

Heartland

CONSERVATION ALLIANCE

2015 Accomplishments

Conserving Natural Resources

- \$200,000 award from The Conservation Fund, Parks with a Purpose funding for park at 81st & Troost
- \$50,000 National Fish & Wildlife Foundation Five Star Restoration Grant to restore 10 acres at Municipal Farm
- \$55,000 Missouri Department of Conservation contract with Bridging the Gap to implement Upper Blue River Conservation Opportunity Area Action Plan
- Lead Urban Monarch Conservation Framework for Kansas City, tool under development by The Field Museum and US FWS to help guide urban Monarch conservation plans in cities across the Midwest
- “Save our Woods” campaign, advocated to save 44 acres of woods in Independence, MO
- Advocate best management practices for Paragon Star soccer development in Lee’s Summit, MO
- Support Indian Heights Homes Association to restore and protect 5 acres for habitat and open space
- Identify and prioritize 100+ vacant lots in Middle Blue watershed for future preservation and restoration
- Provide support and assistance to Ivanhoe Neighborhood Council to restore community rain garden

Connecting People to Nature

- \$3,500 subaward EPA Urban Waters grant to educate youth, Partner with Blue River Watershed Assoc.
- \$1,000 Boulevardia for education and outreach materials, Participated in 2-day event, 50,000 attended
- Renew National Parks Service Technical Assistance grant for creating community outreach tools
- Presented Middle Blue River Vacant Lots study to 35 via River Network national webinar, Partner with UMKC
- Hosted 2015 MLK Nature Walk for 100+ participants, Partners KCMO Parks+Rec, Blue River Watershed Assoc.
- Workday for 25 Rockhurst Univ. students on Finucane Day of Service, Partner KCMO Public Schools
- VISTA provided 7 education and outreach presentations at churches, schools, businesses; engaged 70
- Launched Green Guard, urban stewardship program, East High School pilot site
- Support creation of Blue River educational signage for KC Zoo, Partner with Black & Veatch
- Facebook Page, 300 followers (up from 200 in 2014)

Convening Our Community

- New Partnership Coordinator, Welcome Brianna Leiker!
- 35 Partners formerly join Alliance
- Convene partners for 30+ meetings
- Co-lead Middle Blue River Urban Waters Federal Partnership
- Co-lead Unified Messaging campaign, Renew the Blue
- \$165,000 EPA Urban Waters grant to MARC and HCA to serve as Ambassador for Federal Partnership
- Municipal Farm awarded Sustainable Cities Design Academy grant, Partners: Boys Grow, Vireo, KCMO
- Serving on Core Group for KC Native Plant Initiative
- Serving on Core Group for Fish & Wildlife Service Ecological Places in Cities (EPIC), regional landscape scale conservation for urban areas
- Serving as Co-Chair on Urban Neighborhood Initiative, Vibrant to Vacant Action Group
- Attended 30 + community meetings (Troost Alliance, Heartland Community Connection, neighborhood associations, Blue River Quarterly, Water Quality Education Committee, and more)
- Supported and participated in 10+ partner events (MO River Watershed Festival, Troost Festival, Project Blue River Rescue, and others)

Together, protecting places we love