



# RIVER HERITAGE

## CONSERVANCY



Indiana Water Summit  
August 27, 2025

*Dennis Schnurbusch II*  
*Chief Executive Officer*





# origin park



A Project of River Heritage Conservancy



- Origin Park is managed and sustained by River Heritage Conservancy, a self-supporting nonprofit.
- RHC is dedicated to creating exceptional public landscapes in the Falls of the Ohio region.
- As a conservancy, RHC stewards ecology, preserves heritage, and provides parks for all in partnership with government foundations, and communities.







THE PARK



# Origin Park History – Those Amazing Stories About Our Past

- Prehistoric Life at Falls of the Ohio
- Buffalo Trace
- Archaeological Digs
- The Myth of Prince Madoc
- Navigating the Falls --  
Indian Chute, Middle Chute, & Kentucky Chute
- George Rogers Clark & the Founding of Clarksville
- Launch of the Lewis & Clark Expedition
- Guinea Bottoms
- Fort Clark (1784)
- Grist Mills, Sawmills, & Cement Mills --  
1784 to late 1800s
- Dueling Grounds
- History of the Canals
- Aaron Burr -- Alleged Conspiracy
- Camp Whitcomb --1846
- Underground Railroad
- Crossing the Water – Ohio River, Mill Creek & Silver Creek
- How Silver Creek Got Its Name
- The Dinky -- 1865 to 1921
- Sand Island Dam -- 1870s
- Big Eddy & the Fuller Bros
- Gambling “Joints” -- Silver Creek Country Club, Lido Venice, Seville Club, & Black Hawk Club
- 1937 Flood & the Levees
- Borrow Pits
- Local Fishermen
- River Camps
- Conversion to Agricultural Land
- Conversion to Junkyards & Landfills



# origin park

SITE PLAN SCALE: 1" = 125'

- 1 OUTDOOR ADVENTURE CENTER
- 2 NATURE PLAY + TREE HOUSE
- 3 BASE CAMP LAWN
- 4 BOATHOUSE PAVILION
- 5 EVENT PAVILION
- 6 MEADOW PLAY
- 7 INDUSTRIAL MEADOW
- 8 WARBLES WALK
- 9 MILL CREEK MEANDER
- 10 BUTTONBUSH BOARDWALK
- 11 EVENT CENTER
- 12 UPPER WAY
- 13 BUFFALO TRACE LAWN
- 14 RIVER WALK OVERLOOK
- 15 PADDLING ACCESS
- 16 OHIO RIVER GREENWAY
- 17 INFINITY LOOP
- 18 RIVER ART HOUSE
- 19 RESTROOMS

- ROAD
- UPPER WAY
- GREENWAY
- MULTI-USE
- PEDESTRIAN
- BOARDWALK
- ELEVATED WALK







THE LEVEE



# FLOODING





# Pollution & Ecological Challenges







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# origin PHASE 1 park

## SITE PLAN

- ① RIVER ARTS HOUSE
- ② RAVINE BRIDGE
- ③ EVENT CENTER
- ④ UPPER WAY LAWN
- ⑤ EVENT LAWN
- ⑥ EVENT PAVILION
- ⑦ MILL CREEK OVERLOOK
- ⑧ UPPER WAY
- ⑨ WARBLER WALK
- ⑩ BUTTONBUSH BOARDWALK
- ⑪ SEDGE MEADOW
- ⑫ SILVER CREEK PADDLING ACCESS

- ROAD
- UPPER WAY
- GREENWAY
- MULTI-USE
- PEDESTRIAN
- BOARDWALK
- ELEVATED WALK

0 200 400 800 FEET

### BLACKISTON MILL PADDLING ACCESS











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