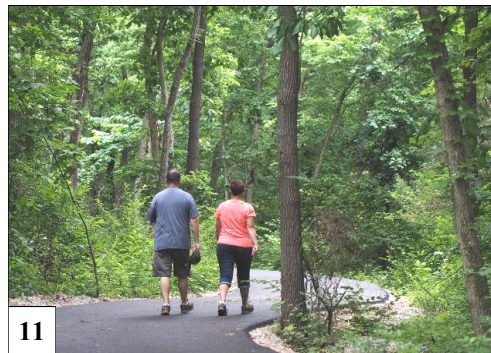


Wilson's Creek Greenway—Springfield, Missouri—In the beautiful Ozarks!



Wilson's Creek Greenway—Springfield, Missouri—In the beautiful Ozarks!

November 1, 2016

Photo montage key:

1. An all-women's club called the C.C. Riders (Cool Chicks) formed as a social group that tours the trail regularly.
2. Tal's Trailhead was made possible by a \$100,000 donation by the O'Reilly and Wooten Families in memory of Tal Wooten. Their family's support is a fantastic example of local business leaders getting involved in improving our community for all, and for generations to come. They get it. They see the investment pay-off in public benefits for the present and future.
3. Wilson's Creek Greenway is an oasis of woods and pastureland, right in the middle of Springfield—everyone loves it!
4. With the new trail connection, many more people can access the Springfield Botanical Center and Butterfly House from the trail.
5. The trail is a free public resource for people of all backgrounds and income levels.
6. Rutledge-Wilson Farm Park is a fantastic trailhead for Wilson's Creek Greenway, teaching the public about farming first-hand. Trail users get to travel right through the middle of an active pasture, with grazing cows all around them. In a historically farm-based community, where farms are disappearing to development, this trail helps educate the public about that culture.
7. Springfield's trails appeal to, and are supported by, a wide range of people with various political viewpoints. The trail's appeal reaches across the aisle. We are very proud of this, and it confirms how important these trails are to all of us. Pictured in the center is Roy Blunt, Republican Congressman for Missouri, at a very significant trail ribbon-cutting in Springfield in 2001, that now connects to Wilson's Creek Greenway.
8. Local mosaic artist, Christine Schilling, created a progressive mosaic in the trail's surface. The mosaic has a creek-theme and begins under the gazebo at Tal's Trailhead. More mosaic surprises unveil themselves along the trail, inspired by the natural Ozarks.
9. A modern steel bridge is inched into place to take trail users over beautiful Wilson's Creek.
10. Wilson's Creek Greenway now directly connects to popular 8-mile South Creek Greenway, shown here as runners cross the Kansas Expressway overpass.
11. This trail is loved by people of all ages, abilities and interests for walking, running, biking, wheelchair use and transportation.
12. Young people from the Missouri Division of Youth Services framed the concrete pad for the mosaic and assembled the gazebo at Tal's Trailhead. They learned many valuable skills in the process, and accomplished something they can come back to visit.
13. The Hazeltine family donated land to make Wilson's Creek Greenway a reality. They are honored with a sign thanking them.
14. The Greater Springfield Board of Realtors donated funding for 2 interpretive kiosks and 3 benches on the trail. One of the kiosks tells how our trails are good for the economy, and that home buyers are looking to live near trails.
15. A detailed view of one of Christine Schilling's mosaic elements that are sprinkled along the trail's surface at Tal's trailhead.
16. The clever "Zombie Enclosure" sign is a fun way to remind trail users to close this gate, and celebrate Halloween on the trail.
17. Users of Wilson's Creek Greenway can now experience this natural prairie demonstration, Golden Avenue Prairie, educating the public about the need for preserved natural areas within the developed city.
18. Hundreds of native species trees have been planted along the trail by volunteers.