

## RIVER SWEEP 2026

WHEREAS, the County of DuPage, through the Stormwater Management Department and municipalities, townships and park districts, recognizes ongoing stream cleaning and restoration as essential for the preservation and long-term health of waterways throughout DuPage County and northeastern Illinois; and

WHEREAS, the Village of Downers Grove recognizes the value of environmental volunteerism in promoting good stewardship of the environment and the role such efforts can play in reducing stress, improving physical health and fostering meaningful community connections; and

WHEREAS, the DuPage County River Sweep is a county-wide stream cleanup and restoration event organized locally by The Conservation Foundation and held in cooperation with the American Rivers National River Clean Up; and

WHEREAS, the purpose of the River Sweep is to encourage community and volunteer groups to help “sweep our rivers clean” by picking up debris in and along our waterways, and by participating in stream restoration projects; and

WHEREAS, river and stream cleaning efforts have made great progress with more than 16,000 volunteers removing over 300 tons of debris from DuPage County waterways since 1991; and

WHEREAS, the Village of Downers Grove has supported this work through the volunteer efforts of our Village Staff and residents over the years and we congratulate all who have helped bring about such success in improving our shared environment;

Now, THEREFORE, I, Robert T. Barnett, Mayor of the Village of Downers Grove, do hereby proclaim **Saturday, April 18, 2026**, as “**River Sweep 2026 Day**” and encourage all residents to support and participate in the River Sweep and make a difference in the quality of the waterways in the area and, to take this moment as a reminder to commit to embracing future opportunities to volunteer.

Dated this 10<sup>th</sup> day of March 2026, at Downers Grove, Illinois



Robert T. Barnett, Mayor