



**Capital
Development
Board**
Building a Better Illinois

State of Illinois
JB Pritzker, Governor

Illinois Capital Development Board
TJ Edwards, Executive Director

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
January 31, 2025

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Capital Development Board Announces Over \$60 Million in Funding for Illinois Department of Natural Resources Projects

Funding provides necessary resources to improve state park and historic site facilities, increases recreational and educational opportunities for all.

Springfield - The Capital Development Board (CDB) today announced more than \$60 million in investments to address deferred maintenance projects for the Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IDNR). The funding, made possible by Governor JB Pritzker’s bipartisan Rebuild Illinois capital plan, will focus on five areas across Illinois.

“Through Rebuild Illinois, we are making meaningful investments in communities across the state, so that Illinoisans – no matter their zip code – benefit from our state’s progress,” **said Governor JB Pritzker**. “Today, I am pleased to announce over \$60 million in funding for vital community projects, which will help improve IDNR facilities and parks, drive economic growth, and improve the lives of residents in Illinois’ rural communities.”

The projects aim to address essential repairs, including water and wastewater systems, trail and bridge replacements, and site preservation efforts. State parks, such as Starved Rock and Lake Murphysboro, will see improvements that will provide recreational and educational benefits to the public.

“By investing in these projects, we are not only supporting economic growth in several rural areas, but also ensuring our state parks and historic sites remain accessible for years to come,” **said CDB Executive Director TJ Edwards**. “These projects are a testament to our commitment to Illinois’ residents and the natural beauty of our state.”

“The people of Illinois deserve to enjoy outdoor experiences that are safe and accessible,” **said IDNR Director Natalie Phelps Finnie**. “I want to thank Governor Pritzker for getting the state’s financial house in order so that there is money available for tackling improvement projects like these that have been delayed for far too long.”

Information on the **Rebuild Illinois** funded projects and locations are listed below. Project values represent cost estimates at the time of release.

- **Hennepin Canal Parkway State Park (Rock Island, Bureau, Henry, Lee, and Whiteside Counties):** \$10.2 million to plan and repair Lock 33 near Rock Falls in Whiteside County, ensuring structural integrity and operational capacity while preserving its historic status.
- **Starved Rock State Park (LaSalle County):** Over \$33.8 million will be allocated across two projects at the park to upgrade trails, replace deteriorated facilities, and construct a new wastewater system to protect natural resources and public health.
- **Lake Murphysboro State Park (Jackson County):** A \$4.1 million investment in upgrades to sewage treatment and campground electrical systems, ensuring compliance with environmental and accessibility standards.
- **Dana-Thomas House State Historic Site (Sangamon County):** \$6.6 million will restore and repair historic elements of the Frank Lloyd Wright-designed site, including water management systems, roofing, and security upgrades. An additional \$750,000 will be dedicated to improvements to the historic white cottage at the site.
- **Volo Bog Natural Area (Lake County):** \$5.1 million provides for a complete replacement of the existing boardwalk and floating trail, upgrading the existing paths and improving accessibility throughout the site. Additionally, the scope of work includes replacing the observation platform for the “Eye of the Bog” scenic overlook.

CDB will oversee the renovations in accordance with the protocol for state-appropriated construction projects, ensuring the work meets environmental and historic preservation standards.

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***About the Illinois Capital Development Board:** The Illinois Capital Development Board (CDB) oversees the construction of new state facilities, such as prisons, state parks, mental health institutions, and college and university projects. In addition, CDB is responsible for renovation and rehabilitation projects at over 8,770 state-owned buildings spread over more than 100 million square feet of floor space.*