

Oak Savanna and Forest Ecosystems

The Nature Conservancy

In a series of investigations of oak savanna and oak forest ecosystems spanning several years, Applied Ecological Services conducted detailed studies on small mammals, birds, vascular vegetation, lichen, bryophyte, terrestrial leaf-litter invertebrates and other groups of organisms. Study areas included oak savanna systems and oak woodland systems throughout different Midwestern states, including Illinois, Michigan, Indiana, Wisconsin, Iowa, and Minnesota. The study was conducted with sponsorship and funding from a number of organizations, including The Nature Conservancy, various charitable foundations, forest preserve districts, and others that funded individual projects in their property ownership. The project provided the first baseline study of its kind on the nature of the oak savanna remnant ecosystems in these states. In addition, the study provided a detailed analysis of the declining nature of these ecological systems and the decline in animal use and native vegetation in these systems.



**Applied
Ecological
Services, Inc.**

