

Senator Noland's STIMULUS for the Environment

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency has released [guidance to states](#) on the State Revolving Fund element of the ARRA, including more information on green infrastructure and the "Green Project Reserve." Also see the Illinois EPA [economic recovery website](#).

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration is seeking proposals for coastal habitat restoration projects under ARRA including wetlands restoration, dam removal, and other projects. Up to \$170 million may be available for coastal and marine habitat restoration, with typical awards expected to range between \$1.5 million and \$10 million. Eligible applicants are institutions of higher education, non-profits, commercial (for profit) organizations, U.S. Territories, and state, local and Indian tribal governments. Proposals are due by April 6, 2009. For more information, visit <http://www.habitat.noaa.gov/recovery>. □ □

The Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) is holding a signup for floodplain easements, funded by ARRA under the Emergency Watershed Protection (EWP) program. Use of this easement option will support areas repeatedly damaged by floods. Sign-up began Monday, March 9 and runs through March 27, 2009. The State of Illinois has been divided into three regions, each with a specific payment rate cap. NRCS' goal is to have all floodplain easements acquired and restored within 12 to 18 months. Contact information for local service centers is as follows: McHenry (815-338-0099), Lake and Cook (847-608-8165), Kane and DuPage (630-584-7960), Will and Cook (815-485-0068), Kendall (630-553-5821).

Additional links are provided here on the "Links & Services" page of my website.

With Highest Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "M. Noland". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letter "M" being particularly large and stylized.

Senator Michael Noland