# Wetland Health

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# Healthy Wetlands: What can you do?

Do you need to do anything to keep wetlands healthy?

- Yes, sometimes
  - ❖ People have altered the landscape by introducing non-native plant species that have become invasive
  - ❖ People have also altered the landscape by damaging or removing wetland habitat buffer areas

# Healthy Wetlands:  What can you do?

Monitor and Control Non-Native Invasive Species

- Reed Canary Grass
- Phragmites / Common Reed
- Cattails
- Purple Loosestrife

# Reed Canary Grass

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# Phragmites / Common Reed

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# Cattails

# Cattails

# Purple Loosestrife

# Healthy Wetlands:  What can you do?

Monitor and Control Non-Native Invasive Species

- Autumn Olive
- Asian Bush Honeysuckle
- Canada Thistle
- Callery Pear

# Autumn Olive

# Asian Bush Honeysuckle

# Canada Thistle

# Healthy Wetlands: What can you do?

Control Non-Native Invasive Species

- Herbicide Application
  - ❖ Imazapyr
  - ❖ Triclopyr
  - ❖ Glyphosate

- Prescribed Fire

- Mechanical
  - ❖ Mowing
  - ❖ Removal with heavy equipment

# Healthy Wetlands:  What can you do?

Establish Vegetation Buffers Around Wetlands

What is a vegetative buffer area?

- An area of vegetation intended to slow water runoff and filter out sediment, fertilizers, pesticides, and other pollutants

# Healthy Wetlands:  What can you do?

Establish Vegetation Buffers Around Wetlands

Vegetative buffers can include:

- Grasses
- Wildflowers
- Trees and Shrubs

Buffers are preferably native vegetation

- Native vegetation is healthier for the wetland and provides more value to wildlife

# Healthy Wetlands:  What can you do?

Establish Vegetation Buffers Around Wetlands

Vegetative buffer width:

- Buffers of 100' – 300' widths are recommended
- The wider the buffer the better
- Small buffers are better than no buffers

# Healthy Wetlands: What can you do?

Establish Native Wetland Vegetation

- Utilize the current seed bank
- Seed is spread naturally by air or birds and mammals
- Broadcast native seed
- Plant native vegetation plugs

# Wetland Buffer

# Wetland Buffer

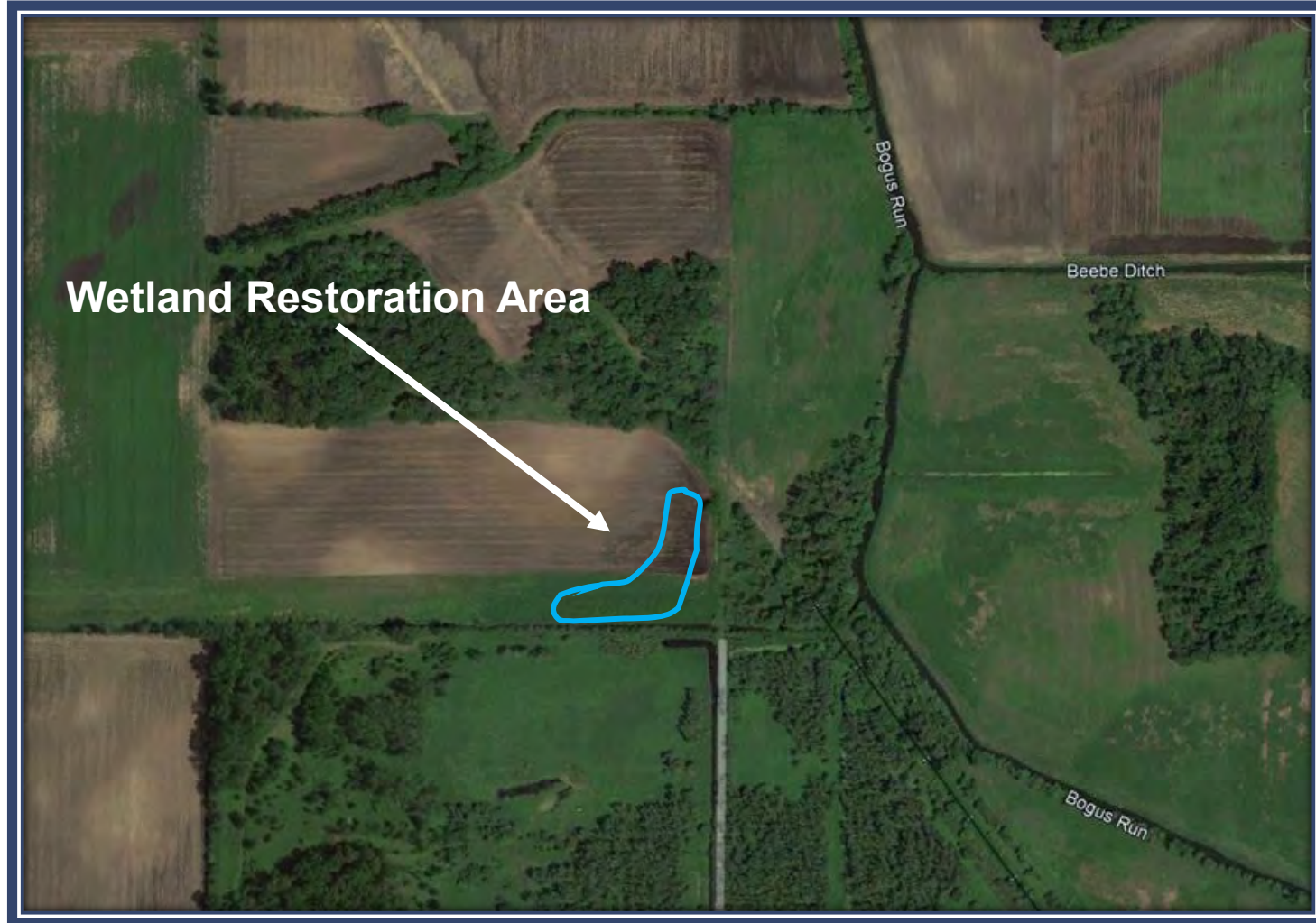# Healthy Wetlands:  What can you do?

Restore a Wetland

# 2011

# Wetland Restoration – 2015 Aerial Photo

# Wetland Restoration – 2015 Aerial Photo

# 2018

# 2018

# 2018

# 2019

# 2019

# Wetland Restoration



Wetland Restoration Area – 2017

Wetland Restoration Area - 2020

# 2020

# 2020

# 2022

# 2022

# 2022

# 2018

# 2018

# 2018

# Questions?