

Coilin P. McConnell, CWS, CPESC, DECI

Natural Resources Manager



EDUCATION

B.S., Environmental Science,
Simpson College, 1998

Certification of Surveying and
Engineering, Southern Illinois
University, 2003

Joined Firm in 2019

Years of Experience: 25

REGISTRATIONS

Certified Professional in
Erosion and Sediment Control

CERTIFICATIONS

Certified Designated Erosion
Control Inspector, Lake County
Stormwater Management
Commission

Certified Wetland Specialist,
McHenry County

Certified Wetland Specialist,
Lake County

ASSOCIATIONS

Illinois Soil Classifiers
Association



Coilin has extensive experience in environmental assessments and monitoring, wetland delineations, restoration design, stormwater pollution prevention plans, and prescribed burns. He has implemented a variety of sustainable solutions, such as porous pavers, native plantings, bioswales, rain gardens, and wet bottom detention basins. His expertise in erosion control and soil stabilization encompasses traditional methods, such as silt fencing and erosion control blankets, as well as geowebbing and geogrid paths. Coilin has worked closely with regulatory agencies, including the Army Corps of Engineers and Illinois Department of Natural Resources on many projects.

REPRESENTATIVE PROJECTS

Elk Grove Village, IL

Ditch Management Program

Natural Resources Manager for ongoing contract to restore drainage swales throughout the Village as a remedy for continual flooding issues. Native maintenance includes removal of unwanted species, including reed canary grass, cattails, teasel, Canadian thistle, purple loosestrife, phragmites, and woody growth. The project also includes construction and regrading of the swales for severe erosion.

Round Lake, IL

Native Maintenance

Natural Resources Manager for an ongoing annual contract to maintain two basins in the Village. Both projects involve restoring and maintaining prairie/wetland areas. Annual maintenance is conducted, along with visits throughout the year to maintain healthy growth. The areas are burned on a three-year cycle to control cattails and allow for native sedges and rushes to establish. During the winter, there are continual brush removal efforts using both mechanical and chemical methods. The goal is to clear a native wet prairie area in the future.

Fox River Grove, IL

Picnic Grove Park Streambank Stabilization

Natural Resource Specialist for design and permitting for 700-linear feet of streambank riprap armoring. Coordination was necessary with US Army Corps of Engineers, McHenry-Lake County Soil & Water Conservation District, and McHenry County Planning and Development – Division of Water Resources.

Glenview, IL

Pine Street Park Streambank Stabilization

Natural Resource Specialist for 764-linear feet of stabilization along the west side of the North Branch of the Chicago River. The project also included construction of a 200-linear foot bioswale and a 0.2 acre bioretention cell (rain garden).

Lake Zurich, IL

Kildeer Creek Restoration

Project Manager and Construction Foreman for the clearing, grading, and reshaping of 2,000-linear feet of shoreline of Kildeer Creek in Lake Zurich. This included stone armoring of the shoreline, placement of erosion control blanket, installation of temporary erosion control devices during construction, and natively seeding the creek corridor.

Part of the project included the re-direction of the creek and moving it north 40-feet. This created a gentler slope to the creek and then used gabion baskets with armament to stabilize the outside bank for high flowing conditions.

The project took three and half month's work within the creek corridor and diverting the water around the construction area when needed. The phasing was coordinated so that the only areas unprotected were areas that were being graded and then immediately protected with seed and erosion control blanket. The project was coordinated to do restoration within 300-foot sections moving down the corridor.

McHenry County Conservation District, IL

Crystal Creek Streambank Stabilization

Natural Resource Specialist for the design of streambank stabilization upstream and downstream of an old railroad embankment that is now being used as a prairie trail system. Gabion baskets were designed to be placed within the slope upstream and downstream of the embankment where erosion had cut into the bank. We specified riprap upstream of the gabion baskets to deflect the water away from the bank and also in front of the gabion baskets to create a buffer. A riffle was designed to protrude from the south side of the bank to redirect the creek away from the banks and back out into the middle of the creek. Also as part of the project, our team specified a native seed mixture above the gabion baskets and shoreline armament to blend back into native areas.

Algonquin, IL

Randall Road Wetland Enhancement

Project Manager and Construction Foreman for creek restoration and stabilization, installation of a prairie path, 60-foot pedestrian bridge with retaining walls installed on north and south ends, and a large riprap spillway with an overflow control structure.

Also included in the project was a detention basin retrofit, which included pulling the existing storm sewer and converting the basin from an ornamental lawn to native vegetation. Native maintenance of the western 20 acres which includes ongoing prescribe burn, mowing, brush clearing and herbiciding for the next five years.

Plainfield, IL

South Wood Farm Road – Wetland Delineation

Performed a wetland delineation along the eastern edge of the parcel on the east side of South Wood Farm Road and along the western edge of the DuPage River (1,000-linear feet) just south of the Water Reclamation Facility in the Village.

Elmhurst, IL

Arlington Reservoir Retrofits Design-Build

Project Manager and Construction Foreman for the excavation of a 3-foot deep 30-foot by 180-foot retention bay within the bottom of the detention facility. The retention bay included a 10:1 side slope up to the existing elevation, and the entire basin bottom was regraded to slope to the retention bay. Additional items included over-seeding of both the basin bottom and slopes with a native seed mix specifically designed for the anticipated wet/dry conditions; grading and shaping of access road at base of ramp (bottom of basin) for access between settling basins; and erosion and sediment control. Also, parts of the project included installation of retaining walls, new pavement driveway, and bollards.