

# Expanding Lockeland Springs Park

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TRUST  
FOR  
PUBLIC  
LAND

East Nashville residents have partnered with The Trust for Public Land and TennGreen Land Conservancy to triple the size of Lockeland Springs Park, setting the stage for a more connected East Nashville and a park reflective of this community's character.

In March 2020, a tornado leveled Lockeland Springs Park. Pre-tornado, the park was a small forested oasis of spring-fed streams, frequented by families and school children learning about the ecology and history of this refuge. Renowned for its water quality by early Nashvillians, Lockeland Springs evoked the timeless importance of sheltered coves across generations.

Unfortunately, the COVID-19 pandemic swiftly followed the tornado that severely damaged the park and leveled neighboring homes. People turned to parks like never before—for a break from the stresses of a quickly changing world.

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With Lockeland Springs Park park closed indefinitely, East Nashville residents began to venture onto a privately owned five-acre lot adjacent to the park.

As the city recovered, the community embarked upon a massive volunteer effort to restore Lockeland Springs Park by planting trees and wildflowers. Soon, they faced a new challenge: the adjacent private land—which had become a natural extension of the park—was sold. The loss of this property to development would forever change the park, and it seemed hope was lost to expand Lockeland Springs.



Photo Credit: Erin Kice

Luckily, the buyers were motivated to publicly conserve the majority of the wooded land and streambeds forever, but time is of the essence to realize this key park land acquisition.

- The Trust for Public Land has an option to purchase 3.9 acres between Lockeland Springs Park and Shelby Park until December 8th.
- TennGreen Land Conservancy will hold a conservation easement on the property, ensuring the expanded park will be protected forever.
- Volunteers are fundraising \$1.6 million from public and private sources to acquire and protect this park property, with \$250,000 raised in the first two months
- The partners have the support of Metro Parks staff for public ownership of the property.
- Acquisition of this parcel opens opportunities for stream restoration from Lockeland Springs to Shelby Park.
- Tripling the size of Lockeland Springs Park expands educational access opportunities for schools in East Nashville and across the city.

**FOR MORE INFORMATION:**

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NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE

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## About The Trust for Public Land

The Trust for Public Land is committed to advancing equity, health, and climate resilience through nature in every community we serve. Since 1972, we have created more than 5,000 parks and green spaces, safeguarded more than 3.7 million acres, put a park within a 10-minute walk of home for more than 9 million people, and generated more than \$85 billion in public funding for parks, trails, and open spaces.

We know that great parks and green spaces can transform communities from the ground up: they improve public health, advance economic opportunities and learning outcomes, and connect people to nature and to each other. We see first-hand how well-designed parks are more than a place to play; they change people's lives.

## About TennGreen Land Conservancy

TennGreen Land Conservancy (formerly the Tennessee Parks & Greenways Foundation) is a 501(c)(3) environmental nonprofit and the oldest accredited statewide land conservancy in Tennessee. Through sound science and partnerships, TennGreen identifies and conserves land across Tennessee for wildlife corridors, critical habitat, and public benefit. TennGreen protects, cares for, and connects people with Tennessee's natural world by providing meaningful outdoor experiences, establishing conservation easements, supporting restoration efforts, and acquiring (or assisting in the acquisition of) privately-held land. To learn more, visit [tenngreen.org](http://tenngreen.org).