



Clean Water. Healthy Life.

BEST PRACTICES *for* STORMWATER MANAGEMENT IN METROPOLITAN KANSAS CITY

CONSTRUCTED WETLANDS

Coon Creek Wetlands (West), (1/4th mile) East of K-7 on Prairie Star Parkway, Lenexa, Kansas

Goals

To preserve the water quality of Lake Lenexa while providing an opportunity for passive recreation and education. In addition, to reduce maintenance costs for Lake Lenexa associated with upstream water quality and eutrophication (a unfavorable condition in an aquatic ecosystem where high nutrient concentrations stimulate blooms of algae).

Description

Wetlands are natural filtration systems that help retain and cleanse harmful impurities from the water through native vegetation, open water, and emergent plants, thus preserving downstream water quality. Lenexa's Coon Creek (West) wetlands are directly upstream from the site of Lake Lenexa. They significantly impact the recreational lake's water quality. Though the lake site is currently under construction, the City of Lenexa is proactively preserving Lake Lenexa's water quality by having constructed the two wetlands upstream. These in-stream wetlands also include a unique overflow dam design with vegetated riprap.

Community Benefits & Lessons Learned

The benefit to the community is the preservation of a clean water source for Lake Lenexa. In addition, economic benefits include the reduction of maintenance costs for lake aeration and sediment removal, each of which are directly affected by upstream water quality and filtration. The project will be included in the citywide interpretive signage trails project, providing hometown educational learning opportunities for the citizens of Lenexa.

Funding Sources and Partnerships

City of Lenexa, Kansas Public Works Department, Watershed Division
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 7
Kansas Alliance for Wetlands and Streams (KAWS)
Black & Veatch

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Western wetland treats stormwater prior to entering newly-constructed 33-acre Lake Lenexa (downstream, not pictured).



Wetland treats stormwater flow from Prairie Star Parkway (upstream).