

Journey to the headwaters of the River des Peres

A photograph of a park with a paved path, green grass, trees, and a person pushing a stroller. The scene is bright and sunny, with a clear blue sky. A person is walking on the path, pushing a stroller. There are large trees and a playground area in the background.



For maps, project updates, and events visit **www.GreatRiversGreenway.org**
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Explore the Centennial Greenway: Warson Park to Dielman Rd

WHILE YOU'RE EXPLORING

- » Enjoy the nature trail, playground, and athletic fields in Warson Park
- » Take a class in fitness, arts, or community programs at Five Oaks on Warson
- » See where the River des Peres begins before it flows into the Mississippi River and out to the ocean
- » Play on the nature-based playground in Indian Meadows Park

NATURE: From the time when the River des Peres was formed during the Ice Age until buildings surrounded its banks in the late 1800s, the River des Peres was a curving stream weaving through fertile prairies. Over the last century, the River des Peres has been rerouted, straightened, deepened, and lined with concrete. These changes prevent local flooding by pushing water downstream.

CULTURE: Where Five Oaks on Warson is built today once stood Saints Skating Rink. People came from all over the region to enjoy roller skating at Saints, and native St. Louis rapper Nelly even recorded here before the rink closed in 2010.

HISTORY: Beginning in the 1890s, the area to the north of where Indian Meadows Park and Centennial Greenway are located today was a predominantly Black, self-sufficient community known as Elmwood Park. In the 1960s, the residents of Elmwood Park were forcibly removed from their homes and the community demolished in the name of urban renewal.



Greenways are outdoor spaces connecting people and places. Each greenway is unique, reflecting the character of the communities it connects. Greenways can include **trails, conservation projects** such as rain gardens and restored prairies, **amenities** like restrooms and drinking fountains, and **connections** to businesses, neighborhoods, parks, schools, waterways and transit. There are over 120 miles of greenways throughout St. Louis City, St. Louis County and St. Charles County for you to explore and enjoy.