Illinois Beach State Park

- Metra Union Pacific-North Line to Zion

- Oak woodlands, marshes and sandy beaches
- Camping!
leave only (small) footprints
perks!
more perks!
Software/Team

- Beth Arthur
  with Professor Caleb Gallemore
  (Northeastern Illinois University)
  designed a data query of Google Maps

- Joe Hinton

- Technical slides compiled by Joe Hinton
- Geography Instructor, Harold Washington College
- Completed Graduate Certificate in GIS, Spring 2014
Methodology

- The team determined a reasonable distance that wilderness-users would walk from a transit station to access a park.
- Any wilderness areas outside the 2-mile distance were eliminated using the software.
- It was desired to pair wilderness areas with their closest station.
- The result was a data table of paired stations/wilderness areas.
Data Acquisition

A significant amount of “pre-digitized” (designed) data already existed.

- County Boundaries: US Census 2010 TIGER/Line Shapefiles
- Public Transit and Parks: City of Chicago Data Portal
- Natural Areas: Chicago Wilderness Green Infrastructure Vision (GIV), Forest Preserve Districts
# Results

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<th>PARK</th>
<th>LOC</th>
<th>ZIP</th>
<th>Name</th>
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Thatcher Woods

- Green Line to Harlem stop in Oak Park
- Union Pacific West line to the River Forest station

- Connects to other preserves along the Des Plaines River
- Frank Lloyd Wright’s home & studio
transit 101

- kids often ride for free
- older kids and older adults get discounts
- weekend ticket deal on Metra: $7
- tickets can be purchased online, on board and in stations
  - South Shore Line has mobile ticketing
  - extra fees for buying tickets on board
transit 102

- bikes are allowed on CTA and Pace buses any time
- bikes are allowed on Metra and CTA trains during non-rush hours
- bikes are not allowed on South Shore Line trains
- pets in carriers are allowed on CTA & South Shore Line
- Metra is considering a trial run with pets
Indiana Dunes– Douglas Center

- South Shore Line to Miller

- Borrow skis or snowshoes for free
- Walk through the woods to the beach
- An electric train!
- Arts festival
Montrose Point
Montrose Point

- Red Line to Irving Park or Wilson
- Montrose Bus #78
- Lake Shore Drive/Marine #136, 145, 146, 147

- Magic Hedge for migrating songbirds;
- Open water for overwintering water birds
- Dollop Coffee
Des Plaines River Corridor

- Blue Line to Cumberland

- Migrating songbirds in Spring
- Connects to other preserves along the Des Plaines River
- Bring your own food & water
Nature Boardwalk

- Brown Line to Armitage
- Bus #11, 22, 36, 73, 151, 156

- Massive restoration project
- Black-crowned night herons nest here

- Lincoln Park Conservatory & Zoo
Chicago Botanic Garden

- Metra to Braeside
- Woodland, prairie and lakeshore restoration
- Workshops and events
- Green building
- The Library!
National Parks

- Trails & Rails partnership with Amtrak
Join us!

- Monthly excursions beginning in April

all photos by Susan Ask unless otherwise noted
Coming this year!

- maps
- apps
- and more
Resources

- blog & web
- www.animaliaproject.org/t2t
- transit to trail

Susan Ask  (for program info) ask@animaliaproject.org
Joe Hinton  (for mapping project) jehinton@gmail.com