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# SAVE THE DUNES

## 2023 UPDATES & ACCOMPLISHMENTS



In 2023, Save the Dunes increased capacity by welcoming two new staff members, and together we moved the needle on our project areas, focused on advocating for the Indiana dunes and Lake Michigan, advancing landscape level conservation, and deepening our community engagement in Lake, Porter, and LaPorte counties.

We raised funds to begin renovations at our headquarters - the historic Barker House - and increased our land stewardship by removing invasive species at our Stockwell Woods property in Long Beach. We brought forth an appeal to defend the Public Trust, and so much more! Read on to learn about some of our project highlights from 2023.



39.5 ACRES OF RESTORATION ON SAVE THE DUNES PROPERTIES



OVER \$52K OF FUNDING RAISED FOR BARKER HOUSE RENOVATIONS

## ADVOCACY

- Save the Dunes staff and volunteer advocates traveled to Washington D.C. to lobby members of Congress during Great Lakes Day to fund federal programs that benefit Lake Michigan.
- We collaborated with partners on proposed wetland protections at the state level in light of federal rollbacks.
- We brought forth an appeal of a DNR permit for failing to evaluate the serious threats a proposed revetment wall will have to one of our precious remaining Indiana beaches.
- We worked towards creating a culture of pollution prevention by convening partners, strengthening our relationship with IDEM, engaging with industry on best practices and more.



ADVOCATED FOR FUNDING THE GREAT LAKES RESTORATION INITIATIVE, ASKING FOR \$425M



SUBMITTED 14 COMMENT LETTERS ON PROPOSED REGULATIONS THIS FALL



# CONSERVATION

- Working with partners, we released a bi-state Conservation Action Planning Alignment Report for the Calumet Region.
- We provided funding to help clear 9 miles of river trail on the East Branch of the Little Calumet River.



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- Our staff administered several collaborative grants with partners, including projects involving invasive species removal in the Tolleston Dunes, restoration and logjam clearing along the East Branch of the Little Calumet River, and pollinator habitat installation and improvement across the region.



OVER 315 ACRES OF RESTORATION ENABLED  
THROUGH COLLABORATIVE GRANTS



OVER \$285K OF FUNDING DIVERTED  
TO PARTNERS FOR RESTORATION



## COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

- 2023 marked 71 years of Save the Dunes! We celebrated with an Anniversary Open House at our headquarters in June.
- We launched our Barker Seasonal Forum program series, a quarterly event showcasing topics that highlight our mission at Save the Dunes.

- We embarked on a recycling project, collecting plastic bags and other soft plastic films. Once we reach our goal of keeping 1,000 lbs of plastic waste out of landfills, we will receive a bench in honor of past Save the Dunes President, Jeanette Neagu!



COORDINATED 31 IN-PERSON  
OR ONLINE COMMUNITY EVENTS



HOSTED 68 VOLUNTEERS  
THROUGHOUT THE YEAR

THANK YOU TO OUR MEMBERS, DONORS, &  
CORPORATE PARTNERS WHO MAKE OUR WORK POSSIBLE!



369 MEMBERS



168 INDIVIDUAL  
DONORS



32 CORPORATE &  
FOUNDATION PARTNERS



TOTAL OF \$230K  
IN FUNDRAISING

BETWEEN NOVEMBER 1, 2022 - NOVEMBER 1, 2023



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