Core Areas

The building blocks of the network are "core areas" that contain wellfunctioning natural ecosystems that provide high-quality habitat for native plants and animals. An example of a core area is Wadsworth Savanna.

Corridors

Corridors are relatively linear features, linking cores and hubs together and providing essential connectivity for movement of wildlife and refuge for species. An example of a corridor is the Des Plaines River Trail and Greenway.

Hubs

Hubs include one or more core areas combining landscape types in an effort to treat areas as contiguous blocks that include an array of habitats. An example of a hub is the collection of forest preserves in north-central Lake County.