

For more than 30 years, WM has partnered with WHC (Wildlife Habitat Council) to enhance and protect thousands of acres to support sustainability programs, biodiversity initiatives and environmental education. By transforming land into certified wildlife habitats, WM is helping communities thrive. At Woodland Recycling and Disposal Facility in South Elgin, Illinois, employees actively manage conservation projects focused on birds, bats, grasslands, reptiles and amphibians, and wetlands and waterbodies. The conservation program at Woodland Recycling and Disposal Facility has been WHC-certified since 2008.

# **PRACTICES AND IMPACTS**

- The capped landfill has become an ideal site for grasslands that the team mows periodically in an attempt to suppress woody species establishment.
- The boundary areas of this parcel of land also support wetlands that the project team hopes will host frogs, snakes and other wetland species.
   To support this goal, the team has installed PVC pipes to attract and house frogs and has placed cover boards on the ground to provide protection for snakes.
- To support local bluebird populations, the site features bluebird boxes that the team monitors during the breeding season.
- A purple martin house is located on-site to encourage purple martins to nest in the habitat.
- Habitat for raptors such as the red-tailed hawk are located within the old landfill property.
   Rotational or seasonal mowing of grasslands, as well as added brush piles, promotes use by small mammals that are prey for raptors.
- Ten wood duck next boxes are located on the property within the wetland area.



WM has achieved WHC Certification for conservation programs across North America



#### **GOLD STATUS**

## **CONSERVATION PROJECTS**



#### **AVIAN**

Bluebird, Purple Martin, Red-Tailed Hawk, Wood Duck



#### BATS Brown Bats

**GRASSLAND** 



# Grassland



# **REPTILES AND AMPHIBIANS**Tree Frog and Snakes

WETLANDS AND WATER BODIES
Wetlands

## **RESOURCES**

sustainability.wm.com

