

## MIDWIN NATIONAL TALLGRASS PRAIRIE

Since the early 1990s, Openlands has worked to establish, restore, and protect the Chicago region's largest conserved open space, Midwin National Tallgrass Prairie in Will County, Illinois. Following several years of advocacy by Openlands and a coalition of 23 partners, President Clinton established Midwin in 1996 as the nation's first national tallgrass prairie. Now stretching across more than 20,000 acres, Midwin is managed by the U.S. Forest Service, and with the support of a broad coalition, we are together working to expand public programming, restore globally-rare landscapes and habitat, and ensure that this spectacular natural treasure is permanently protected for future generations.



**Midwin is today considered one of the most important conservation initiatives in Illinois of the 20th century and a model process for conversion of surplus federal property to public open space.**

## CONSERVATION BY THE NUMBERS

**Midwin supports populations of 27 Regional Forester Sensitive Species, including 1 species on the Federal list of endangered species and 19 species on Illinois' threatened, endangered, or watch lists.**

**27**

Bison reintroduced  
to Midwin in 2015

**234**

Species of birds at  
found at Midwin

**22**

Miles of trails, 12 of which  
can be used for hiking and  
biking by the public

**13k**

Acres of Midwin  
open to the public