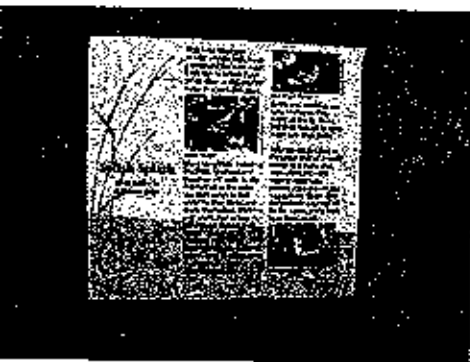


EXHIBIT J



Urban Bird Treaty - Chicago

A program working with cities and partners to conserve migratory birds through education, hazard reductions, citizen science, conservation actions, and conservation and habitat improvement strategies in urban/suburban areas.



Mayor Daley.

Chicago, Illinois - March 25, 2000

Urban Conservation Treaty for Migratory Birds was signed March 25 by Chicago Mayor Richard M. Daley and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

The Urban Conservation Treaty commits the Service to a long-term partnership with the City of Chicago aimed at creating and enhancing urban natural areas, including bird-friendly landscaping and habitat living for migratory birds. "The treaty is an important addition to our ongoing efforts through Nature Chicago to create open space, enhance habitat, and give Chicagoans the opportunity to appreciate and be stewards of the natural environment," said

Approximately seven million birds pass through the Chicago area twice a year during their spring and fall migrations.



Chicago efforts include:

- Conducted a study of 23 sites in Chicago to help determine which tree and shrub species are being used most frequently by which bird species, with the goal of using this information in future open space plantings.
- Created the "Birds of the Windy City Booklet". This educational piece provides information about migration, urban avian habitats, ways to attract birds to one's neighborhood or yard, protective measures to keep birds safe, seasonal sighting information, key birding locations, local bird clubs and conservation organizations, and other birding resources.

- Supported the McCormick Place Bird Sanctuary, built in 2003 by the Chicago Park District becoming the Park District's fourth bird sanctuary on Chicago's lakefront.
- Expanded the For the Birds! Program. This program encourages stewardship by students through classroom experiences focused on Chicago's birds and environmental experiences in Chicago's parks.

More information about birds and Chicago

<http://www.habitatproject.org/CMBA/history.html> (<http://www.habitatproject.org/CMBA/history.html>)
<http://www.cityofchicago.org/city/en.html> (<http://www.cityofchicago.org/city/en.html>)
http://www.lightsout.audubon.org/lightsout_history.php (http://www.lightsout.audubon.org/lightsout_history.php)
<http://www.hydepark.org/parks/birdlakftguidelines.htm> (<http://www.hydepark.org/parks/birdlakftguidelines.htm>)
<http://www.chicagoparkdistrict.com/index.cfm/fuseaction/custom.natureOasis15>
(<http://www.chicagoparkdistrict.com/index.cfm/fuseaction/custom.natureOasis15>)
http://www.cityofchicago.org/city/en/depts/dae/supp_info/lights_out_chicago.html
(http://www.cityofchicago.org/city/en/depts/dae/supp_info/lights_out_chicago.html)

Return to [Urban Conservation Treaty for Migratory Birds \(.Urban-bird-treaty.php\)](#)

Last Updated: December 3, 2015

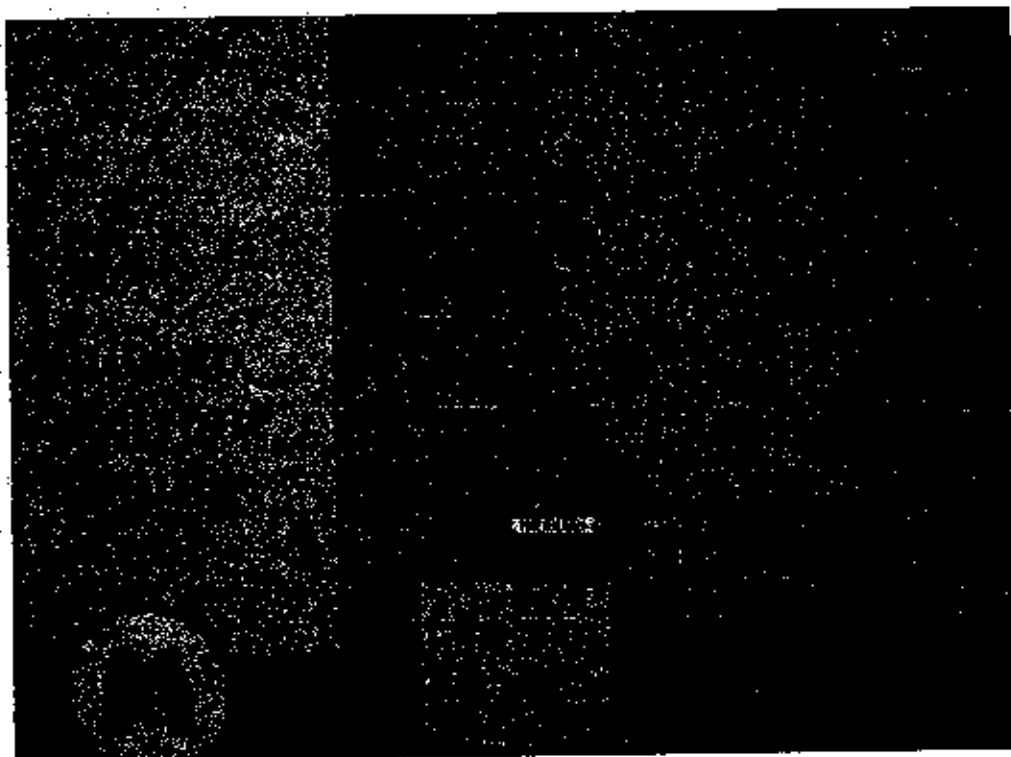
**Back to Birding. Back to Parks Home Page. To Jackson Park Framework Plan-
Environmental Rec's. Lakefront birding trail signage. Parakeets-in Harold Wash.**



Lakefront Bird Habitat Guidelines and the Chicago Lakefront Birding Trail

This page is presented by the Hyde Park-Kenwood Community Conference, its Parks Committee and website www.hydepark.org.
Join the Conference!

- The Guidelines
 - Importance of the lakefront for birds
 - Why/what guidelines
 - Inventory and planning
 - Management and maintenance of habitat
- The Trail and significant birding spots/refuge
 - Best seasons, days, times, places
 - map



A citywide Task Force of Chicago, Chicago Park District, Friends of the Parks and several park advisory councils (including Jackson and South Shore) and birding/conservation groups met in 2001 to develop local implementation guidelines for the International Migratory Bird Treaty of March, 2000, which was adopted by Chicago. Here is the document they produced. **Note that there is a new Guide to Chicago Region Bird Trails many bird groups worked to produce with the City.**

Chicago's Lakefront: Important Bird Habitat

The Chicago Lakefront on the southwest shore of Lake Michigan plays a major role in providing habitat for millions of migratory birds. In the last century and a half, the conversion of much of

the adjoining land to agriculture and urban uses has only increased the importance of the lakefront open space with its canopy of trees and shrubs.

The city of Chicago recognized these facts with the signing of the "**Urban Conservation Treaty for Migratory Birds**" with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) on March 25, 2000. This treaty commits USFWS to a long-term partnership with the City of Chicago and its conservation partners, including the Chicago Park District and citizen conservation groups, for the benefit of migratory birds.

Chicago Park District Adopts Bird Habitat Guidelines

The Chicago Park District worked with Friends of the Parks, other open space and conservation organizations and park advisory councils to develop guidelines for the lakefront as a crucial stopover point for migratory birds. The Chicago Park District Board of Commissioners adopted "Lakefront Bird Habitat Guidelines." These guidelines are being used by the District, its contractors and subcontractors, to protect and promote bird habitat in Chicago's lakefront parks.

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Inventory and Planning of Bird Habitat Areas

Examine existing and proposed landscaping in terms of promoting bird habitat.

Design landscaping with plant species which are bird friendly, i.e. provide shelter, nesting material, food sources (berries, seeds, and nectar).

Design with low maintenance and drought-resistant native species of plantings.

Design more diverse habitats, such as open savannah, woodlands, and shoreline dunes.

Design multi-layered landscapes, perennials, shrubs, under-story trees, and canopy trees.

Use a variety of plants, especially native and those that leaf out and flower across a wide range of dates.

Design water edges with aquatic and riparian species and naturalistic wetland and upland plantings.

Design plantings for year-round seasonal value for bird habitat.

Design water supply for landscape maintenance and necessary sources of water for birds.

Work with golf course managers to introduce more native landscape into the "rough" & along the edges.

Design new facilities to eliminate or minimize hazards to migratory and nesting birds.

Design landscape construction to avoid or mitigate bird-adverse techniques, such as erosion netting.