
Conservancy for Cuyahoga Valley National Park

Cuyahoga Valley National Park Conceptual Study

Peninsula, Ohio



Once at risk of development, 213 acres of land along the Cuyahoga River is integrated into the property, programming, and conservation and engagement missions of a U.S. National Park.

SERVICES

Conservation Planning
Ecological Restoration

As ecological experts on a team led by Studio Zewde, Biohabitats helped the Conservancy for Cuyahoga Valley National Park (Conservancy) and the National Park Service create a master plan for a newly acquired park property—a 213-acre former golf course that was at risk of being developed.

To gain understanding of the site's cultural, historic, and ecological history and context, the planning team began by examining the site's evolution from its earliest human settlement by indigenous peoples to its most recent use as a golf course. During this phase, Biohabitats assessed and analyzed the site's vegetation, water resources, habitat conditions and communities, and invasive species threats. As a foundation for the planning effort, Biohabitats then developed an ecological overlay diagram to highlight conservation and restoration opportunities. During the development of the site conceptual plan, Biohabitats also provided feedback associated with ecological considerations.

Biohabitats also helped the planning team engage and garner input from the public and key stakeholders throughout the process. The final plan, which was informed by this input, as well as the Conservancy's pre-established vision for the site, will guide the creation of a space where arts, culture, and conservation thrive, and where river access is readily available.