PDF links on the EPA website, it is recommended to use Internet Explorer as your browser.

Other useful EPA resources include:
https://www.epa.gov/cwsrf/learn-about-clean-water-state-revolving-fund-cwsrf
https://www2.illinois.gov/epa/topics/grants-loans/state-revolving-fund/Pages/default.aspx

Programs funded through United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Farm Service Agency

Conservation Reserve Program (CRP)
Through the USDA Farm Service Agency, the Conservation Reserve Program provides a yearly rental payment to farmers who remove environmentally sensitive land from agricultural production and convert it to native plantings in order to improve water quality, reduce soil erosion, and increase wildlife habitat. Generally, USDA Farm Service Agency opens up the signup period from June to August. All applicants must have owned their land for at least 12 months before submitting applications. Through this program, the farmer is offered annual rental payments based on acreage and cost-share assistance up to 50% of the cost of implementing the conservation practice.
https://www.fsa.usda.gov/programs-and-services/conservation-programs/conservation-reserve-program/crp-continuous-enrollment/index

Programs funded through the Illinois Department of Agriculture (USDA) Partners for Conservation Program

https://www.fsa.usda.gov/programs-and-services/conservation-programs/conservation-reserve-program/index

Sustainable Agriculture Grants Program provides funding to organizations, educational institutions, nonprofits, governmental agencies, and individuals who demonstrate comprehension of sustainable agriculture systems and implement conservation practice projects. Illinois' soil and water conservation districts prioritize and select projects that will receive cost-share funding. To be eligible, the land for which the conservation practice is to be applied must have erosion rates greater than one and one-half times the tolerable soil loss level.

Streambank Stabilization and Restoration Program (SSRP) provides cost-share assistance or demonstration project funding to landowners who implement streambank stabilization projects that demonstrate effective and inexpensive solutions to soil and stream bank erosion. Funding partners for this program are the Illinois Department of Agriculture, Illinois' soil and water conservation districts (SWCSs), and Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) of the USDA. Recipients must maintain the selected bank stabilization practices for at least 10 years.

Soil and Water Conservation District Grants Program, through the Illinois Agricultural Department, offers operating cost assistance and technical assistance to landowners in natural resource management. All Illinois districts are eligible and encouraged to contact the Illinois Department of Agriculture for information about receiving grants.
https://www2.illinois.gov/sites/agr/Resources/Conservation/Pages/default.aspx
http://www.iira.org/rdrg/partners-for-conservation-streambank-stabilization-and-restoration-program-ssrp/

Programs funded through Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IDNR):

Open Space Lands Acquisition & Development (OSLAD)
Land & Water Conservation Programs (LWCF)

Both of these programs allow local units of government to apply for funding when acquiring or developing land for open space or public parks. Applications must be submitted between May 1 and July 1. Types of projects funded through this program include the creation of water quality basins with native plantings and the preservation or improvement of permanent wetlands. This grant program awards up to $750,000 for acquisition projects or up to $400,000 for development/renovation projects (i.e. OSLAD program only). Under both OSLAD and LWCF, funding is available for up to 50% of total approved projects costs.
https://www.dnr.illinois.gov/AEG/Pages/OpenSpaceLandsAquisitionDevelopment-Grant.aspx

Programs funded through US Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS)
https://www.fws.gov/grants/programs.html

Partners for Fish and Wildlife
Partners for Fish and Wildlife provides technical and financial assistance to private landowners who voluntarily implement habitat restoration and improvement programs. Typically, Partners will provide assistance for protects that conserve and restore native vegetation, hydrology, and soils.
https://www.fws.gov/partners/aboutus.html

Wildlife and Sport Fish Restoration Program (WSFR)
This program cooperates with states and other partnerships to conserve and manage fish and wildlife and their habitats. It funds activities that promote wildlife restoration and wildlife-based recreation. Through this program, states may receive up to 75% federal funding, while 25% of funding is required from non-federal resources.
https://wsfrprograms.fws.gov/home.html

Other Funding Programs outside of governmental agencies

ComEd Green Region Program

Openlands partners with ComEd to administer the ComEd Green Region Program. Through this program ComEd supports municipalities, townships, counties, park districts, conservation districts and forest preserve districts in northern Illinois and within ComEd's service territory with efforts to protect or improve public spaces for the benefit of all. Non-profit organizations and all other units of government not listed above (such as schools, school districts, and housing authorities) are not eligible to apply but are strongly encouraged to partner on joint projects with an Eligible Applicant. Lake Carrol is located within the ComEd's service territory; however, the ComEd service territory line only covers the eastern third of Carroll County. The application deadline for 2019 has passed on March 15. In order to apply, one must create an account and start an application through https://openlands.submittable.com/submit. Funding of up $10,000 finance open space projects that emphasis the planning, acquisition, and improvement of natural areas, recreation resources, and local parks. Green Region grant recipients may pool funds from other grant/funding sources that are associated with their open space projects. https://www.openlands.org/livability/greenregion/

Patagonia Corporate Grants Program

Patagonia donates funds to non-profit, community-based groups working towards a positive change for the planet in their own backyards and have a demonstrated strong support base. Eligible community-based groups/projects must fit the following criteria: be a non-profit organization; focus on the root cause of the problem; have distinct action competent with measurable goals and objectives; and NOT be solely for environmental education, involve land acquisitions, land trusts, or conservation easements, be primarily research based, for an endowment fund, for a political candidate campaign, for a green building project, nor for a conference. If the project is not located near on of Patagonia's U.S. retail stores, then the proposal will be reviewed by an employee grants council at company headquarters. They provide grants ranging between $5000- $20,000 for projects like taking down dams, restoring forest and rivers, protecting critical land and marine habitat, and supporting local, organic, and sustainable agriculture. One proposal is accepted per group per fiscal year (May 1-April 30). There are two annual deadlines: April 30 (receive response by August 30) or August 31 (receive response by end of January). To find out if your group is eligible go to https://www.patagonia.com/corporate-funding-guidelines.html. For grant guidelines, visit https://www.patagonia.com/grant-guidelines.html

Grand Victoria Foundation- Vital Lands

Vital Lands land acquisition funds are intended to assist projects that pursue permanent protection and long-term stewardship of Illinois' vital lands. While criteria for proposed projects is flexible, the minimum standards are set high. Eligible applicants must be well-managed, fiscally healthy 501(c)(3) public charities or certified public institutions registered in Illinois and in good standing. 501(c)(3) organizations seeking land acquisition funding must have conservation programs in Illinois and have

adopted the Land Trust Alliance's Standards and Practices. Grand Victoria Foundation will only provide up to 30% of total dedicated funds calculated for long-term stewardship. In the application process, organizations will be asked to describe and document how they responsibly invest, manage, and use financial assets and build and maintain dedicated funds for stewardship and defense. Applications may be submitted at any time, as grants are awarded on a rolling basis. Apply online by creating an account at https://www.grantrequest.com/SID_5410?SA=SNA&FID=35006

McKnight Foundation

The McKnight Foundation uses their resources to "restore the water quality and resilience of the Mississippi River." It provides funding support for projects and management practices that restore and protect floodplains and wetlands and reduce agricultural pollution within the Mississippi River Basin including Illinois. They have four deadlines for initial inquiries throughout the year: February 1, May 1, August 1, and November 1. https://www.mcknight.org/programs/mississippi-river/how-to-apply/

Trees Forever: Illinois Buffer Partnership

The Illinois Buffer Partnership is a water quality program funded by Trees Forever, Syngenta, Operation Pollinator, and Growmark. These funding partners desire to highlight the voluntary efforts of farmers and rural landowners in planting, maintaining, and enhancing conservation practices and buffers. The mission of this Partnership is to showcase the actions taking place to restore Illinois flood plains and to raise awareness of potential for streamside buffers to enhance water quality and pollinator habitat. Cost-share funding is available for various water quality projects including, but not limited to, streamside buffers, wildlife/pollinator habitat, wetland or pond project, rain garden/bioswale, field windbreak, livestock confinement buffer planting, organic crop buffer, nut or fruit production, and agroforestry projects. After all federal, state, and local funding has been applied, recipients will be reimbursed for 50% of their remaining expenses, up to $2,000. Applications are available in August and must be submitted by December 31st. Recipients agree to allow their projects to serve as demonstration sites for education. Projects are expected to be completed within the same year that the funding is awarded. If extensions are needed, then they must be requested in writing and will be approved on a case-by-case basis. http://www.treesforever.org/Illinois_Buffer_Partnership

Illinois Clean Energy Community Foundation: Natural Areas Program

The Illinois Clean Energy Community Foundation has six categories within their Natural Areas Program for funding. Categories that could potentially be applicable to watershed planning and the broader mission of conservation include Capacity Building, Community Stewardship Challenge Grant, Land Acquisition, and Planning for Land Acquisition:

Capacity Building: Funding for this category is for projects that focus on increasing the organizational capacity of conservation groups active in protecting natural areas and wildlife habitat. This program is primarily for 501(c)(3) nonprofit organizations. Funding rarely covers the entire costs of the project. Applicants may apply for up to $40,000 for a two-year grant project. Deadlines for application submissions are February 21, 2019 and August 27, 2019.
Community Stewardship Challenge Grant: This program is geared toward increasing community participation in the protection and care of natural areas that are managed by nonprofit organizations. This program can provide funding via 1) a cash donation match ($3 provided: $1 raised, not exceeding donation of $21,000), 2) volunteer labor ($4,000 awarded for stewardship activities upon verification of 400 stewardship volunteer hours logged), or 3) equipment purchase (reimburse up to 80% or $5,000 for capital cost of stewardship equipment). This program is for 501(c)(3) nonprofit organizations that have active volunteer participation in the stewardship of publicly-accessible natural areas that are owned by a non-profit, local government, or government agency. Grants awarded up to $32,000 for natural area sites owned by a nonprofit and $27,000 for sites owned by the government.

Land Acquisition: This program desires to aid non-profits that purchase land outright with the purpose of protecting and enhancing wildlife habitat. Eligible applicants include nonprofit organizations and local government agencies that serve Illinois residents. Priority is given to projects that purchase natural habitat, as opposed to open space or parks, utilize all the funds for the direct purchase of the natural habitat, and meet specified transactional requirements for payment. The program funds up to 80% of the direct cost in purchasing the land and up to $10,000 for restoration completed within the first year of purchase. Deadlines for application submissions are February 21, 2019 and August 27, 2019.

Planning for Land Acquisition: The Foundation provides some financial assistance to nonprofit conservation groups who are planning the management and protection of natural areas. Grants under this program are awarded to individual organizations, but project action can include the participation of multiple organizations, including public and private. Majority of applicants are nonprofit organizations; however, if a local government agency, college, or university desires to seek grant funding through this program, they may contact the Foundation before application submission. Deadlines for application submissions are February 21, 2019 and August 27, 2019.
https://www.illinoiscleanenergy.org/natural-areas-program

The Natural Land Institute
The Natural Land Institute (NLI), a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, works in the Mississippi River Bluffs and the Rock River Watershed. NLI advocates for land preservation, land use planning, and direct action to preserve areas by acquisition, either on its own or in conjunction with other organizations and agencies. Specific support to landowners include support with native planting, invasive species removal, and advice on improved mowing practices. naturalland.org

Blackhawk Hills RC&D (Resource Conservation and Development)
The Blackhawk Hills RC&D (Resource Conservation and Development), a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization servicing all of Carroll County, helps communities protect and maintain their natural resources to improve the local economy, environment, and living standards. They support land management and water conservation by promoting restoration

of native vegetation along streams to shade streams, stabilize banks, and filter sediment and chemicals from runoff before they reach the streams. Additionally, they promote upland soil conservation measures by managing grazing, weeds, and brush on buffer areas and by repairing and reseeding rills in eroded areas. blackhawkhills.com

Lake Carroll Association

The Lake Carroll Association (LCA), a not-for profit organization, maintains and enhances the assets of the Lake Carroll 5,000+ acre complex while striving to ensure that each lot owner has the opportunity to partake of the various amenities, according to his or her schedule, while protecting the ecosystem. They support Lake Carroll residents and business with services for dredging, installing bio-buffers (vegetated swales and filter strips) and other techniques to mitigate soil runoff, installing rip raps and culverts, and grading. They also coordinate and support non-native species removal, via harvesting (association weed harvester machine), hand pulling or raking (individual homeowners on their lots), and chemical control of non-natives (association). golakecarroll.com

Jo Daviess Conservation Association

The Jo Daviess Conservation Association, a not for profit corporation serving Galena and its surrounding areas, promotes land stewardship (including registries, easements, and land donations) and resource conservation. http://jdcf.org/

University of Illinois Extension Soil Testing

The University of Illinois Extension Soil Testing, servicing all of Carroll County, endeavors to enable people to improve their lives and communities through learning partnerships that put knowledge to work. https://extension.illinois.edu/soiltest/

Pheasants Forever

Pheasants Forever is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization that services all of Carroll County. The organization is dedicated to the conservation of pheasants, quail and other wildlife through habitat improvements, public awareness, education, and land management policies and programs. pheasantsforever.org

National Wildlife Turkey Federation
The NWTF, a nonprofit organization servicing all of Carroll County, is dedicated to the conservation of the wild turkey and the preservation of our hunting heritage. nwtf.org

Trout Unlimited
Trout Unlimited, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization servicing all of Carroll County, endeavors to conserve, protect and restore North America's coldwater fisheries and their watersheds. tu.org

Ducks Unlimited
Ducks Unlimited, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization servicing Carroll County, conserves, restores, and manages wetlands and associated habitats for North America's waterfowl. ducks.org

AmeriCorps
AmeriCorps is a voluntary civil society program that aims to help others and address critical needs of the community. In the past AmeriCorps groups have helped remove invasive plants in 9 acres next to hatchery and helped in a savanna restoration project. https://www.nationalservice.gov/programs/americorps