

## **Adam Phillips (Councilperson At Large)**

Current Position: District Wildlife Biologist, Illinois Department of Natural Resources, 2017-Present

Education: B.S. (2006) Colorado State University, M.S. (2010) Southern Illinois University-Carbondale

Personal Background: Adam is from Jacksonville, IL but currently resides in Goreville. He is married to his wife, Brooke, and included in his family are their two dogs, Susie and Riley. Adam enjoys traveling, hunting and especially travelling to hunt! Also, Adam enjoys bird watching and ornithology as this is where his Grandpa first got him interested in Wildlife Management.

Work History/Positions Held: Adam's work history began while he was an undergraduate student at Colorado State University. There he worked at the Foothills Wildlife Research Facility (the first detection spot for CWD) for the then Colorado Division of Wildlife (CDOW). While in school, he also had summer internships with the USFWS in North Dakota and Montana and the CDOW in eastern Colorado. After graduation, Adam worked at the Forbes Biological Station in Havana, IL and as an Assistant Waterfowl Biologist in Bloomington, IN. He moved back to Illinois to complete his M.S. research on impacts of mute swans on native vegetation and waterbird species in the Illinois River Valley, followed by brief stops with Iowa DNR and Ducks Unlimited in Minnesota. Adam's first permanent position was with the Iowa DNR as a Natural Resource Technician managing grassland and floodplain habitat in southeastern Iowa. In 2013, Adam moved to Springfield, IL to begin working as a Wildlife Biologist for USDA APHIS Wildlife Services with a focus on airport wildlife management, NEPA coordination and helping to resolve wildlife damage impact at dairies. Currently, Adam is a District Wildlife Biologist for the southeastern most counties in Illinois.

Views: "The Wildlife Society has been a major contributor to my growth and development as a wildlife professional. I became involved in TWS my first semester of Undergrad and it has provided me with many amazing opportunities. Some of the highlights are helping capture pronghorn antelope from a helicopter, participating in an elk census, designing and executing our own research projects on a ranch next to Rocky Mountain National Park, and attending the national conference in Alaska. I want to work harder to provide some of these opportunities to wildlife students in Illinois and help prepare them for a successful career. I feel that I can help promote our chapter, work to engage our members, and devote my time and energy into advancing wildlife management and sound scientific ideas in the State of Illinois."

