

Dear Friends and SRNE Members,

There has been much activity at our first Habitat Acquisition Site in Champaign, IL. A short time ago we went to survey the health of the site only to find that a huge construction project had been started there. As we drove up to the area all we could see was a large concrete structure, a huge pile of dirt and a lot of construction equipment and debris. Needless to say, our spirits sank upon seeing the condition of the area. As we rounded the corner we were amazed to find that the site has been left untouched in the midst of the construction. Now more than ever, the site has become a beacon of re-natural environment in a severely human-altered landscape. Of course with all the disturbance nearby it is highly likely that the groundhog has abandoned the site for now. We fully believe that because the site is being left intact, the animal(s) will return once the construction activity ends. Additionally, the floral and microfaunal community that has developed here, although diminutive in scale, has and will remain largely intact.

A photo of the site in its current state is attached to this email.

Information about the history of the site can be found here <http://societyrne.net/html/habacq/site-pages/ha0001112906CUIL.htm>

Sincerely,

BD Collier, Founder and President

The Society for a ReONatural Environment