



MEET CATHERINE FRANCYK

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Catherine had a thirty-seven-year career at Wilton Brands. Director of Product Development and Education with consistent advancement in the Product Development Group. Extensive product development of consumer products along with program development, resulting in consistent profitability and brand enhancement. Extensive travel in Asia collaborating with vendors on projects and product quality reviews.

Throughout my life I have had a strong respect, wonder, and concern for our natural world. I grew up in the Calumet Region where I witnessed the destruction and degradation of our rivers and wetlands as industry overtook the region. I was a Steward for the Will County, Illinois Forest Preserve District doing restoration work. I am a trained Openlands Tree Keeper. I am a supporter of various environmental organizations such as NRDC, EDF, Sierra Club, Nature Conservancy, and CCL. In Illinois: Conservation Foundation, Illinois Environmental Council and Prairie Rivers Network. I served as the Environment Chair for LWV Wheaton. I am now a member of LWV Naperville and track local city council and various boards as they relate to sustainability particularly energy as Naperville has an energy agreement to purchase electricity from IMEA owner of Prairie State Coal in Southern Illinois which threatens water quality due to processing and coal ash ponds, groundwater and air quality. Currently, I am the Treasurer for the LWV Upper Mississippi River Region and Co-Chair of the Action Committee where I report on environmental initiatives and threats in Illinois.

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CATHFRAN51@GMAIL.COM