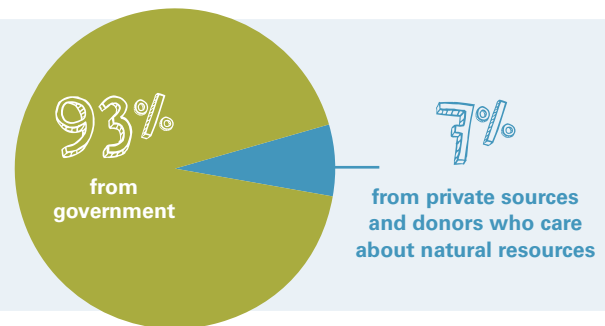


How do we value the work of the Environment field?

Environmental organizations in this field share a common emphasis on concern for resources – air, water, land, energy, and climate. They do this work through education and the cultivation of stewardship, advocacy, and conservation of habitats and species. While this field is quite diverse and some focus on addressing problems as or after they have occurred, many environment programs in this field stop future problems.

Almost \$685 Million Invested

Over 184 Illinois social impact, or nonprofit, organizations do work affecting Illinois' land, air, and waterways.



What does this investment yield?

\$1 : \$58

Every \$1 invested in
Environment field generates
\$58 in socio-economic value.

\$45

of this value goes
to residents of Illinois

\$13

of this value goes to society in:

- Increased tax revenue
- Increased economic activity due to jobs in the environment sector
- Avoiding future spending to treat expensive social problems

What are the proven benefits of the Environment field?

- Improve air & water quality
- Preserve and increase open space
- Improve health
- Improve livability
- Increase workforce engagement
- Increase life satisfaction
- Slow the effects of climate change
- Produce clean energy

The work of the Environment field has value.

It plays an economic role in Illinois – as job creator, as avoider of costly social problems. It is also a builder of human capital, a pillar in communities, and a protector of natural resources – including our air, land, and water around us.

To be involved and learn more, visit BuildingStrongerIL.com.

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Sources: Terpstra, A., & Clary, J. (2015, March). *The value of the nonprofit environment field in Illinois: A social return on investment analysis*. Chicago: Social IMPACT Research Center with Donors Forum.