

Charlie Zine

Environmental Resume

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Led Valley of the Fox Group (Sierra Club) to partner with City of Aurora and Fox Metro WRD in successful grant application for \$1.4 Million Illinois Green Infrastructure Grant (IGIG) in 2011

Acknowledged Contributor to the "Aurora Riverfront Vision" plan (2006)

Led Sierra Club in planting first Rain Garden in Aurora on City Property at Phillips Park (2010)

Led Sierra Club in Planted First Bio-Swale in Aurora in at RiverEdge Park (2011)

Guided Mayors of Aurora Montgomery, Oswego and Yorkville, on Paddle from Aurora to Yorkville advocate for a new Water Trail (2013)

Helped Establish the Riddle Highlands Historic District (1989)

Participated in Several Fox River Clean Ups with the Valley of the Fox Group of the Sierra Club and the Friends of the Fox River.

Participated in several "Help Plant Aurora's River Banks" efforts to reintroduce native Water Willows back to the Fox River.

Successfully Nominated the Holbrook Mill in Aurora for Historic Preservation as Aurora's oldest commercial building. It has since been completely rebuilt as a modern Live/Work Space(1993)

Raised private donations to get concept plans drawn for Dam modifications into bypass channels, in Aurora and Montgomery, by the nation's leading Whitewater Park designer, Scott Shipley, PE.

Helped organize the Illinois Paddlesports Festival help in Aurora for 5 years now as a joint effort of the City of Aurora and the Illinois Paddling Council.

Opened and managed Aurora's first commercial retail kayak store and outfitter, to promote recreational use of the Fox River in and near Aurora.

Am Currently a Staff Officer with the United State Coast Guard Auxillary, Illinois River Flotilla.

Served as President of the Rotary Club of Aurora 2011-2012

HONORS/AWARDS/RECOGNITIONS

Mayors Award for Excellence in Historic Preservation (2005) for Pigeon Hill Grill

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EDUCATION/CERTIFICATION/TRAINING

“Run Off Ranger” Training. Trained on how to spot and report illegal runoff from construction sites that pollute area rivers and streams

Water Sentinel training. Trained in how to take clean accurate water samples from the Fox River to be used by Sierra Club to advocate for cleaner rivers.

Participated in community stakeholder “Charrettes” for Downer Place and River Edge Park (Phases I and II).

Certified Kayak Instructor (2010)

Certified in First Aid (1999)

EXPERIENCE

Chairman of Valley of the Fox Sierra Club for 2 terms (2007 – 2011)

Conservation Chair of VOF Group of Sierra Club (2011- 2013)

Chairman of RSVP Citizens Group which advocated on Behalf of the Fox River in Aurora,

Member of the Aurora RiverEdge Park committee which interviewed design teams (Phase I) and oversaw the completion of Phase I and met with the Architectural and engineering teams for Phase II.

Conducted Power Point Presentations of RiverEdge Park to Aurora Service Organizations, Environmental groups, and neighborhood groups.

Advocate for Open Space along the Fox River

Advocate for Open Space referendum for Forest Preserve of Kane County and Fox Valley Park District

Advocated for the removal of the Fox River Dams in Aurora, Batavia, Montgomery and Yorkville.

Participated in “Planting Auroras River Banks”

Current Member of the Aurora RiverWalk Commission

Current Member and Vice Chairman of the Downtown Design Review Committee

Current Board member of Aurora Downtown

Volunteer Water Sample Collector for VOF Water Sentinels

Participated in Kane Co Forest Preserve Volunteer Day at Lone Grove FP removing invasive species

Organized First ever Paddle Sports Festival in Aurora with Illinois Paddling Council and City of Aurora.

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Partnered with City of Aurora and Fox Metro WRD in Public Awareness meetings for IGIG Grants (2010)

Served on the Aurora Federal Block Grant Working Committee for 10 years

Served on the Aurora Preservation Commission for 6 years

Traveled to the Illinois Department of Natural Resources HQ in Springfield Ill to advocate state assistance in repairing the Canoe Chute and to build a Whitewater Park in downtown Aurora.

Participated in numerous Fox River cleanup efforts with the Sierra Club and the Friends of the Fox River.

Volunteered as a test paddler for the Illinois Paddling Council and the Illinois Department of Natural Resources, for the then new Fox River Whitewater Bypass Channel in Yorkville.

Produced Videos for All Access Aurora and Aurora Cable TV Access, on the Environment and the Fox River