

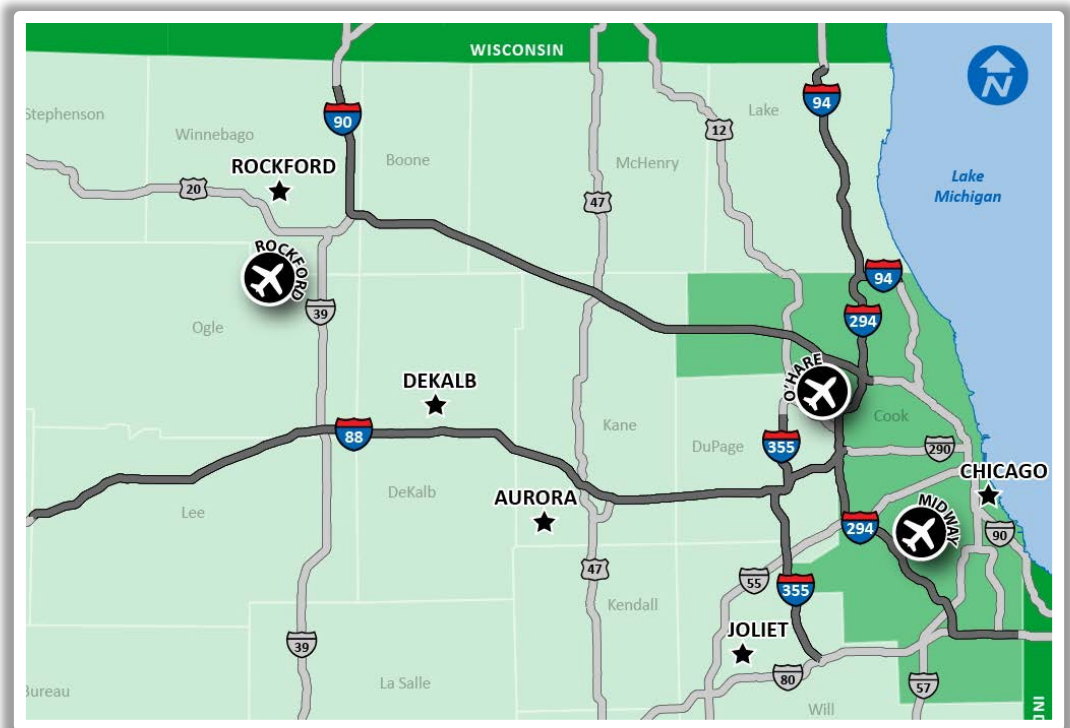


Pollinator Habitat Program

January 19, 2016

Illinois Tollway – Key Statistics

- ❑ 286-mile system comprised of four tollways
- ❑ Opened in 1958 as a bypass around Chicago to connect Indiana and Wisconsin
- ❑ Carries more than 1.4 million vehicles per day
- ❑ User-fee system
 - ❑ No state or federal gas tax dollars used for maintenance and operations



Pollinator Habitat Program



☐ Inventory

- ☐ Existing and planned

☐ Coordination and Outreach

- ☐ Roadway Maintenance
- ☐ Map Art

☐ Habitat establishment

- ☐ Modify and develop seed mixes for design and construction
- ☐ Provide oversight during construction

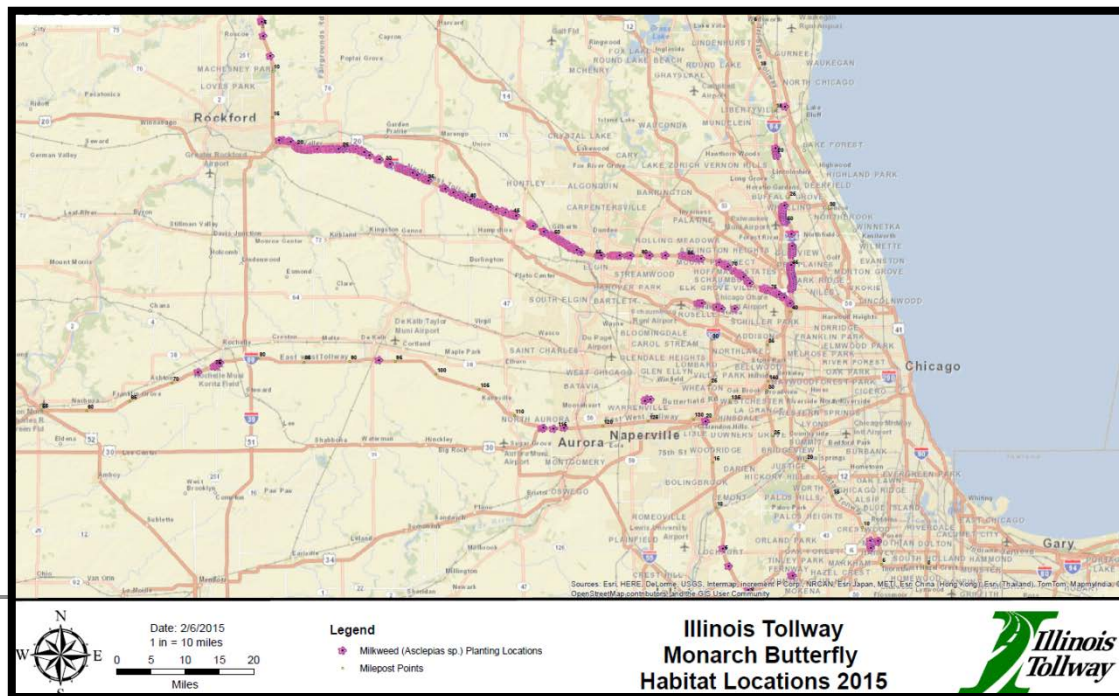
☐ Maintenance and Monitoring

- ☐ Implement developed maintenance protocols
- ☐ Monitor habitat establishment



Inventory

- ❑ **Inventoried existing planted habitat sites to date**
 - ❑ 900 acres within Tollway ROW and mitigation sites
- ❑ **Inventoried planned habitat sites by the end of MOVE IL, (area added since Board support of Program)**
 - ❑ 331 acres within Tollway ROW and mitigation sites



Habitat location exhibit showing planted and planned areas

Coordination

- ❑ Working with Rights-of Way as Habitat Working Group
- ❑ Tollway funded ~\$1.5 billion in professional services and construction contracts in 2015
- ❑ Tollway Environmental & Maintenance are developing targeted vegated management areas (TVMA) for specialized management practices to occur in potential habitat areas

Photo of Milkweed
from Tollway Mitigation
site in N. Chicago



Outreach

■ Map Cover Art Contest

- ❑ Focus on Monarch and ROW as habitat
- ❑ 75 + entries from high school students around the region
- ❑ 27,000 votes



Habitat Establishment

- 18 acres of new habitat and ~16,300 milkweed and other pollinator vegetative plugs to be established this year, as part of active construction contracts, at no additional cost to the Tollway
- Working to establish pollinator specific areas throughout the Tollway system as part the Move IL Program and Tollway Systemwide projects.



Maintenance & Monitoring

- ❑ **Continue efforts with Tollway Maintenance on TVMAs**
 - ❑ TVMA pilot area north of Grand Avenue and I-94, within M-4 section
- ❑ **Illinois Natural History Survey and consulting staff to assist in monitoring habitat establishment**





THANK YOU