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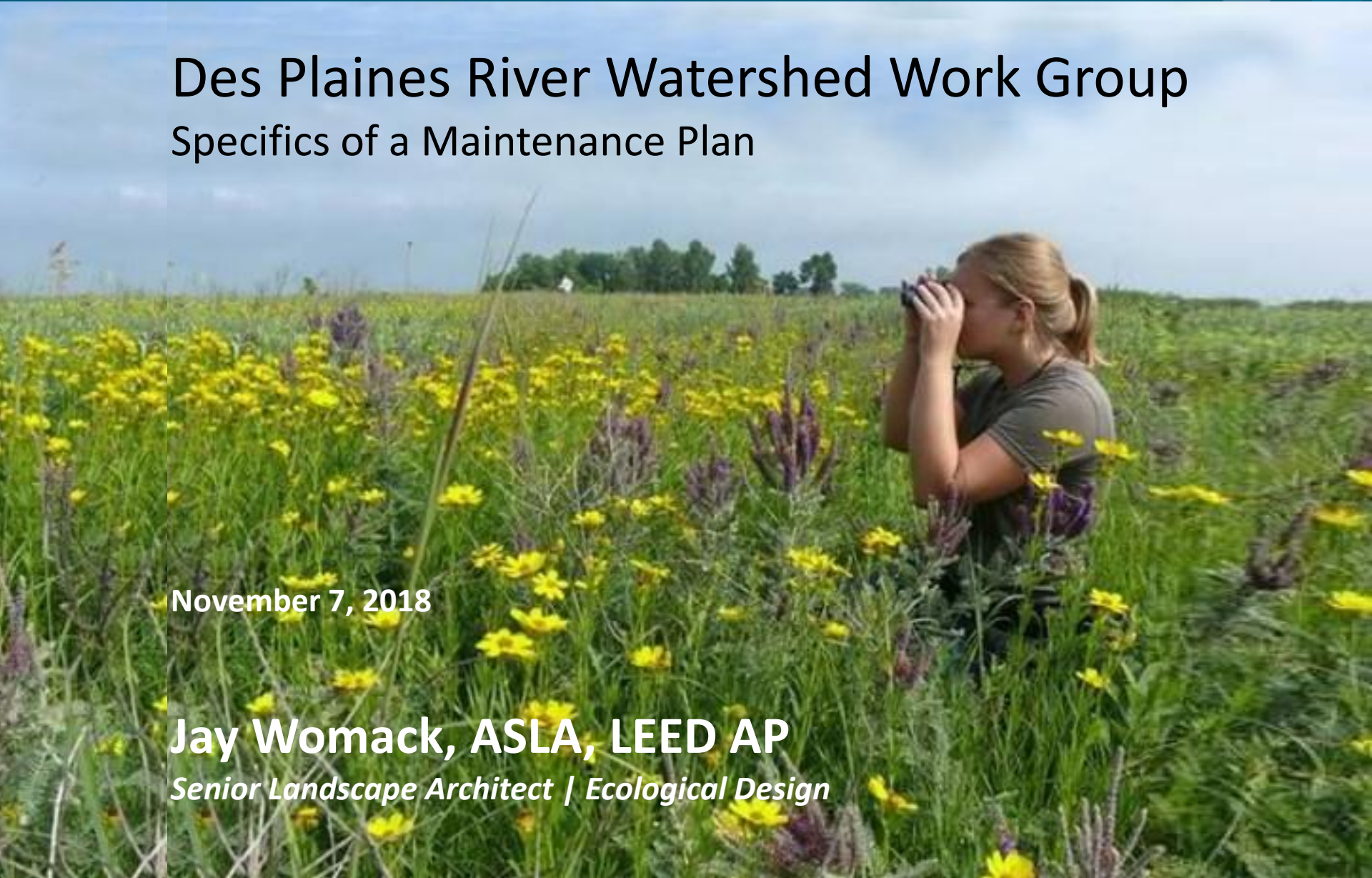
Des Plaines River Watershed Work Group

Specifics of a Maintenance Plan

November 7, 2018

Jay Womack, ASLA, LEED AP

Senior Landscape Architect | Ecological Design





AGENDA

7:30 – 8:00 AM CHECK IN & BREAKFAST

8:00 – 8:05 AM INTRODUCTION

8:05 - 8:40 AM NATURAL AREA **MAINTENANCE** - MS4 PERMIT REQUIREMENTS

8:40 – 9:15 AM IMPLEMENTING & FINANCING A NATURAL AREA **MAINTENANCE** PLAN

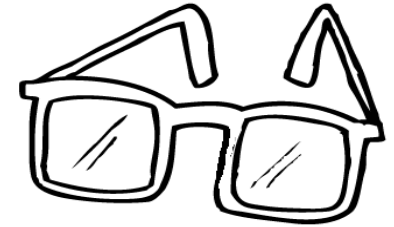
9:15 – 9:50 AM SPECIFICS OF A **MAINTENANCE** PLAN

Jay Womack, Huff & Huff

11:15 – 11:50 AM MUNICIPAL CERTIFICATION - TOP QUALITY NATURAL AREAS
MAINTENANCE

“The future will belong to the nature-smart – those individuals, families, businesses, and political leaders who develop a deeper understanding of the transformative power of the natural world.”

~Richard Louv
(famous author)



“It will also belong to those that wear magic glasses.”

~Jay Womack
(not so famous landscape architect)





Many landscapes revolve around this type of maintenance...



But with my magic glasses, I can see this...





And this...





And this...



And our turf landscape too often attracts this...





But the corollary landscape often attracts *this*...



And these...





Too often, this is what people see as a woodland...

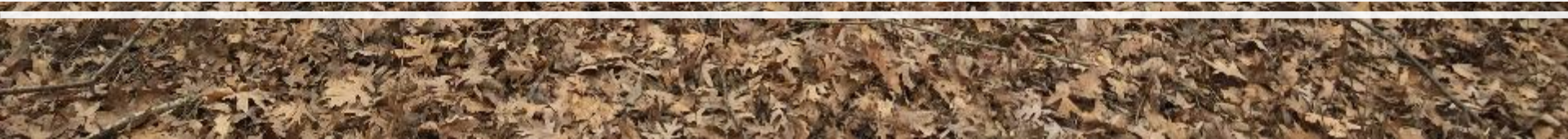




Which can lead to
this...



But with my magic glasses, I can see *this*...





Which leads to *this*...





And this...





And this...





And these guys...



And then there's this...





And this...





But with my magic glasses, I can see *this*...




And this...



Which becomes a
place for people to
connect with
nature...





Start by ‘seeing’ the place you want to maintain and find what makes your site unique.

Too often we take things for granted...

- What are my goals and objectives?
 - Is this a restoration from scratch or upkeep of an existing ecosystem?
 - Is there an existing seedbank we need to nurture?
 - Is there an opportunity for education on the site?
- What resources (money and equipment) and knowledge do I have at hand?
 - Is this an opportunity for a partnership?

So, what do magic glasses have to do with
Specifics of a Maintenance Plan?

Everything...

Mowing – Works best in a prairie restoration. Mow during the first two growing seasons (April through October) after installation, temporary cover crop grasses and all native seeded areas should be mown to a height of **six to ten inches** before weed species set seed. Timing the mowing(s) is crucial!



Melilotus alba
white sweet clover



Cirsium arvense
canada thistle



Rumex crispus
curly dock



Hesperis matronalis
dames rocket



Dipsacus laciniatus
cut-leaved teasel



Ambrosia artemisiifolia
common ragweed



Securigera varia
crown vetch





Herbicide Application - an extremely effective method for wetlands and around water. However, overuse can weaken all vegetation.





Lythrum salicaria
purple loosestrife



Phalaris arundinacea
reed canary grass



Phragmites australis
common reed

Hand Removal – a great tool for woody material, especially in a woodland restoration application.







Rhamnus cathartica
buckthorn



Lonicera japonica
Japanese honeysuckle



Alliaria petiolata
garlic mustard

A photograph of a sign in a field of native prairie plants. The sign is mounted on a wooden post and features the text 'NATIVE PRAIRIE PLANTS' in large, bold, white letters. Below this, it says 'PLEASE DO NOT SPRAY OR MOW' in smaller, bold, black letters. At the bottom of the sign, there is a paragraph of smaller text explaining that the area has been planted with native wildflowers and grasses to provide habitat for pollinators, birds, and other wildlife. The background is a lush green field with various flowers, including yellow and pink ones.

NATIVE PRAIRIE PLANTS

PLEASE DO NOT
SPRAY OR MOW

This area has been planted
with native wildflowers and grasses,
providing diverse habitat for
pollinators, birds and other wildlife.

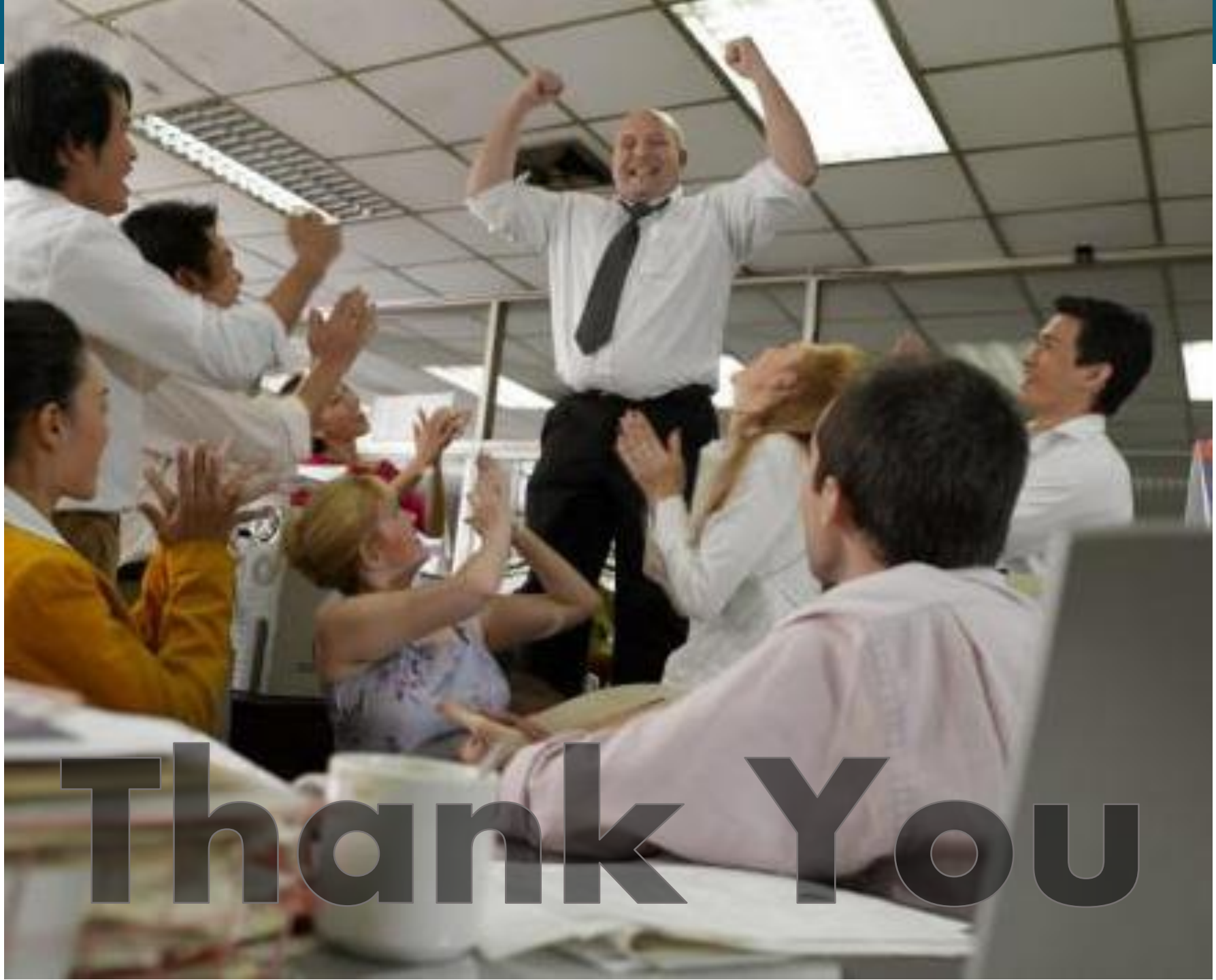








This is all about making your lives easier!



Thank You