

# Will County conservationist joins Conservation Foundation board

Karen D’Arcy, board chair of the Land Conservancy of Will County, has joined The Conservation Foundation board of trustees for a three-year term.

D’Arcy is a founding member and chairman of the Thorn Creek Ecosystem Partnership and has been with the Land Conservancy since 2005. She’s a volunteer with Governors State University, Restore for Habitat for Humanity in Joliet, and a citizen scientist with Illinois RiverWatch.

She’s been an active part of the Hickory Creek Watershed BioBlitz, working with researchers to sample and identify aquatic organisms.

“I’m excited to join a group that’s so impactful in protecting our streams and rivers,” she said.

D’Arcy, a New Lenox resident, is professor emeritus of analytical chemistry and recently retired after 31 years at Governors State University as a chemistry professor, division chair of science, department chair of chemistry and biological sciences, interim dean of the College of Arts and Sciences and the College of Education.

She received a Bachelor of Arts degree in chemistry from the University of Northern Colorado and a Ph.D. in environmental sciences and natural resources/chemistry from Portland State University.

She said her interest in The Conservation Foundation began after meeting President/CEO Brook McDonald and other staff in the 1990s during her involvement in the ecosystem partnership movement.

The Conservation Foundation, celebrating its 45th anniversary in 2017, is one of the region’s oldest and largest not-for-profit land and watershed conservation organizations. Since it was founded in 1972, TCF has helped preserve nearly 33,000 acres of open space, restored and cleaned miles of rivers and streams, and educated thousands of kids by engaging them in nature and the outdoors.

Work is focused in DuPage, Kane, Kendall and Will Counties to preserve and restore nature in your neighborhood. Find out more at [theconservationfoundation.org](http://theconservationfoundation.org).

