



The Forest Preserves of Cook County
Is seeking applicants for
Deputy General Superintendent

The Forest Preserves of Cook County is seeking a forward-thinking leader to oversee the administration, organization and supervision of all departments of the Forest Preserve District of Cook County (“the District) under the direction of the General Superintendent. This individual will be responsible for maintaining high standards, in services provided, activities offered and personnel employed. Ensuring the overall mission of the District is put forth and advanced by the goals, programs and activities for all its departments and its staff. Responsible for monitoring goals set forth by the departments and its staff. Assists the General Superintendent with the District’s annual budget appropriations. Confers with the General Superintendent on a regular basis regarding all areas of management and planning; including day-to-day operations, budget creation and overall resource allocation.

The President of the Forest Preserves will appoint the Deputy General Superintendent.

About the Forest Preserves of Cook County

Cook County is the second most populous county in the United States and includes the City of Chicago. Within this diverse urban metropolis, the Forest Preserves of Cook County protects 70,000 acres of forests, prairies, wetlands, woodlands and other natural areas including rare habitats that offer plant and animal diversity on par with the rainforests of the world. Thanks to dedicated restoration and conservation efforts, native plants and wildlife—including North American river otters, blue spotted salamanders, native orchids, and birds such as bald eagles and bobolinks—continue to return to or flourish in the preserves. Each year, the Forest Preserves receives an estimated 62 million visits, as people use these lands and facilities to enjoy nature, bicycle, hike, fish, cross-country ski, picnic, canoe, or simply relax. Facilities located in the preserves include nature centers, boat rentals, equestrian stables, golf courses and driving ranges, and aquatic centers. Among the treasures of the Forest Preserves of Cook County are the Brookfield Zoo and the Chicago Botanic Garden, two world-class institutions located on the district’s land.

In 2022, Cook County voters overwhelmingly approved a referendum which increased the property tax limiting rate for the Forest Preserves by an additional one quarter of one tenth of 1%, providing the Forest Preserves with the long-term, sustainable resources it needs to meet the challenges it faces and achieve its long term goals to acquire and protect more land, restore the land to ecological health, and welcome all residents to the Forest Preserves.

The Forest Preserves of Cook County total budget for all funds for FY2026 is \$194.1 Million. A breakdown of revenues and expenditures is presented in the 2026 [FPDCC Executive Budget Recommendation](#)



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About the Department of the Office of the General Superintendent

OGS Goals

- ❖ Implement a Native American Policy through the creation of a Native American Advisory Committee with Tribal Historic Preservation Officers to provide technical assistance to inform content that references Native American history and programs/actions that implement the Native American policy
- ❖ Hire a Cultural Resource Coordinator to lead and/or coordinate activities with the Native American Community and provide support to implement the Native American Policy.
- ❖ Propose legislation to the General Assembly and the Governor and advocate for Board authority to better regulate firearm conceal carry at certain Forest Preserves locations
- ❖ Establish guidelines for public meetings hosted by the Forest Preserves, in terms of purpose, outreach, equity and engagement, and support meeting success.

The General Superintendent leads the Department of the General Superintendent, which includes 37 employees in four functional areas: Executive Office, Communications, Compliance, and Volunteer Resources.

The incoming Deputy General Superintendent will join an organization that is focused on ensuring that the overall mission of the Forest Preserve District is advanced through the plans, programs and activities of all departments.

Compensation and Benefits

Salary: \$198,000 annually DOE/DOQ. The Forest Preserves of Cook County offers a competitive benefits package which includes medical, dental and vision coverage; basic term life insurance; a pension plan and deferred compensation program; an employee assistance program; and paid holidays, vacation, and sick time.

Application Process and Recruitment Schedule

A full job description is presented on the following <https://fpdcc.com/wp-content/uploads/2025/05/FPCC-Exempt-job-descriptions-052225.pdf>. To be considered, please submit your cover letter, resume, and a list of four professional references (who will not be contacted in the early stages of the recruitment) **by 5 p.m. on May 8, 2026** to FPDappointed@cookcountyil.gov. Resumes should reflect years and months of positions held, as well as the size and budget of the previous program or department you have managed or administered.

Resumes will be screened based on the criteria outlined in this brochure. Candidates with the most relevant qualifications will be invited to interview. The selected candidate will be subjected to an extensive reference and background check.

The Forest Preserves of Cook County is an Equal Opportunity Employer. We value our employees and the different talents, expertise, and viewpoints that each brings to the table. We believe a robust exchange of ideas results in better decision-making and we commit to providing a constructive, safe, and positive work atmosphere that promotes mutual respect and empowers individuals to thrive in their jobs.