

**RESOLUTION NO. 2025-022
VILLAGE OF CALEDONIA**

**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING ROOT-PIKE WATERSHED INITIATIVE NETWORK, INC.,
TO COMPLETE THE ENHANCEMENT OF CHAPLA PARK**

The Village Board for the Village of Caledonia, Racine County, WI do resolve as follows:

WHEREAS, the Village of Caledonia is interested in protecting the coastal bluffs of Lake Michigan located in Chapla Park by converting two acres of turf grass to native prairie, and;

WHEREAS, grants will be necessary to carry out the project and Root-Pike Watershed Initiative Network (WIN) will be the lead in applying for grants to secure the funds necessary to complete the planning and implementation of this project, and;

WHEREAS, Root-Pike Watershed Initiative Network (501c3) is willing to provide grant writing, conduct site tours, act as the project manager to obtain professional services to develop the plans, estimate, schedule and manage the grant funds received to complete the prairie restoration, and;

WHEREAS, the conversion of turf to native prairie will infiltrate up to 34,848 gallons of stormwater which will reduce erosion to the bluffs, and;

WHEREAS, infiltrating stormwater runoff using native prairie plants will reduce stormwater pollutants from entering Lake Michigan, and native prairie land types provide habitat for declining pollinator populations, and;

WHEREAS, the Wind Point Watershed Restoration Plan was adopted by the Village of Caledonia and has been approved by the Department of Natural Resources and the Environmental Protection Agency, and;

WHEREAS, the Village of Caledonia works cooperatively with Root-Pike WIN through the Southeastern Wisconsin Clean Water Network and the Department of Natural Resources reduce stormwater runoff pollution loading as part of the Village of Caledonia's stormwater permit requirement, and;

WHEREAS, Chapla Park contains eight acres of primary environmental corridor according to the proposed Park and Open Space Plan for the Village of Caledonia: 2050, and;

WHEREAS, the restoration of two acres of prairie in Chapla Park would serve the community by reducing runoff pollution and improving land stability, and enhancing biodiversity which creates a stronger Caledonia brand and sense of place, and

WHEREAS, Root-Pike WIN is already working cooperatively with the Village of Caledonia to restore the impaired and degraded Turtle Creek – a tributary to the Klema Ditch, and


WHEREAS, Caledonia's responsibilities for the long- term maintenance, after the first three years, of the park include mowing the trail system, mowing the prairie as needed (and as conditions warrant), burning the prairie once every three-five years (depending on conditions)

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Village of Caledonia will cooperatively work with Root-Pike Watershed Initiative Network, a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, to develop grant applications and **HEREBY AUTHROIZES** Mr. Dave Giordano, Executive Director of Root-Pike Watershed Initiative Network to act on behalf of the Village of Caledonia to:

1. Create and submit grant applications to various funding sources with Village of Caledonia's Parks Department input review and final approval
2. Implement the project plan in accordance with the rules, regulations and wishes of Village of Caledonia, Racine County and the Department of Natural Resources
3. Maintain the restoration area for three years

Adopted by the Village Board of the Village of Caledonia, Racine County, Wisconsin, this 25 day of March, 2025.

VILLAGE OF CALEDONIA

By: 
Thomas Weatherston
Village President

Attest: 
Jennifer Bass
Village Clerk