Land Reflectance from vegetative cover can vary significantly over the course of a growing season. Thus, acquisition of multiple dates of coverage, such as early and late in the growing season, often allows a further refinement of spectral signatures, and a higher degree of resolution among vegetation types. For example, plant species with spectrally similar signatures early in the growing season may diverge in this regard later in the season, allowing their unique identities to be resolved. Where multiple layers of vegetation exist, such as forest canopy and understory, the measured reflectance is that of the top layer. Consequently, a closed canopy and understory reflectance.

Fly-Over Dates:

Land Cover Classification:

- Forested Land
- Rural Grassland or Shrubland
- Wetland
- Bare Rock/Sand/Clay
- Urban Open Space
- Water
- Protected Land
- Protected Land Overlay

Protected Land:

These are areas protected from further development and are independent of the land cover data. Protected Land represents space districts, and private organizations.

Forested Land:

Primarily tree-covered areas

Rural Grassland or Shrubland:

Farmed land, including cropland and pastures

Wetland:

Open water bodies, such as lakes, rivers, and ponds

Palustrine, lacustrine, and riverine wetlands

Bare Rock/Sand/Clay:

Globally rare ecosystems, and tremendous biological diversity. It also has low economic value, e.g., making it less attractive for urban development.

Urban Open Space:

Spaces that are predominantly human-made and developed.

Wetland:

The Joyce Foundation provided generous support for this project.
The most current available data was used for this poster map, with dates ranging from 1986 to 2003. Many other organizations provided additional datasets for this project. United States Geological Survey; Will County Land Use Department; Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources. Conservancy; United States Census Bureau; USDA Forest Service; USDA National Agriculture Statistics Service, Illinois Department of Natural Resources, and Illinois Department of Agriculture. 2002. Land Cover of Illinois 1999-2000. Springfield, IL; Water Conservation District; Kenosha County Department of Planning and Development; Lake County Department of Information and Technology, GIS/Mapping Division; Liberty Prairie Foundation; McHenry County Conservation District; Northeastern Chicago Metropolis 2020; City of Chicago; Forest Preserve District of Cook County; Forest Preserve District of DuPage County; Forest Preserve District of Will County; Great Lakes Information Network; Illinois Department of Agriculture; Illinois Department of Natural Resources, and Indiana Department of Natural Resources. 2002. Land Cover of Indiana 1999-2000. Indianapolis, IN.

Other proposed greenways include the proposed Marquette Greenway Plan, a multi-use path connecting the Illinois and Wisconsin sides of the Fox River. Future greenways on the Illinois side are planned to connect with the Illinois-Wisconsin Trail System, which could provide a pathway for pedestrians and cyclists. The Illinois portion of the trail system would be extended south to join with the Wisconsin portion, creating a continuous greenway that would run from the Fox Farmlands to Lake Michigan. The proposed Marquette Greenway Plan would connect existing greenways and provide a more direct route from the Fox Farmlands to Lake Michigan. The proposed greenway would also provide opportunities for public education and recreation, including birdwatching and nature study. The trail would also provide access to existing natural areas, such as the Illinois River Greenway and the Wisconsin River Greenway.

Lakes and Rivers

Lake Michigan is the largest lake in the United States and is the source of drinking water for millions of people. The lake is rich in habitat for migratory birds, and is also home to a variety of fish species. The lake is under threat from invasive species, such as the zebra mussel, which has caused significant damage to the lake's ecosystem.

The Little Calumet River flows through the Chicago area and is one of the most heavily polluted rivers in the country. The river is under threat from pollution from industrial and residential sources, and is also under threat from flooding. The river is a major source of freshwater for the Chicago area, and is also a major source of recreation for residents of the area. The river is under threat from pollution from industrial and residential sources, and is also under threat from flooding.

The Illinois River is one of the most important rivers in the United States, and is a major source of fresh water for the state of Illinois. The river is under threat from pollution from industrial and residential sources, and is also under threat from flooding. The river is a major source of recreation for residents of the area, and is also a major source of fish and wildlife resources.

The Fox River is one of the most important rivers in the United States, and is a major source of fresh water for the state of Wisconsin. The river is under threat from pollution from industrial and residential sources, and is also under threat from flooding. The river is a major source of recreation for residents of the area, and is also a major source of fish and wildlife resources.

The Wisconsin River is one of the most important rivers in the United States, and is a major source of fresh water for the state of Wisconsin. The river is under threat from pollution from industrial and residential sources, and is also under threat from flooding. The river is a major source of recreation for residents of the area, and is also a major source of fish and wildlife resources.

The Kankakee River flows through the state of Illinois and is a major source of fresh water for the state of Illinois. The river is under threat from pollution from industrial and residential sources, and is also under threat from flooding. The river is a major source of recreation for residents of the area, and is also a major source of fish and wildlife resources.

The Des Plaines River flows through the state of Illinois and is a major source of fresh water for the state of Illinois. The river is under threat from pollution from industrial and residential sources, and is also under threat from flooding. The river is a major source of recreation for residents of the area, and is also a major source of fish and wildlife resources.

The Iroquois River flows through the state of Illinois and is a major source of fresh water for the state of Illinois. The river is under threat from pollution from industrial and residential sources, and is also under threat from flooding. The river is a major source of recreation for residents of the area, and is also a major source of fish and wildlife resources.

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