FRIENDS OF CATHERINE
AND CHANNEL LAKES

# ANNUAL REPORT 2019





## PRESIDENT'S STATEMENT

The year 2019 was a breakout for Friends of Catherine and Channel Lakes. We made incredible strides to improve water quality in the two northernmost lakes in Illinois and secured registration with the Illinois Attorney General's Charitable Trust Bureau.

First, we produced and delivered a conservation plan and incidental take assessment to the Illinois Dept. of Natural Resources. This report and plan showed how the organization would care for the lakes while implementing a harvesting program to remove invasive plant species. This harvesting program will help to control these plant populations, improve navigability and aesthetics and reduce internal phosphorus loading from plant decay.

Second, all summer, our Board of Directors treated the south-west corner of Channel Lake with bio-enzymes. These enzymes, also called "sludge reducing bacteria" helped to reduce the amount of muck on the bottom of the lake in that area by up to 12 inches in some places. This pilot program was incredibly successful, and we look forward to expanding it in future years.

Third, the organization completed an environmental engineering project to develop a filtration program in Lake Catherine. This filtration project would create barriers and systems to reduce pollutants from entering the lakes by filtering storm water and run-off from farmlands during rain events before the water reaches – and ultimately pollutes – the lakes.

And finally, Friends of Catherine and Channel Lakes registered with the State of Illinois Attorney General's Charitable Trust Bureau. This registration allows would-be donors to access important information, such as income, expenditures, programs and administration before they give.

All of this was made possible by the hard work of the all-volunteer board of directors. This small but mighty force is passionate and motivated to make a difference in our lakes, and we look forward to continuing this mission for years to come.

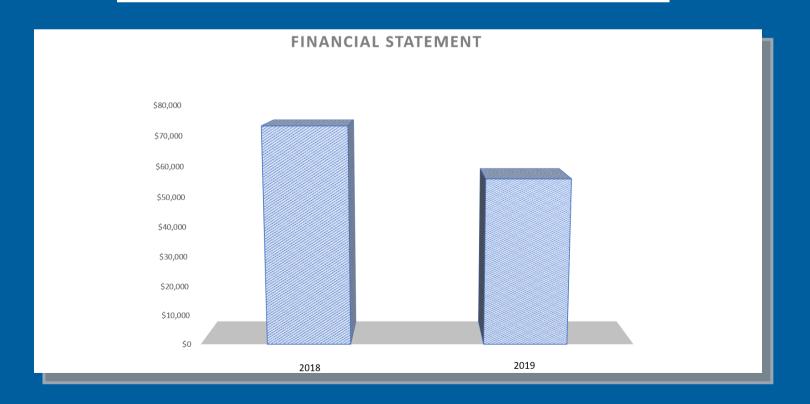
#### **AMY LITTLETON**

President, Friends of Catherine and Channel Lakes

## FINANCIAL STATEMENT

#### FRIENDS OF CATHERINE AND CHANNEL LAKES STATEMENTS OF FINANCIAL POSITION AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2019 AND 2018

Assets.	2019	2018
CURRENT ASSETS  Cash - Checking Accounts  TOTAL ASSETS	\$ 55,927 \$ 55,927	\$ 73,144 \$ 73,144
Liabilities and Net Assets		
CURRENT LIABILITIES - None		
NET ASSETS Unrestricted TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS	\$ 55,927 \$ 55,927	\$ 73,144 \$ 73,144





#### FOX WATERWAY AGENCY

45 S. Pistakee Lake Road ♦ Fox Lake, Illinois 60020 (847)587-8540

July 8, 2020

FWA Testimonial

Dear supporters and friends of Catherine and Channel Lakes,

The Fox Waterway Agency was created to improve and maintain the Fox River and Chain O'Lakes public waterway for recreational uses, to restore environmental quality, manage flooding, promote tourism, and enhance the quality of life along the waterway for residents and users alike. Our jurisdiction includes the 15 interconnected lakes, which make up the Fox River Chain O'Lakes and 30 miles of the Fox River stretching from the Wisconsin State line to the Algonquin Dam, as well as their tributaries and over 40 miles of navigable channels. Although our physical jurisdiction is limited to the Waterway itself, our partnerships with local landowners and organizations, and governmental agencies allows the Fox Waterway Agency to cooperate in many land-based projects that effect the waterway.

Our partnerships are crucial due to the enormous task and effort to get our mission accomplished with limited funding and minimal state support, this is an enormous task. Our Agency needs and utilizes their strategic partnerships with entities like Friends of Catherine and Channel Lakes.

Their team identified the need for action in our lakes, and they took it. They've developed a thoughtful approach with a lake management plan that has been endorsed by multiple bodies. They've been insynch with our team at the FWA and their focus is true - to improve the water quality in the lakes.

We're very thankful of their work and persistence especially during these challenging times!

Sincerely,

Joseph S. Keller

Fox Waterway Agency

**Executive Director** 

### **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

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