

Marc Miller

Newly Appointed Director of the Illinois Department of Natural Resources

Marc Miller is dedicated to making a positive change in Illinois' natural resources and conservation. He has advanced ecosystem, habitat, and watershed-based restoration and promoted Illinois' potential for recreation opportunities. He has also worked with leading environmental, recreation, hunting and fishing groups throughout the state.

Past Successes for Illinois:

- Pursued and received funding for the "Mud to Parks" program, an innovative beneficial river sediment reuse program.
- Worked with many partners to fully fund the Illinois River Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program to allow for the restoration of over 40,000 conservation acres and help to improve water quality and wildlife habitat along the Illinois River.
- Created and promoted the Illinois Dam Safety Initiative to educate the public about the dangers of dams, communicate risks through increased signage, and provide funding for both signs and potential removals or modifications of abandoned or unnecessary dams.
- Worked for passage of two bills to create a Mississippi River Coordinating Council and Wabash and Ohio Rivers Coordinating Councils.
- Increased communication and collaboration within the Illinois River Coordinating Council, a watershed-based commission of state and federal agencies and citizen members with responsibilities for the environmental and economic health of the Illinois River basin.
- Promoted raingardens and other "green infrastructure" that addresses water quality problems and reduces flooding in urban areas with assistance from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

Experience:

- Senior Policy Advisor and Liaison to the Illinois River Coordinating Council, Office of Lieutenant Governor Pat Quinn (2004 to present)
- Watershed Organizer – Prairie Rivers Network (March 1999 to May 2004)
- Environmental Compliance Specialist/Intern – Kal Kan Foods, Inc. (May 1998 to April 2009)
- Research and Production Intern – Cable News Network (CNN) Environment Unit (February 1995 to May 1995)
- Intern/Volunteer – Illinois Environmental Council (September 1993 to November 1994)

Education:

- University of Illinois at Springfield. MA in Environmental Administration (1993 – 1996)
- Eastern Illinois University. BA in Political Science. (1987 – 1991)

Personal Information:

- Age: 39 (DOB: March 7, 1969)
- Wife: Deborah
- Grew up near Mattoon.