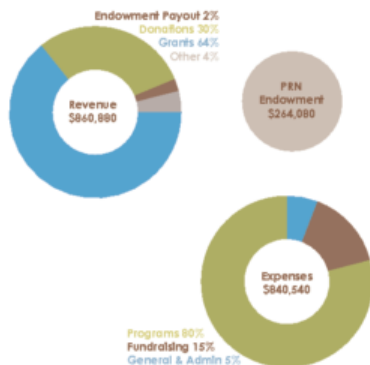


# 2017 ANNUAL REPORT

## 2017 Financial Snapshot



This financial snapshot shows our 2017 operating revenue and expenses plus the current value of our endowment. Our financial statements are audited each year by an independent certified accountant and are available along with our Federal 990 at [prairierivers.org](http://prairierivers.org).

## A MESSAGE FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Happy New Year! The staff and board of directors of Prairie Rivers Network are looking forward to all the possibilities a new year brings with it. But first, we would like to take a moment to reflect on the past year where we celebrated our 50th Anniversary as Illinois' advocate for clean water, healthy rivers, and abundant wildlife. In 2017, we grew our membership base and expanded our program work with three new staff members. This was made possible because of you, our dedicated and passionate network of river advocates.

With our growing organization and commitment to transitioning away from coal towards renewable energy sources, we are very proud to now call home a solar-powered office at the Henneman Center building in Champaign. We are happy to work away on our computers fighting polluters and protecting wildlife habitat knowing that it is all solar powered.

Sadly, 2017 was also a tough year for our natural world -- from climate change influenced record storm events to the political assault on environmental regulations, global commitments, and the Clean Water Act. Thankfully, you are fighting back. You are making positive impacts right here in Illinois. Below is just a small snapshot of some of the progress you made happen with your membership and support of Prairie Rivers Network.

Thank you so much for your generosity and commitment to protecting our natural world.

*Carol*

Carol Hays,  
PRN Executive Director

## ILLINOIS CAN'T WAIT

Thank you for protecting our water, rivers, and wildlife.



## YOUR MEMBERSHIP PROTECTS CLEAN WATER

When you turn on the tap or drink out of a water fountain, you expect that water to be clean. Your membership donation helped get a law passed early last year that requires lead testing in schools and day cares. School can be hard enough on a kid; parents shouldn't have to worry if the water is safe to drink. Thank you for protecting our children.

## YOUR SUPPORT ADVANCES RENEWABLE ENERGY

Climate change is real. Coal is a big contributor. Holding the coal industry accountable for their toxic waste and speaking up about the true cost of burning coal and coal mining on our communities helps advance the transition to renewable energy. When hikers along the Middle Fork River noticed an unknown white substance (likely coal ash from Dynegy's coal-fired power station), they called PRN, and we helped sound the alarm. Your continued support has made PRN the go-to organization to hold polluters accountable when situations like these arise and move us closer to a renewable energy economy.

## YOUR VOICE SPEAKS UP FOR OUR RIVERS

Before people started interfering, rivers were free to meander. Their floodplains held water during storms and naturally filtered out pollution. You spoke up for letting rivers be rivers and saved 50,000 acres of wetlands along our iconic Mississippi River. The great blue heron, egrets, and all the other wildlife thank you.



## YOUR GIFT HELPS FARMERS

Farmers have a tough job. They grow our food despite shrinking profits, a changing climate, and pesky weeds. Your gift helped 160 farmers in the IDEA Farm Network improve soil health, plant pollinator habitat, and reduce runoff across Illinois. That's a win for farmers, rivers, and wildlife. Thank you for helping our small, local farmers.

