

# Tacony Creek Park

*new life for a historic park*



## Park Master Plan

Philadelphia, PA

Natural Lands and Toole Recreation Planning completed a Master Plan for the Tookany/Tacony-Frankford Watershed Partnership (TTF) and the City of Philadelphia. Surrounded by the City's most densely populated and diverse neighborhoods, the plan reclaims the original intent of the 1915 watershed park with a strategy to restore this "ribbon of green," offering the citizens an escape from the gritty city and an opportunity to connect to nature. With rising temperatures and increased flooding, a restorative environment is critical to quality of life in the surrounding neighborhoods.

Extensive community engagement revealed that residents want to connect with nature, relieve stress and enjoy fitness. They wanted a safer, better maintained park, restrooms and improved trails. They wanted more nature programs and community clean-ups.

The master plan calls for improvements to:

- Structures – new gateways and trail improvements
- Programs – new and enhanced bilingual programs by TTF.
- Pilot projects – People of the Park signs and Nature Explorer Kits
- Maintenance – restoration of natural areas, elimination of short dumping and improved general maintenance
- Eyes on the Park – a return of park rangers who engage with park users, addressing residents' safety concerns.

By providing the City and TTF with cost-effective strategies, implementation is already underway.



## PROJECT SNAPSHOT

### services:

site analysis, trail study and stewardship assessment, extensive community outreach, park master plan, cost estimates and schedules

**client:** City of Philadelphia

**key partner:** Tookany/Tacony-Frankford Watershed Partnership

