

6. Lot 16 (Map F)

Site number: F-5
Overall size: 8.92 acres

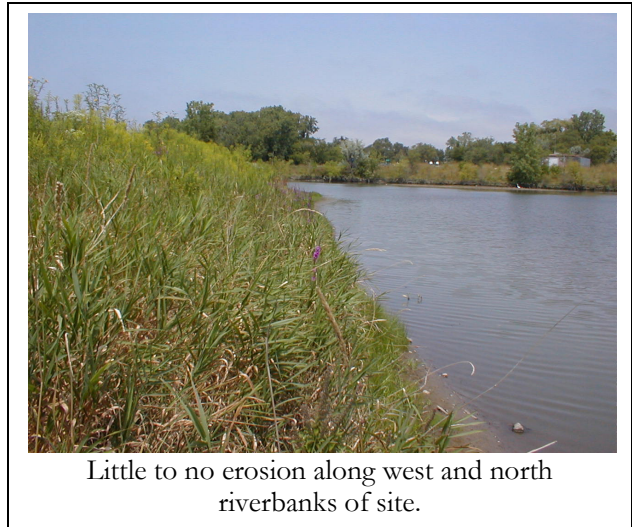
Ownership: Village of Glenview
Subwatershed: West Fork of North Branch of Chicago River

Mapped Land Cover on Site:

Old Field (8.92 acres): Many cool-season grasses and forbs dominate the flat, open, sunny parcel.

Existing Ecological Conditions:

Lot 16 is a Village-owned undeveloped parcel situated between Valley Lo Golf Course and the West Fork. It was filled with material excavated to create Techny Basin, and river wetlands to the north and sits high above the base flow elevation of the West Fork. The flat, open, sunny parcel is heavily covered by cool-season grasses and non-native forbs, particularly Kentucky blue grass, quack grass, Canada goldenrod, wild carrot, sweet clover, and Hungarian brome, and has scattered shrubs. A handful of native species such as asters, milkweed, and saw-toothed sunflower are intermixed with the old field vegetation that dominates the site. Streambanks along the north-central portion of the site show moderate to severe signs of erosion; the western and northeast portions show minimal erosion.



Restoration and Management Recommendations: This site is an excellent candidate for restoration due to its proximity to Techny Basin and the West Fork and the potential for improving water quality and/or wildlife habitat. Recommendations for Lot 16 include a stream restoration plan to remeander the West Fork and possibly the creation of an abutting wetland area in the floodplain that would be fed by flood water overflowing from Lake Glenview. Native prairie vegetation should be restored by controlling purple loosestrife and reed canary grass observed along north and east shoreline and replacing old field vegetation with a native tall grass prairie mix. This will enhance the habitat for grassland birds, in particular meadowlarks. This will require extensive herbicide management, tilling, burning, and potential topsoil application prior to seeding depending on the quality of material used to fill the site.

Lot 16 is highly visible and already accessible via an established trail system circling Techny Basin. If restored, Lot 16 could serve an important educational function for schools and Village programs.