

# Town of Dune Acres

## Restoration of Town Park S

### **OBJECTIVES & MEASURABLE GOALS**

- ▶ To restore roughly 7.5 acres of dunes habitat threatened by over-shading, the encroachment of invasive plant species, and fire starvation.
- ▶ To help preserve globally-imperiled dry sand savanna for the benefit of the general public throughout the coastal area of Indiana.
- ▶ The goal of the project is to initially reduce tree canopy by 30-40% and achieve a 95% reduction in invasive plant species, measured after 36 months.

### **PROJECT SITE:**

Dune Acres' 7.5-acre Town Park S which is bordered by portions of Hill Drive on the west, Lake Michigan on the north, residential portions of Oak Drive and Linden Lane on the East, and the Town Park A habitat and hiking corridor on the south.

### **History & Ecology:**

The site has been preserved as a natural area since the incorporation of Dune Acres in the 1920s. It provides important habitat for a diversity of dunes flora and fauna and affords magnificent views of Lake Michigan from its highest points. The plant assemblages are that of dry sand savanna and including characteristic species of the high dunes including black oak, little bluestem, wormwood, puccoon, sky-blue Aster, blazing star, prickly pear cactus, and common juniper.

### **Partners:**

- ▶ Lake Michigan Coastal Program (funding partner)
- ▶ Dune Acres Civic Improvement Association (funding partner)
- ▶ Cardno (restoration partner)