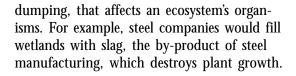
Important Dates



Population Growth has only recently become a problem for humans. As our population grows, we use more and more resources and habitat that would be sustaining other species.

Over consumption is a tendency that combines with population growth to use up arguably more resources than necessary from the habitat around us. This can upset a natural balance in a particular ecosystem, causing the biodiversity to decline. An example of this is our over consumption of disposable materials which increases our reliance on landfills to deal with the waste we create, which takes up a lot of space and often pollutes the area around the landfill itself.

We should be aware of these trends, and how, why, and where they cause biodiversity to decrease. In Calumet, many of these issues have been brought to attention for many reasons, one of which is conservation of biodiversity. The biodiversity that exists in Calumet is incredibly important, teaching us daily that awareness and appreciation of biodiversity can be shared throughout our communities.

Sources:

"Biodiversity Recovery Plan," Chicago Wilderness, Chicago: 1999.

"The Calumet Area Ecological Management Strategy," Chicago Department of the Environment, Chicago: 2002.

"Calumet Ecological Park Feasibility Study," National Park Service: 1998.

Greenberg, Joel. <u>A Natural History of the</u> <u>ChicagoRegion</u>. University of Chicago Press, Chicago: 2002.

Harms, Valerie. <u>Almanac of the Environment</u>. Grossett-Putman Books, New York: 1994.

Illinois State Museum: www.museum.state.il.us

"What's the Status of Biodiversity?" World Wildlife Fund www.worldwildlife.org/windows/statusbiod.html

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Photo by Forest Preserve District of DuPage County

For Further Reading:

The Biodiversity Homepage for Chicago Wilderness www.chicagowilderness.org/biodiversity

Illinois Department of Natural Resources, education projects and materials

http://dnr.state.il.us/lands/education/

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