# SHIFTING SANDS ON THE PATH TO SUSTAINABILITY



### Indiana Dunes - A Catalyst for American Conservation, Industrialization, and Environmental Policy

Along the south shore of Lake Michigan, at the crossroads of America, a globally rare environment collided with the industrial giants that built our nation. This collision, over a century-old, gave rise to some of the most influential environmental battles of the 20th century, and became a microcosm for one of the most pressing issues of our time: sustainability. How do we maintain our way of life without destroying the natural world on which we all depend?

*Shifting Sands: On the Path to Sustainability* tells the story of how one region, where rare plants grow in the shadows of smokestacks, sparked a movement for a national park; a movement which eventually led to game-changing environmental policies with worldwide impact.

Today, the advocacy from that movement has transformed into a new model of cooperation, where industrialists and environmentalists—once bitter adversaries—work together to steer this community toward a more sustainable future.

The 60-minute documentary captures American's strength, leadership, and resolve to maintain economic power while preserving and restoring one of the nation's most ecologically diverse landscape for future generations.

It also explores the lessons learned from the Indiana Dunes' environmental battles. Interviews with environmental activists, scholars, public officials and business leaders, and archival material—spanning over a century—brings this important story to life on the big screen.

The film's timely release marks 100 years since the creation of the National Park Service and the first proposal for a national park in the Indiana Dunes—a safeguard against the disappearance of an ecologically significant landscape; 200 years after Indiana was admitted into the United States; and, 50 years after the congressional authorization of the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore.

Presented by Lakeshore Public Television (WYIN) and distributed by American Public Television (APT), *Shifting Sands: On the Path to Sustainability* will air on public broadcast stations across the nation beginning this fall—just in time for the 100th Anniversary of the National Park Service on August 25th.

CREDITS: Shifting Sands: On the Path to Sustainability is a production of Green Heron Production, LLC. The presenting station is Lakeshore Public Television/Northwest Indiana, and is distributed nationally by American Public Television. Images: scenic images provide by Pete Doherty/Doherty Images; steel ladle image provided by Calumet Regional Archives; artwork provided by Barbara Spies Labus.

#### ABOUT AMERICAN PUBLIC TELEVISION

American Public Television (APT) has been a leading distributor of high-quality, top-rated programming to America's public television stations since 1961. In 2010, APT distributed nearly half of the top 100 highest-rated public television titles. Among its 300 new titles per year are prominent documentaries, news and current affairs programs, dramatic series, how-to programs, children's series and classic movies, including *For Love of Liberty: The Story of America's Black Patriots, A Ripple of Hope, Rick Steves' Europe, Newsline, Globe Trekker, Simply Ming, America's Test Kitchen From Cook's Illustrated, Lidia's Italy, P. Allen Smith's Garden Home, Murdoch Mysteries, Doc Martin, Rosemary & Thyme, The Rat Pack: Live and Swingin', Johnny Mathis: Wonderful, Wonderful! and John Denver: The Wildlife Concert. APT also licenses programs internationally through its APT Worldwide service. In 2006, APT launched Create® – the TV channel featuring the best of public television's lifestyle programming. APT is also a partner in the WORLD<sup>™</sup> channel expansion project.* 

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For more information, visit <u>ShiftingSandsMovie.com</u> or <u>https://www.facebook.com/Shifting-Sands-On-The-Path-To-Sustainability-559626900742068/</u>.



#### FACT SHEET

**FILM SUMMARY:** On Lake Michigan's southern shore, stunning natural beauty collides with heavy industry like nowhere else in the country. The juxtaposition of a priceless dune landscape—valued for its unique concentration of diverse ecosystems—and enduring industrial expansion set the stage for America's most influential environmental battles. The clash over the Indiana Dunes led to policies with global impact, and gave Americans their first urban national park. Interviews with dune activists, environmental scholars, public officials and business leaders bring to life the historical context of this century-long struggle to save the remaining dunes landscape. *Shifting Sands: On the Path to Sustainability* explores how the Indiana Dunes region, where rare plants grow in the shadow of smokestacks, offers a blueprint to a sustainable future.

FILM LENGTH:	56:46 minutes
BROADCAST RIGHTS:	APT broadcast rights: 87/16 – 8/6/19 unlimited
NOLA CODE:	SSPS 000 Base Revision 001
A PRODUCTION OF:	Green Heron Production, LLC
PRESENTING STATION:	WYIN/Lakeshore Public Television
DISTRIBUTOR:	American Public Television
SPONSORS:	Legacy Foundation, Efroymson Family Foundation, Richard H. Driehaus Foundation, Knight Fund at Legacy, Porter County Community Foundation, Indiana Arts Commission, South Shore Arts, Unity Foundation of LaPorte County, Crown Point Community Foundation, Indiana Dunes Tourism, Flora Richardson Foundation, National Endowment for the Arts
WEBSITE:	ShiftingSandsMovie.com
HOME VIDEO:	DVD: \$24.95 (includes shipping and handling) Order from Lakeshore Public Television at http://lakeshorepublicmedia.org/local-programs/shifting-sands/ or 1-800-276-5656
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## The dunes are buzzing ...

Since *Shifting Sands: On the Path to Sustainability* first premiered in April 2016, the documentary has garnered praise from community leaders.

"Brick-to-the-head film of the amazing changes that have transformed the environment and improved our quality of life. Bravo!"

— Paul Labovitz National Park Service, Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore

"Shifting Sands is filled with faith and hope."

— Dale Bowman Chicago Sun-Times

"This is a marvelous movie about one of the titanic struggles in the history of the U.S. conservation movement: struggle that is intimately intertwined with the history of our nation, and that also gave rise to one of the least well known, but most visited, of our great national parks. Understanding this history is important, and it points the way to the broader future of sustainable environmental management."

— Sir Peter Crane, Ph.D.
Dean, School of Forestry & Environmental Studies
Professor of Botany
Yale University

"A game-changing film."

— John Davies Society of Innovators Ivy Tech Community College



#### PRODUCTION TEAM



LEE BOTTS (Executive Producer) is a prominent American environmentalist whose leadership for environmental protection in public and governmental organizations includes: Founder of the Lake Michigan Federation, now the Alliance for the Great Lakes; Assistant to the Administrator for Congressional and Intergovernmental Affairs for the USEPA; and, a Presidential appointment as Chairperson of the Great Lakes Basin Commission. In addition, she participated in founding the Environmental Management and Policy Committee, the Northwest Indiana Regional Planning Commission (1995), the Northwest Indiana Quality of Life

*Council* (1997), and the *Indiana Dunes Environmental Learning Center* (1997). Most recently, she initiated the production of the documentary *Shifting Sands*.



**PAT WISNIEWSKI (Producer/Director)** created *For Goodness Sake Productions* with the mission of creating films that make a difference. Her most recent production, *Everglades of the North: The Story of the Grand Kankakee Marsh*, aired on PBS stations across the country and was nominated for a Chicago/Midwest Emmy Award in 2013. She began filmmaking at *WYIN-Lakeshore Public Television* assisting in the production of a compendium piece to Ken Burn's documentary *The War*. Pat won a Christopher Award in 2006, for a short documentary about *How One Person Can Make a Difference*. Her current work in progress, *Project Neighbors*, explores a

revolution to help those less fortunate.



**TOM DESCH (Producer/Editor/Writer)** is an independent documentarian. Tom was a producer on the **PBS** documentary, *Everglades of the North: The Story of the Grand Kankakee Marsh*, which was nominated for a Chicago/Midwest Emmy Award in 2013. He has edited numerous shows for broadcast (PBS) and cable (BIOGRAPHY CHANNEL, ANIMAL PLANET). Tom is wrapping production on his documentary *THE FIELD*, about Chicago's proposed third airport. He is also producing *An American Home*, about Frank Lloyd Wright's first Prairie Style Home.

(Production team continued on next page.)

## PRODUCTION TEAM (cont'd)



**RANA SEGAL (Producer/Director of Photograph)** is an award-winning director, producer and cinematographer. Her work has aired on **PBS**, **The Learning Channel**, **and Discovery Health Channel**. She produced and directed *Painting the Town* for **Artbeat Chicago**, **WTTW PBS Chicago**, which was nominated for an *Emmy*. She won a **Cine Golden Eagle** award for producing and directing *On the Shoulders of Giants* about Lincoln Park Zoo.



BRIAN KALLIES (Editor/Story Consultant) is an independent documentary filmmaker. He has produced, directed and edited award-winning television and films for Showtime, PBS, Esquire, Tre-TV, WGN, and the BBC and has received critical acclaim from ROGER EBERT, RICHARD ROEPER, NY TIMES, HOLLYWOOD REPORTER, HUFFINGTON POST and THE ONION.



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