

Trails and Parks Success Story: Terre Haute Former Lakeview Nursing Home/Maple Street Pond Park

Residents in the City of Terre Haute can anticipate the opening of the 16.36-acre Maple Street Pond Park, which will consist of a fishing pond, trail, and park. Redevelopment of the former Lakeview Nursing Home site is due, in part, to financial assistance from the Indiana Brownfields Program (Program)'s Trails and Parks Initiative (TPI) that was used to conduct environmental assessment activities, and the Program's issuance of a Site Status Letter in January of this year.

This 7-acre northern parcel located at 500 Maple Avenue in Terre Haute was a vacant property used as a former dump/burn area for household waste up until the early 1960's, a borrow pit in the mid 1960's, and finally a nursing home in the 1980's.

The former Lakeview Nursing Home was demolished several years ago, and in its place, the planned recreational facility will connect the Historic Collett Park Pathway, a major element of Terre Haute's greenway system, with Indiana State University, Union Hospital Health Group Campus, and Wabash Elementary School.

The current, ongoing focus of the Terre Haute Parks and Recreation Department Master Plan is "Going Green." Maple Street Pond Park will be a sustainable, low-maintenance recreational facility that would establish on-site accessible fishing, a parking lot, trail connectivity to the Historic Collett Park Pathway (an unpaved pathway planned to go around the lake), benches, and picnic shelters that would be constructed from recycled materials. The site is to be planted in native grasses/wildflowers to withstand periodic flooding, minimize mowing, and to promote sustainable maintenance practices.



Maple Street Pond Park (courtesy of Terre Haute Parks Master Plan)

The City of Terre Haute currently uses and plans to incorporate infrastructure re-use for water pollution prevention activities, native landscaping, innovative storm-water/best management practices, construction debris/fill reuse, and the restoration of native plants and grasses as much as possible.

As a trailhead facility for the Historic Collett Park Pathway, the site will become an extension component of the National Road Heritage Trail, a backbone of the City of Terre Haute Trails and Greenway System. The National Road Heritage Trail is recognized by the State of Indiana as a "priority visionary trail" intended to extend from the Indiana-Illinois border to the Indiana-Ohio border, thereby linking to other trail and park systems across the entire State of Indiana.

This Program-assisted project is part of the Terre Haute Parks Master Plan and will help the City continue its larger redevelopment/greenway efforts.