

Help Sustain the Chicago River System

Become a Business Member

Join us and be part of a partnership—Friends of the Chicago River, the community and your business—as we work together to improve and protect the river for people, plants, and animals.

For nearly four decades, Friends has been committed to a river that makes this region such an extraordinary place in which to live, work, and call home.

We recognize the connection between a healthy environment and a healthy economy, and strive to find effective ways to balance economic growth and community regeneration with important environmental concerns.

By becoming a partner in this effort, together we can continue to address the complex issue of growth and planning that will help determine the quality of life for today and for future generations.

You are already committed to economic development and viability. As a business partner of Friends, you will be helping the river system flourish not only economically, but environmentally and culturally as well.

Friends of the Chicago River



FRIENDS OF THE CHICAGO RIVER

2017 Business Engagement Opportunities

BUSINESS MEMBERSHIP

Our business member program provides companies with the opportunity to support the Chicago River at the level and for the program or event that is right for them. All membership gifts (memberships start at \$100) help Friends fulfill our commitment to continue the recovery and renaissance of the Chicago River.

MORE OPPORTUNITIES TO MAKE THE RIVER HEALTHIER

EVENT SPONSORSHIP

Chicago River Day • May 2017

Chicago River Day is Friends' largest annual volunteer event. Volunteers work together at more than 65 sites to improve the river by picking up garbage; restoring trails and habitat; and learning stormwater management techniques they can employ at home. Businesses are invited to sponsor a select site on the river's banks and engage their employees and family members in a fun and meaningful morning of volunteer work.

Big Fish Ball • June 2017

The ever-popular Big Fish Ball returns for its 12th year. With a wide range of companies and community leaders attending, your sponsorship of the gala offers a tremendous networking opportunity, the perfect chance to make new contacts, entertain key clients, and celebrate a healthier Chicago River system in grand style. Your sponsorship package includes recognition at a lively cocktail hour where you get to meet wild guests as well as during the three-course dinner where winners of the prestigious Chicago Blue Ribbon Awards are announced.

Summer River Cruise • June 2017

Friends' annual Summer Cruise, which benefits Friends' McCormick Bridgehouse & Chicago River Museum, is hosted by generous sponsors, members, and attendees. The fun never stops as guests enjoy scenic views of Chicago's skyline up close and in the distance as this one-of-a-kind cruise travels beyond where the tourist boats go. Savor gourmet small bites, desserts, and open bar while the sounds of the river provide the perfect summer soundtrack to the evening.

Free Sunday Sponsorships at the Bridgehouse Museum

Looking to support a great mission and have your business receive substantial market exposure and recognition to tens of thousands of visitors and Chicagoans who use the Riverwalk each day? Free Sunday at the Bridgehouse Museum is a great way to do it! As the only cultural anchor of the Riverwalk, the museum tells the story of the Chicago River and its watershed. Company product activations are possible. The museum is open annually from May to October.



Wolf Point

"Our corporate service day with Friends was terrific. Our team learned about local environmental needs while helping improve several areas along the riverbank. We appreciated the unique experiences offered throughout the day and the thoughtful planning of Friends' staff."

—Anne Vela-Wagner,
Executive Director of Foundation
and Manager of Corporate
Citizenship, Wrigley Company,

"We at BMO Harris Bank enjoy teaming up with Friends of the Chicago River for our annual Employee Volunteer Day each summer. The Chicago River is such an important component of so many parts of local life -- from sports and leisure to residential and economic development -- and we view our support as an investment in the future of our great city."

—Judy Rice, Director of
Government Relations,
BMO Harris Bank

Friends of the Chicago River



www.chicagoriver.org

CORPORATE SERVICE DAYS

These days, more and more companies are looking for ways to give back to the local community - and Friends of the Chicago River is the perfect place to do that. Friends can provide a river-edge team-building experience for your employees as they improve the health of the river during a customized corporate service day. There are a variety of activities and many sites to choose from and the time commitment is about three hours. Choose your package to fit with your budget. Your corporate service day is the perfect way to help your employees identify the core values of your company and execute a community project that brings those values to life.

River Action Day

Friends organizes and leads volunteer workdays for corporate groups to contribute as a team to hands-on river restoration and stewardship.

Urban Canoe Adventures

Friends offers companies the chance to paddle together at many locations along the river by providing all equipment and trained, experienced canoe guides.

Chicago River 101

Engaging river experts lead your employees to a better understanding of river-related environmental issues and how they can help.

Bridge Lift Event

Treat your employees and/or clients to an unforgettable bridge lift viewing breakfast (available only in the fall) or lunch (available only in the spring) and tour at our one-of-a-kind Bridgehouse Museum.



Paddling trip



CHICAGO RIVER SUMMIT

Friends gathers elected officials, municipal staff, developers, engineers, architects, environmental consultants, and other Chicago River stakeholders for a one-day summit to find solutions to the complex problems that the Chicago River system faces. Your sponsorship gets the conversation started.

CHICAGO RIVER BLUE

Blue Ribbon Awards

Promote river sensitive design and development as a sponsor of the Blue Ribbon Awards which recognize and honor river and watershed sensitive designs and implementations.

GRANTS AND CONTRIBUTIONS

Friends has numerous programs that need support. Grants and contributions have allowed us to create restoration sites, fight for clean water, bring thousands of students to the river for hands-on environmental learning, and much more.

Friends of the Chicago River

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BRIDGEHOUSE MUSEUM RENTAL

Located in the heart of Chicago, along the river, and on the Riverwalk (the southwest corner of Michigan Avenue and Wacker Drive to be precise), the Beaux-arts designed bridge house serves as a quintessential Chicago icon and provides a unique space for your next corporate event! Every year, clients seek out the museum to provide the perfect venue for their special event – each wanting to capture a piece of one of the favorite venues in the greatest city in the world. The five-story landmark bridgehouse caters from pizza and beer parties to intimate gatherings as well as small lavish events and lends a sense of distinction to any occasion. Our professional staff is endlessly attentive and will do all they can to help make your event spectacular.



McCormick Bridgehouse & Chicago River Museum

CAUSE-MARKETING CAMPAIGN

Partner with Friends on a cause-marketing programs by providing event revenues, donations from product sales, point-of-purchase donations, or giving your customers the option to round up their checks or purchases to benefit Friends and the Chicago River system.

PARTNERS BY PERCENT

Make a powerful statement about your support and commitment to a healthy Chicago River system by donating a percentage of sales revenue to Friends on an annual basis.

WORKPLACE GIVING

Show your employees you care about the Chicago River by designating Friends as your charity of choice through your workplace's EarthShare giving campaign or maximize employee donations through charitable matching gifts. We can also arrange for a speaker to talk with your employees about the river, Friends, and the various opportunities to support our work and get involved.

IN-KIND DONATIONS

Your company can donate specific products and equipment, professional services, and employee time and creativity to Friends. Also consider making a donation to our raffles held during the Big Fish Ball and Summer Cruise.



REI, Chicago River Day

Benefits Include:

- Substantial Market Exposure
- Cross-promotion and Marketing
- Donor Recognition
- Social Media Strategy
- Employee Team Building
- Employee Volunteerism
- Client Entertainment
- Environmental Education
- Networking

For more information about our business engagement opportunities, contact:

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Friends of the Chicago River
411 South Wells Street
Suite 800
Chicago, IL 60607
p: (312) 939-0490, ext. 19
kolsenclark@chicagoriver.org

Friends of the Chicago River



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FRIENDS OF THE CHICAGO RIVER

Business Membership and Engagement Opportunities Reply Form

We would like to join or renew as a **Business Member**

\$1,500 or more \$_____ makes your business a member of **The Otter Society** and entitles you and your company to special opportunities.

See <http://www.chicagoriver.org/get-involved/donate/the-otter-society> to learn more)

- \$1,000 Mink
- \$500 Great Horned Owl
- \$250 Yellow-headed Blackbird
- \$156 Black-crowned Night Heron
- \$100 Blanding's Turtle (minimum business membership)
- Other: \$_____

Please contact me about how my company and our employees can get involved in 2017 with Friends of the Chicago River's:

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Chicago River Day | <input type="checkbox"/> Corporate Service Day |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Big Fish Ball | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Canoe Adventures |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Summer River Cruise | <input type="checkbox"/> Chicago River 101 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Free Sunday Sponsorship | <input type="checkbox"/> Bridge Lift Event |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Museum Rental | <input type="checkbox"/> Chicago River Blue Ribbon Awards |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Grants and Contributions | <input type="checkbox"/> River Summit |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cause-Marketing Campaign | <input type="checkbox"/> Partners by Percent |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Workplace Giving | <input type="checkbox"/> In-Kind Donations |

Contact information

Name _____

Title _____

Company _____

Address _____

City, State & Zip _____

Daytime phone _____ Email _____

For recognition purposes, please list my company as: (if different from above)

Payment method

My check, made **payable to Friends of the Chicago River**, is enclosed.

Charge my: American Express Discover MasterCard VISA

Card number _____

Expiration date _____ 3-4 digit security code _____

Card holder's name & billing address (if different from above) _____

Please consider paying your transaction fee so 100% of your donation amount goes to Friends of the Chicago River.

My company will send a check separately. Expect it in about _____ weeks.

Friends of the Chicago River is a nonprofit, 501(c)(3) organization. Contributions are tax-deductible to the extent allowed by law.

To donate online or for more information, visit www.chicagoriver.org



HSBC employees volunteer at our Edgebrook Woods demonstration site

All business members receive:

- A subscription to Friends' newsletter, filled with important information on issues that effect the Chicago River plus a calendar of river-related events
- Volunteer bulletins, email actions alerts, and other opportunities for hands-on involvement
- Invitations to special events like the Big Fish Ball and Chicago River Day
- Discounts on canoe trips
- Listing in Friends' Annual Report
- Business Member certificate or other display showing your customers and employees that you care about the Chicago River

And perhaps most significantly,

- The reward of knowing that your membership contribution has a direct impact on improving the river's health and vitality

Please return this form (and your check) in the envelope provided or to:

Friends of the Chicago River
411 S. Wells Street
Suite 800
Chicago, IL 60607
fax (312) 939-0931

Friends of the Chicago River
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