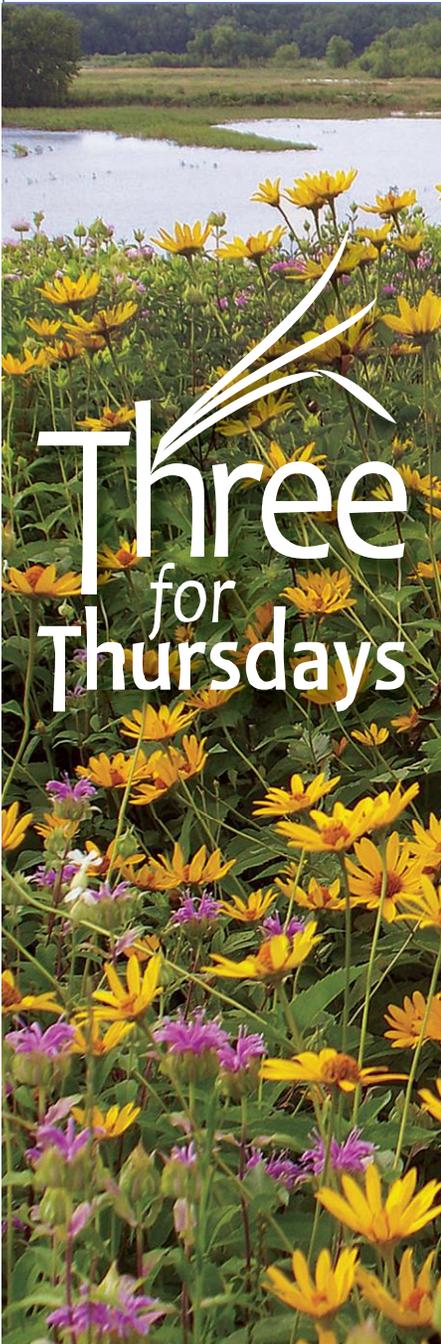


NATURAL LAND INSTITUTE

Conserving Land
in Northern Illinois



Three
for
Thursdays

The Recovering America's Wildlife Act

WASHINGTON, DC – On Friday, July 12, at 9:30 am, Representatives, along with conservation and sportsmen's leaders, reintroduced the bipartisan *Recovering America's Wildlife Act* (RAWA), to help promote and enhance our nation's conservation efforts and ensure the long-term health of fish and wildlife throughout the country.

RAWA is the most significant investment in wildlife and habitat conservation in a generation. The bill would dedicate roughly \$1.4 billion to the Wildlife Conservation Restoration Program for proactive, voluntary efforts led by the states, territories and tribal nations to prevent vulnerable wildlife from becoming endangered. **Any encouragement you can offer to our Members of Congress would be greatly appreciated.**

<https://debbiedingell.house.gov/news/documentsingle.aspx?DocumentID=1333>

The Charitable Conservation Easement Program Integrity Act

As you know, conservation easement donations, like other charitable donations, are not intended to be profit opportunities. The Charitable Conservation Easement Program Integrity Act eliminates the ability to profit from the donation of a conservation easement on land held for a short period of time.

That fix is needed. The profiteering tied to abusive conservation easement tax shelters is significant. IRS data reveals that more than \$20 billion in tax deductions have been claimed since 2010. It's time to end the abuse! <https://www.landtrustalliance.org/blog/taxpayers-have-been-bilked>

Don't Be Fooled...

Recently, the **BOGUS** 'Partnership for Conservation' launched an online petition entitled *Support Land Conservation!* On its surface, the petition appears to be compatible with our goal of expanding opportunities for private land conservation. However, a closer read reveals the petition aims to stop the Charitable Conservation Easement Program Integrity Act. Such a result would allow for the brazen abuse of the conservation easement tax incentive to continue. It calls conservation land trusts 'special interest groups who are "willing to see less land conserved."' Uninformed audiences could easily be hoodwinked by this tactic. If you see this petition being circulated please inform me and I will let the Land Trust Alliance know.

Happy Summer! Kerry

July 25, 2019



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