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City of Mentor Ohio

# Springbrook Gardens Park Wetland Restoration

Mentor, Ohio



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*The restoration of 1,175 linear feet of stream and 2.8 acres of riparian and wetland habitat enhance the ecology, beauty, and recreational opportunities of a newly created public park.*

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## **SERVICES**

Design-build  
Ecological Restoration

In 2014, the City of Mentor acquired a 56-acre property with the intent of transforming it into passive, recreational space known as Springbrook Gardens Park. The City also received a grant from the Ohio EPA to restore a channelized ditch that flowed through the park and create a stream/wetland complex.

The ditch is a tributary to Marsh Creek, which flows directly into Ohio's first State Nature Preserve and a National Natural Landmark, Mentor Marsh. Over past decades, as the watershed developed and stormwater runoff increased, the tributary became disconnected from its floodplain and suffered diminished water quality.

Working with the City and its project partners, the Chagrin River Watershed Partners and the Lake County Soil and Water Conservation District, Biohabitats developed a restoration strategy that took advantage of the high sand content in the site's soil. The approach combines riffle complexes and sand seepage berms that extend valley wide, perpendicular to the stream's flow. These complexes retain smaller storm events on the floodplain-allowing for denitrification as the water seeps through the sand/mulch berms-while safely conveying larger storm events through the site. The use of a native plant palette and the treatment of invasive species also helped improve riparian habitat. Biohabitats was the prime contractor for this design-build effort, with Meadville Land Service acting as prime subcontractor leading construction implementation.