history

vision
To develop a multi-faceted facility that fosters an appreciation of the unique individual character, secluded solitude, cultural history, and natural resources of St. James Farm Forest Preserve for the pleasure, education, and recreation of the public.

goals and objectives

**GOAL** Provide recreational opportunities for people of all abilities

Objectives
- Trails that provide high quality experiences
- Trails with a hard surface for mobility-impaired users
- Picnic areas

**GOAL** Provide recreational and educational activities that recognize the equestrian heritage of St. James Farm

Objectives
- Incorporation of historic trail alignments
- Horsemanship clinics, seminars and instructional classes
- Carriage rides

**GOAL** Provide connections between St. James Farm and adjacent open spaces and other recreational amenities

Objectives
- Trail connections to regional and forest preserve trails
- Large-scale landscape connections

**GOAL** Enhance, restore, and protect waterways, wetlands, prairies, savannas and woodlands

Objectives
- Large-scale habitat restoration south of Butterfield Road
- Restoration of Spring Brook and its floodplain
- Protection of Bremme Creek wetland resources
- Restoration of agricultural and manicured turf areas
- Restoration of existing woodlands

**GOAL** Interpret the cultural history and natural features of St. James Farm

Objectives
- Interpret important buildings, facilities, natural features, and historical and cultural elements

**GOAL** Develop and operate St. James Farm’s facilities in a sustainable way that minimizes impact on the environment

Objectives
- Environmentally responsible renovations, site and infrastructure design, and maintenance and operations practices
- Implementation of the use of green energy sources and reduction of energy consumption

**GOAL** Use St. James Farm’s unique setting for special events

Objectives
- Provide designated space for small, intimate events
- Allow flexibility for large-scale events that could take place in many locations at St. James Farm
summary

NORTHERN PRESERVE AREA

- Main Farm — main interpretive area with historic stables, barns and support buildings
- East Farm — special-event area with existing show stable, picnic pavilion, dressage and jumping arenas
- Chamossaire picnic area — picnic shelter, restrooms and parking
- Catch-and-release fishing pond
- North Farm (near Mack Road) — trailhead and picnic area and stream restoration

CIRCULATION, PARKING AND TRAILS

- Main entrance from Winfield Road and parking near Main Farm
- Entrance from Hoy Avenue and trailer access from Mack Road utilizing the trail for special events only
- Multipurpose trail loop through woodlands complemented by existing sculptures with connections to Illinois Prairie Path and other forest preserve trails
- Separate pedestrian trails in Main and East Farm areas

SOUTHERN PRESERVE AREA

- Prairie and wetland restoration
- Multipurpose trails with connections to local and regional trails
- Galusha House historical interpretation
St. James Farm Forest Preserve Master Plan
Overall Plan  January 2010
Main Farm
Enlarged Plan

1. Main Parking Lot
2. Volunteer Headquarters
3. Guard Residence
4. Bike Parking
5. Dairy Outbuildings
   Daily Historical Interpretation
6. Dairy Barn
   Storage
7. Donor Recognition Area
8. Site Manager’s Office/
   Public Restrooms
9. Farm Workshop
   Historical Displays
10. Brick Stables
    Short Term Stabling and
    Historical Interpretation
11. Block Stables
    Short Term Stabling
12. Indoor Arena
13. Paddock
14. Practice Arena

East Farm
Enlarged Plan

1. Bike Parking
2. Practice Dressage
3. Dressage Arena
4. Connection to Prairie Path
   at Existing Underpass
5. Pavilion/Reservable
   Picnic Shelter
6. Caboose
7. Public Restrooms
8. East Farm Barn
   Flexible Support Space
9. Show Stable
   Special-Event Stabling
10. Special-Event Parking Only
11. Practice Jumping
12. Stadium Jumping
13. Gravel Drive
14. Special-Event Entrance
15. Illinois Prairie Path
PHASING Plan Rationale

The phasing plan is designed to increase public access to St. James Farm Forest Preserve by creating an infrastructure to accommodate preserve users in the near future and then allowing for other master plan elements to be fulfilled as funding becomes available. To begin, Phase 1 focuses on the development of parking lots and trails and the connection of water and sewer lines to upgrade priority structures for public use. Phase 2 will then concentrate on the restoration of the remaining Main and East farms’ structures and the South Farm area, including the coordination and construction of trails. The remaining elements of the plan, including the Chamossaire picnic area, smaller structures for historical interpretation and the restoration of Spring Brook, will then be implemented in the long-term, through Phase 3.

PHASES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PHASE 1</th>
<th>TIME FRAME</th>
<th>REQUIRED FUNDING*</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Water line and sanitary sewer connections</td>
<td>0 – 7 Years</td>
<td>$12,740,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Main parking lot/access road</td>
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<tr>
<td>Main Farm path improvements and site amenities</td>
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<tr>
<td>Multipurpose trail segments (loop connecting to Prairie Path)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Indoor arena</td>
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<tr>
<td>Block stables</td>
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<tr>
<td>Volunteer headquarters building</td>
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<tr>
<td>East Farm equestrian facilities</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dairy barn (upgrades for storage)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Demolish unneeded farm buildings</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pavilion</td>
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<tr>
<td>Multipurpose trail segments (woodland loop to Mack Road including bridges)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mack Road parking lot/picnic area</td>
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<tr>
<td>Site manager’s office/restroom building</td>
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<tr>
<td>Natural areas restoration at Main Farm and along Mack Road</td>
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<th>PHASE 2</th>
<th>TIME FRAME</th>
<th>REQUIRED FUNDING*</th>
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<tr>
<td>East Farm parking lot/circulation upgrades</td>
<td>8 – 15 Years</td>
<td>$15,720,000</td>
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<td>East Farm restrooms</td>
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<td>Show stable</td>
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<tr>
<td>Brick stables</td>
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<tr>
<td>Farm workshop</td>
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<tr>
<td>South Farm multipurpose trails</td>
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<tr>
<td>South Farm restoration</td>
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<th>PHASE 3</th>
<th>TIME FRAME</th>
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<tr>
<td>Chamossaire parking lot and picnic area</td>
<td>16 – 20 Years</td>
<td>$5,790,000</td>
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<td>Galusha House parking lot</td>
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<td>Main Farm dairy outbuildings</td>
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<tr>
<td>East Farm barn</td>
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<tr>
<td>Spring Brook restoration</td>
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<tr>
<td>North farm alfalfa field restoration</td>
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*Note: Prices are subject to inflation of up to 5 percent per year

Total $34,250,000
funding opportunities

- Capital funds
- Referendum funds
- Endowment funds
- Private donations
- Sponsorships
- Partnerships

- Potential grant sources
  - National Fish and Wildlife Foundation
  - National Endowment for the Humanities
  - The National Trust for Historic Preservation
  - National Institute for Conservation
  - U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
  - U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
  - Federal Highway Administration
  - Water Resources Development Act
  - National Park Service
  - Illinois Department of Natural Resources
  - Illinois Department of Transportation
  - Illinois Historic Preservation Agency
  - Illinois Humanities Council
  - Landmarks Illinois

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