



## Coldstream Park Naturalization Areas

Coldstream Park, Lexington, KY

December 2019 - present



The Cane Run watershed is designated as a resource protection area that feeds the drinking water supply for the city of Georgetown. As a 303d-listed stream, it is impacted by agricultural operations, urban runoff and failing sanitary sewer systems. The combination of urban hydrology and invasive weeds was destroying wildlife habitat. By 2018, EcoGro had completed the installation of a major stream restoration project along the main channel of Cane Run for the city of Lexington. With the success of one major project in Coldstream Park, there was momentum to continue ecological restoration and stewardship on adjacent tributaries and park property.

Between December 2019 and January 2020, over 10 acres of bush honeysuckle was mulched in place with a forestry grinder. Through the 2020 growing season, invasive weeds were further reduced with a regular management program. In March 2021, over 150 trees were planted and approximately two acres were prepared for seeding with wildflowers. A variety of bird houses, a bat box and two educational signs were installed to heighten awareness of habitat uses by wildlife and the results of a landscape shifting towards a more ecological purpose. What used to be mowed turf grass was converted into a natural stream buffer and park amenity. Park users continue to learn the importance of restoration, preservation and stewardship of streams and upland areas through witnessing ongoing stewardship behaviors.



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