

Potential Funding Streams:

1. City of Nauvoo Partnership: The City of Nauvoo is required by the Corps of Engineers to create forested wetlands for previously impacting wetlands. It appears there could be a unique cost-sharing/partnership opportunity for Little Swan Lake and Nauvoo to team up and develop wetlands which would help Nauvoo meet their mitigation requirements, while also reducing silt and improving the water quality of Little Swan Lake. We have had preliminary discussion with the Corps of Engineers and they are open to the idea. They would have to approve a mitigation plan before the project could begin, but the City of Nauvoo would be very interesting in beginning a dialog.
2. Wetland Mitigation Banking: This would involve creating a wetland at your site and having it certified as a Mitigation Bank; wetland “credits” can then be sold (we have seen upwards of \$50,000/acre) to entities needing wetland mitigation credits. This option would require up front and close coordination with USACE/EPA & other regulatory agencies throughout process and it may take years before credits are ready to sell. Therefore, there would not be funds available up front for construction, but rather income down the road to potentially pay off any loans/bonds, etc. that may be required.
3. Ducks Unlimited (North American Wetlands Conservation Act (NAWCA) Grant), Standard or Small Grant:
 - a. Standard Grant: Requires a 1:1 cost sharing. The application is a lengthy, formal federal application process. (Grant is considered a small grant if under \$100,000.). Requires wetland establishment and adequate uplands buffer. We are currently awaiting additional information from DU.
4. Illinois Clean Energy Community Foundation Grant: (Community Stewardship Challenge Grant) No money is available for construction, etc.; however, after construction (of a wetland, for example), IF the homeowner’s group is a non-for profit, AND the site would be open to the public, money would be available for maintenance/up-keep of that natural area (i.e. tree replacement plantings, maintenance of water control structures, etc). It is a cash-donation match grant; they provide \$3 for every \$1 raised by the NFP over an 18-month grant period, not to exceed \$21,000 from the foundation. Further research would be required to see if this is a viable option if there was a partnership with Nauvoo in place.
5. NRCS Conservation Programs :
 - a. Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP): There may be a potential for owners of upland farmland (upgradient to the lake) to install conservation activities which could help land erosion/sediment. This would be an annual payment to farmers who implemented eligible practice during a 5 year contract (funds don’t go to Little Swan Lake).

6. IDNR Grants: (These programs are currently on hold due to lack of funding but will likely be restarting in the near future). These could potentially assist in purchasing land upstream of the lake as needed to develop a wetland or basin for sediment control.
 - a. Open Space Lands Acquisition and Development Grant/Land & Water Conservation Programs – These programs provide a cost reimbursement up to 50% (90% for distressed communities) of project cost. Max is \$750k for acquisition, \$400k for development/renovation projects. Examples: acquisition of land for new park sites or park expansion, interpretive trail signage, wetland observation decks, water quality basins with native plantings, interpretive prairie gardens, etc.
 - b. Park and Recreational Facilities Construction (PARC) Grant Program: Funds can be used for site work, acquisition for open space/conservation purposes to protect floodplains, wetlands, natural areas, etc. Program is a cost reimbursement up to 75% of project costs (except local governments, up to 90%).