

**September 2015 . Maintenance and safety checks of buildings and grounds, seasonal mowing, firewood cutting splitting and stacking, storm clean-up, shelter house and toilet cleaning, litter pick-up and disposal, road grading, trail maintenance, equipment maintenance, scheduling shelter rentals and collecting shelter and camping fees, drinking water sampling . Shelter houses and Lodge are used every weekend by scouts, families and other groups. Natural Resource Center Educational Staff teaching school groups at Russell Woods and making classroom visits. PDRMA Risk Management and Loss Control review and preserve safety in progress for 2014 /2015 compliance.**

*Below: Former Evergreen Village 60 acre site will be a future forest preserve area with plans for picnic areas, fishing pond , trails for hiking and cross-country skiing, floodplain prairie restoration and wildlife habitat area,along with parking lot and bike trail connection to the Great Western Trail.*



Fall Colors in the forest preserves



Fall prairie and woodland controlled burns are planned at various natural resource management sites





Early Spring Forest Burn



Two Months After Forest Burn

The DeKalb County Forest Preserve District in its efforts to manage prairies, wetlands, and forests will use controlled burns and other practices such as cutting, thinning and selective herbicide use at some sites in helping reduce non-native invasive species. These non-native plants can establish large populations and out compete native prairie, wetland and woodland plants.

If you see areas that have been managed with fire or other practices, the Forest Preserve District is working to improve the diversity and quality of that environment. For more information and Natural Resource Management Volunteer opportunities, call 815-895-7191 or [www.dekalbcounty.org](http://www.dekalbcounty.org).



Coneflower and Butterfly



Spring Prairie Burn



Four Months After Prairie Burn

