



Photo by Andriy Babchiy on Unsplash

President and CEO's message: Greetings, River Fields community!

Next month, April, is World Landscape Architecture month: a celebration of how designed outdoor environments touch our lives. Take a moment to think about the forested trails, small city parks, river or lakeside promenades, and other outdoor spaces that we take for granted as part of our daily existence. They were intentionally created and fostered by visionaries who wanted to make our communities better. Our outdoor spaces of all kinds give us social connection, opportunities for quiet reflection or healthy recreation, and critical protection against the impacts of climate change. We should do everything in our power to support and protect them – just as they support and protect us. All of us at River Fields are proud of what we do to protect

the rich cultural landscapes in our care, from the dramatic Olmsted-inspired landscape of our Edyalmoor conservation easement to the lush wildflower fields of Garvin Brown Nature Preserve and everything in between. Stewarding and protecting these places means having the optimism, patience and foresight to care for a gift of living beauty for many future generations, with the faith that those future generations will cherish and care for it in that same spirit.

In gratitude to our River Fields community and always happy to hear from you at kristin@riverfields.org

Kristin Faurest, Ph.D., President and CEO, River Fields



Image of Garvin Brown Preserve by John Nation



Celebrate the arrival of spring with a donation to River Fields!

Celebrate the arrival of spring with a donation to River Fields! We are just a few short weeks away from the Vernal Equinox, and what better way to celebrate spring on the horizon than a donation to River Fields! We are 95 percent supported by our public, so every gift is critical to helping us protect, steward, and educate.



You can make a tax-deductible contribution here: <https://riverfields.org/donate/>

Out in the Fields Updates on current events:

Residual line construction project on River Road:

The Louisville Water Company has begun a significant project on River Road that will necessitate some disruptions to traffic. LWC's filtration process produces residual solids that must be removed from the treatment plant. The residual line -- the pipeline that takes the residuals from the Crescent Hill Water Treatment Plant to lagoons at the B. E. Payne Water Treatment Plant in Prospect -- was constructed in 1971 and now reaching the end of its useful life, so LWC is constructing two new replacement lines along River Road from Zorn Avenue to Transylvania Ave and along Transylvania Ave to the Payne Water Treatment Plant. This project will include the installation of two dual 24-inch residual lines and will necessitate phased closure of River Road. Starting March 3, River Road will be closed to through traffic from Zorn to Blankenbaker Lane, with access to homes and businesses staying open. When construction is completed in each phase the road will be paved and reopened as the project moves east. LWC

estimates the project will take two years. River Fields will continue communicating with our public about the project. We will stay in dialogue with LWC to remain current on progress, ask questions about potential impacts, and advocate for the least disruptive courses of actions.



Image of Hays Kennedy House by Leslie Barras

More proposed demolition in the Jacob School/James Taylor historic neighborhood:

River Fields opposes the proposed demolition of the Hays Kennedy House, a historic home on Jacob School Road whose namesake was a long term volunteer for the local parks and recreation department and a beloved nurturer of all children in the neighborhood. This house tells a significant story. We're dismayed that this critical

piece of the area's Black history is being erased. In collaboration with neighborhood leaders, we've organized a petition drive to prevent the demolition, with a goal of 200 signatures by April 24. If you'd like to sign, please contact us at kristin@riverfields.org.

A few new accomplishments we are excited to share:

- We recently added an interpretive sign to our Fairview property on River Road, which keeps the gorgeous view to the river along the Scenic Byway fully clear for everyone to enjoy.



Image of Fairview by John Mahorney, JEM Creative

- River Fields President and CEO Kristin Faurest has been named as a 2025 Bingham Fellow. Kristin is excited to represent the organization in this robust and prestigious leadership and change making program.

- If you missed last month's Winter Tree ID Walk with Renee Frith, don't despair! We have many more programs slated for 2025 including wildflower walks, Monarch Butterfly adventures, and more. Watch www.riverfields.org for updates and to register.

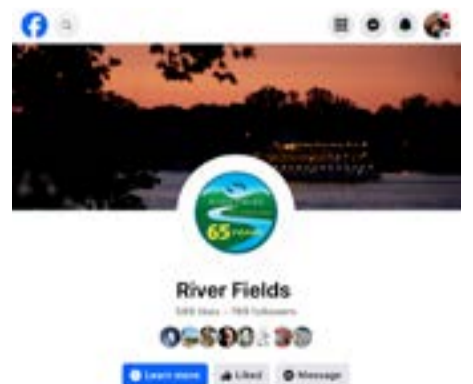
- We've unveiled a newly-created map of all the lands that River Fields stewards and protects! You can see a thumbnail of the map here, but the digital version will shortly be available for view and download on www.riverfields.org and we'll also have a large-scale print version available.



Spring, and our Annual Wildflower Walk, aren't far away! Save the date: May 10th, 2025



Photo by Annie Spratt on Unsplash



Keep up with River Fields by following us on Facebook and signing up on our website for regular updates.