

Illinois Environmental Council

IEC brings together the Illinois environmental community to influence decision makers and ensure clean air, clean water and healthy communities.



Founded in 1975...

Today, IEC represents more than 90 environmental and community organizations and nearly 300 individual members from throughout Illinois.



Clean Energy

- **Clean Energy Jobs Act** (Williams/Castro) -- The Clean Energy Jobs Act would lead Illinois to 100% clean energy by 2050, decarbonize our power sector, reduce pollution from the transportation sector and ensure job training and equitable clean energy development-- all while lowering bills, and preventing fossil fuel bailouts.

Nutrient Loss Reduction Strategy

- Excessive levels of nutrients are degrading the quality of streams, rivers, and lakes within Illinois and contributing to the dead zone in the Gulf of Mexico.
- The Strategy sets a milestone to reduce nitrogen in Illinois waters by 15% and phosphorus by 25% by 2025.
- Additional resources are needed to administer and implement the Strategy in order to meet the Strategy's 2025 milestone. These include resources needed for reporting, research, water quality monitoring, technical assistance through the Illinois Department of Agriculture and Illinois Extension, for Soil and Water Conservation Districts throughout the state, and to provide cost-share funding for nutrient capture projects on farmland, including on the state's lands leased for agriculture.

Partners for Nutrient Loss Reduction Act

- The Illinois Partners for Nutrient Loss Reduction Act extends and increases funding for the Partners for Conservation Fund to fiscal year 2026.
- Legislation adds a new purpose and increases funding to the Partners for Conservation Fund in order to implement Illinois' Nutrient Loss Reduction Strategy. (Current funding is through fiscal 2021.)
- Cost to Achieve - The ultimate target for each Mississippi River Basin state is a 45% reduction in both phosphorus and nitrogen. The estimated cost to achieve this target in Illinois is \$800 million per year. SB3462 will ramp up funding to implement the Strategy over the next six years in order to first meet the 2025 milestone. It calls for \$138 million to be invested in Strategy implementation, from \$18.135 million in year 2021 up to \$25.7 million in 2026.

Conservation and Open Space

- **Partners for Nutrient Loss Reduction Strategy Act** (Villivalam/Vella) -- In order to address the state's difficulties with implementing the Nutrient Loss Reduction Strategy, this legislation would add implementation of the strategy to the purposes of the Partners for Conservation Fund (which must be re-authorized this session) and provide additional fiscal resources to agencies implementing the strategy.
- **Ban on Bobcat Hunting** (Didech/Holmes) -- Prohibits the hunting of bobcats in Illinois.

Sustainable Agriculture

- **Farming as a public service** HR 5 (West) -- Urges Congress to add farming as a public service to support debt forgiveness for young farmers.
- **Good Food Purchasing Policy Task Force** (Resolution- Harper) -- Creates a task force made up of procurement heads of majority of State agencies, along with private partners in the sustainable/equitable agriculture movement, to examine current food procurement and find what changes are needed to encourage more locally sourced food that is both sustainable and equitable.
- **Ban Pre-Treated Seeds in Ethanol Production** (Villa/?) -- Bans the use of pretreated seeds (i.e. coated with pesticides) in the production of ethanol.
- **Protecting Pollinators** (Guzzardi/Villa) -- Sets reasonable restrictions on the use of neonicotinoids pesticides on State property, limiting it to use in structural pest control and mitigation of emerald ash borer. This also sets these types of pesticides as “Restricted Use”, meaning that they can only be purchased and used by licensed pesticide applicators.
- **Local Food Producers** (Guzzardi/Koehler) - Expands the current cottage food laws to allow direct-to-consumer sales, including sales online within Illinois. This also clarifies the type of products which can be produced, namely canned items, as long as they follow USDA health guidelines.

Clean Air, Liveable Communities

Environmental Justice Permitting -- IEC will be working with the Chicago Environmental Justice Network on legislation that addresses loopholes in permitting that currently exacerbate pollution in burdened communities.

What is 30x30?

- The United Nations Convention on Biological Diversity estimates that the conservation of 30% of the land and water in the world by 2030 in order to achieve mitigation goals established under the Paris Climate Agreement
- In 2019 Senator Udall introduces a resolution affirming that the United States should establish policies putting us on the path towards achieving this goal in the United States
- On January 27th President Biden signs an Executive Order directing federal agencies to begin assessing how the United States can achieve the 30x30 goals as part of broader climate change initiatives, including the reintroduction of the US into the Paris Climate Accord
- So, what does that leave Illinois?

What is 30x30?


NRDC

EXPERT BLOG > ALISON CHASE & HELEN O'SHEA & KATE POOLE & ZAK SMITH

Biden's Historic Action on 30x30

January 27, 2021
Alison Chase & Helen O'Shea & Kate Poole & Zak Smith

The president's executive order puts America on the path of protecting 30 percent of its land and 30 percent of its ocean areas by 2030.

 U.S. Department of the Interior

Press Releases

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FACT SHEET: President Biden to Take Action to Uphold Commitment to Restore Balance on Public Lands and Waters, Invest in Clean Energy Future

1/27/2021
Last edited 2/11/2021

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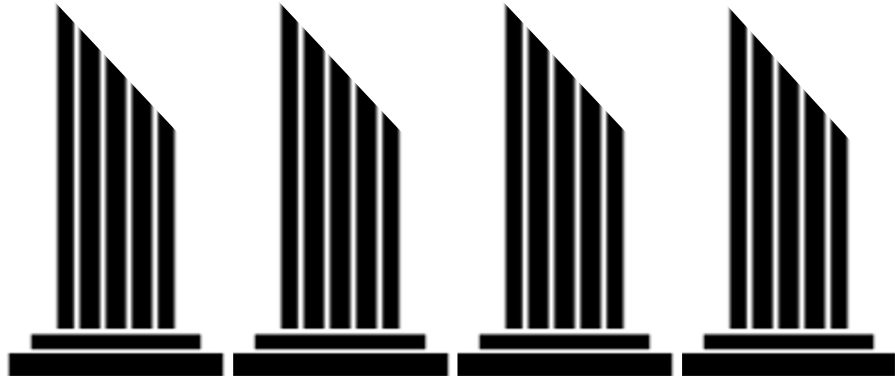


BRIEFING ROOM

Executive Order on Tackling the Climate Crisis at Home and Abroad

JANUARY 27, 2021 • PRESIDENTIAL ACTIONS

What is 30x30?



- Community driven land conservation and equitable open space access
- Sustainable Agriculture Practices (climate friendly practices, crop diversification, soil health)
- Local food economy; resilient local food systems, local food infrastructure
- Promoting jobs, equity and economic opportunity, especially in communities of color

30x30 in Illinois



- How does Illinois contribute to the national campaign?
- 4%
- Collaborative, community led, organized strategy for Illinois as a state and community
 - Structured after Illinois Climate Table
 - Timeline: Listening Sessions for 6 months-- Jan 2022
Aiming to finalize a policy package

please join us!



Thank you!

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To learn more about IEC,

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- Follow us on Twitter and Facebook @ilenviro