

## Canary Island Riverside Greenway

St. Louis, MO

The Canary Island Riverside Greenway project is a stream and wetland restoration project designed in collaboration with Johannes Cohen Collaborative, Inc. at a former industrial site on the banks of the Mississippi River. Once home to many large manufacturing facilities, the industrial and commercial properties in the Old Lemay neighborhood have now all but disappeared. Old Lemay, like many mature city



neighborhoods, is in need of an urban makeover. Located at the confluence with River Des Peres in the heart of St. Louis, the Canary Island project is as much about urban revitalization as it is a wetland restoration.

By treating Mississippi River water and stormwater runoff in a series of constructed streams and wetlands, Canary Island is a unique opportunity for education and recreation. Designed to be a hub of outdoor activity, the Canary Island Riverside Greenway links area bike paths and provides outdoor enthusiasts with a unique experience on trails winding along the banks of the Mississippi River. Educational features include: a settling forebay at the river intake demonstrating the mechanical component of the treatment process, and interpretative signage along the trails, streams, ponds, and wetlands emphasizing wetland ecology and biological treatment. The location along the Mississippi Flyway placed wildlife habitat as a critical element when planning the layout of watercourses and wetlands. Riparian forest, savanna and prairie round out the design features. Intuition & Logic added habitat features including nesting islands for waterfowl, raptor roosts, and forage, cover, and breeding sites for much of the riparian food web.

Intuition & Logic designed over 1,000 feet of meandering stream connecting ponds and wetlands throughout the site. The stream system uses natural geomorphic relationships such as riffle/pool spacing, meander radius and wavelength. We designed the forebay structure and associated 3-acre pond with a subsurface baffling system to begin the water quality improvement process and bioretention basins to receive and treat all of the runoff from the parking lot and bus drop area. Intuition & logic identified the contaminants to monitor that would best tell the water quality improvement story as the water passes through the site.