



Affiliate Membership

Building Power for People and the Environment

Message from the Chief Executive Officer

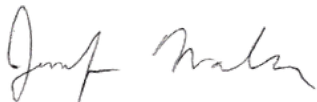
For five decades, the Illinois Environmental Council (IEC) has worked to build a movement to strengthen our community's voice in the Illinois General Assembly. Today, we proudly represent a powerful coalition of more than 130 statewide environmental groups and community-based organizations and over 600 dedicated grassroots environmentalists from across the Prairie State.

We remain deeply committed to supporting our affiliates and strengthening the collective power of Illinois' environmental movement. Our affiliates are at the heart of this work. Your expertise, leadership, and on-the-ground advocacy shape our priorities and fuel our shared success.

IEC was created to ensure the environmental community speaks with a strong, coordinated voice—and that work is more important than ever. In a rapidly changing political landscape, state and local leadership continues to be where meaningful progress is made. We are excited to partner with our affiliates to defend hard-won environmental protections, advance bold climate policies, and build an equitable, affordable, and healthy future for all Illinoisans.

As our affiliate network grows, so does our ability to respond quickly, influence decision-makers, and win meaningful victories for people and the environment. We are grateful for your partnership and look forward to another year of collaboration, shared learning, and collective impact. Join us in our continued commitment and perseverance to move Illinois forward.

Together,



Jen Walling
Chief Executive Officer

Contact Us

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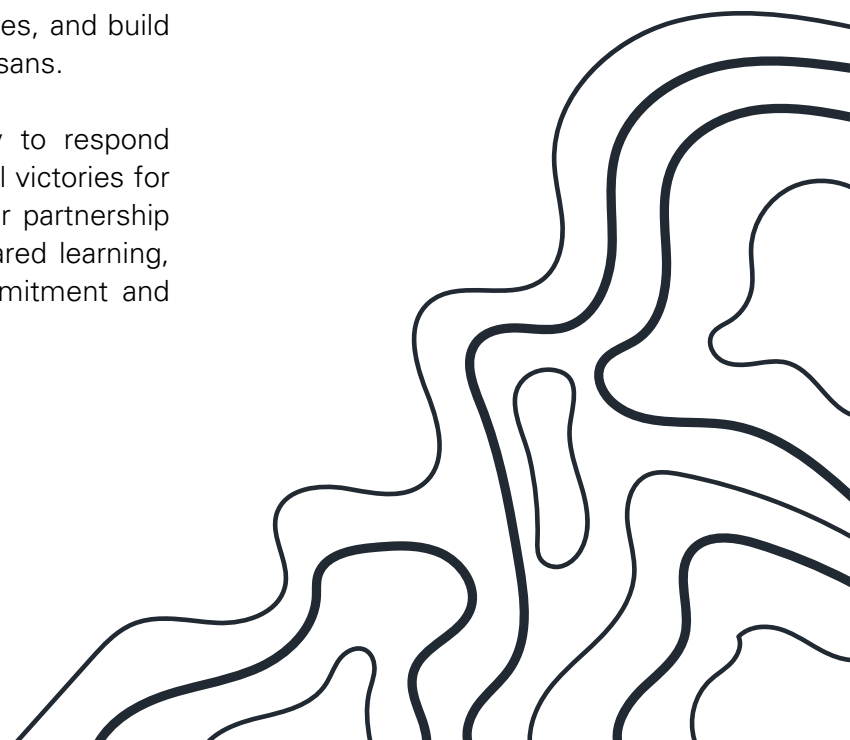
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About IEC

Our Mission

Since 1975, IEC has worked to safeguard Illinois—its people, its plants and animals, and the natural systems on which all life depends by building power for people and the environment. Representing over 130 environmental organizations operating in Illinois, IEC carries out its mission to advance equitable public policies that ensure a healthy environment across Illinois through collaboration, building power, and advocacy.

What We Do

IEC works at all levels of government by bringing together the Illinois environmental movement to influence decision-makers and ensure clean air, clean water, and healthy communities. We coordinate with our affiliate member organizations to share resources, mobilize supporters, and respond quickly to the most pressing issues facing the environment in Illinois. From building consensus around an annual environmental agenda to lobbying city, state, and federal decision-makers, IEC takes pride in leading our environmental movement in Illinois.





Affiliate Benefits



Our 130+ affiliate members strengthen IEC and the broader environmental movement by contributing expertise, diverse voices, and collective power.

Advocacy, Lobbying, and Coalition Building

IEC provides expertise and resources to effectively advocate for your policy priorities. We can facilitate the right conversation with the right decision-maker and build support around your issue with our members and affiliates. Through coordinated lobbying days, sign-on letters, and issue-based coalitions, IEC helps amplify affiliate voices and build power for shared policy goals.

Priority Legislation Tracking

During the state's legislative session, IEC holds exclusive Legislative calls, circulates an informative bill tracker, and keeps our affiliates updated on what's moving in Springfield. IEC also provides updates on City of Chicago and federal activity through recurring meetings and issue-specific email listservs, allowing affiliates to stay engaged on the issues most relevant to their work.

Office Resources

IEC has a solar-powered office in Springfield, conveniently located just blocks from the State Capitol, as well as an office in the Chicago Loop. These spaces may be used for meetings, working sessions, or coordination during legislative advocacy, with access to Wi-Fi, printing, snacks, etc.

Staff Support

Affiliates have access to IEC's expert policy and program staff throughout the year. Staff provide ongoing support by sharing policy insights, answering questions about the legislative process, helping identify engagement opportunities, and offering strategic guidance aligned with affiliate priorities. IEC staff serve as a consistent point of connection between affiliates and the broader environmental coalition.

IEC Annual Meeting

Affiliates are invited to participate in IEC's Annual Meeting, which brings together environmental leaders, advocates, and partners from across Illinois. The meeting offers opportunities to learn about and vote on IEC's priorities, network with peer organizations, hear from policymakers, and help shape the direction of the environmental movement in the year ahead.

Publications

Affiliates receive IEC's signature publications, including the Illinois Environmental Scorecard and the Chicago Environmental Scorecard. These tools evaluate and publicize the environmental voting records of legislators and city council members to hold them accountable for their impact on the environment. Be the first to receive these popular evaluations of key environmental votes in the Illinois General Assembly and Chicago City Council. In addition, members receive our newsletter and other pertinent literature.

Network Building Tool (*Influencing and Lead Affiliates*)

Affiliates gain access to tools and resources to strengthen outreach and organizing efforts. This includes access to The State Voices voter database, which helps organizations better understand their supporters, expand their networks, and conduct effective outreach, organizing, and canvassing.

Serve on IEC Board (*Lead Affiliates*)

Lead Affiliates play a leadership role in shaping IEC's strategic direction. This includes the opportunity to nominate or appoint a representative to serve on the IEC Board of Directors, helping guide organizational priorities, governance, and long-term strategy for Illinois' environmental movement.

Affiliate Support Levels

Lead Affiliate

Influencing Affiliate

Supporting Affiliate

\$2,500+

\$500+

\$150+



Affiliate Support Levels

	Lead Affiliate \$2,500+	Influencing Affiliate \$500+	Supporting Affiliate \$150+
ADVOCACY, LOBBYING & COALITION BUILDING	✓	✓	✓
PRIORITY LEGISLATION TRACKING	✓	✓	✓
OFFICE RESOURCES	✓	✓	✓
STAFF SUPPORT	✓	✓	✓
IEC ANNUAL MEETING	✓	✓	✓
PUBLICATIONS	✓	✓	✓
NETWORK BUILDING TOOLS	✓	✓	
SERVE ON IEC BOARD	✓		

Community Council

The Community Council is a program for place-based Affiliate members designed to amplify local environmental concerns and build collective power.

Community Council Membership Benefits include:

- 1 Reduced or waived membership fees
- 2 A dedicated listserv and tailored updates for place-based, hyper-local organizations
- 3 Networking with other members on intersecting issues
- 4 All benefits available to Supporting Level Affiliates
- 5 And more!

Membership Eligibility

IEC membership runs on a calendar-year basis. Nonprofits, grassroots groups, and community-based organizations may join at any time. Corporations interested in supporting IEC may apply to our [Business Council](#).

501(c)(3) organizations may legally participate in IEC's 501(c)(4) Advocacy Affiliate Membership, provided that advocacy dues constitute **less than 5% of the organization's total annual budget** or the organization has made an ***H election on its IRS Form 990**.

In certain circumstances, a 501(c)(3) organization may instead join through an Education Affiliate Membership, which supports our 501(c)(3), the Illinois Environmental Council Education Fund, and provides access to educational resources and movement-wide collaboration—without participation in legislative advocacy.



Join the movement to build power for people and the environment in Illinois!

To learn more about IEC's affiliate membership program, to renew your membership or become a member, or to discuss financial membership support for qualifying grassroots and community-based organizations, please contact IEC development associate, **Mundra Turtogtokh**, at mundra@ilenviro.org.



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