

# 1998 USDA URBAN FORESTRY

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## DePaul University

### Contact:

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The Environmental Science Program of DePaul University is focusing much of its efforts on studying the natural areas in the Chicago metropolitan area and promoting their restoration and maintenance. The Urban Forestry Program of the Environmental Science Program, in partnership with USDA Forest Service, the Illinois Department of Natural Resources, and other conservation organizations, provides a mechanism for faculty and students to interact with the scientific community in the Chicago metropolitan area. These interactions will enable students to develop practical understanding of the science underlying the restoration and management of forests, prairies, wetlands, savannas, and river corridors.

### Accomplishments in 1998:

#### **Providing financial support** for faculty and staff of the Urban Forestry Program.

- One full-time faculty member who is an ecologist studying the macroinvertebrates associated with forest soils.
- A laboratory manager to coordinate and support laboratory and field work.
- An office manager to provide administrative and program support.

**Developing a laboratory and curricula** for courses in dynamics of forest ecosystems, ecosystem restoration, landscape ecology, and urban forest management. Collaboration has begun with other faculty and staff on wetland projects and with others in the Chicago area on forestry-related projects. A raptor study has also been initiated at the Midewin National Tallgrass Prairie near Joliet, IL.