Explore the Missouri Greenway:

Monarch Chesterfield Levee

Great Rivers Greenway



Grab a bite to eat or go shopping in between exploring this greenway. Explore the nature paths in the neighboring wetland or venture across the Missouri River on the Boone Bridge to the Katy Trail and the Busch Greenway.

SHORTER OPTION

Distance: 4.25 miles from Railroad Park to Baxter Road and back

Time: 2.5 hour walk/45 minute bike

MEDIUM OPTION

Distance: 7.5 miles from Chesterfield Athletic Complex Trailhead around River's Edge Park and back

Time: 4 hour walk/75 minute bike

LONGER OPTION

Distance: 15 miles from River's Edge Park Trailhead across Boone Bridge to Duckett Creek Trailhead and back

Time: 7.5 hour walk/2.5 hour bike



TRAIL SURFACE

Asphalt surface separated from the road. Katy Trail is crushed limestone.

RESTROOMS AND WATER

Restroom and drinking fountain available at Chesterfield Athletic Complex and St. Louis Premium Outlets.

GETTING THERE

Vehicle parking is available at the Railroad Park Trailhead (17634 Edison Ave., Chesterfield, MO 63005), River's Edge Park Trailhead (17017 North Outer 40 Road, Chesterfield, MO 63005), Chesterfield Athletic Complex Trailhead (17891 North Outer 40 Road, Chesterfield, MO 63005), and St. Louis Premium Outlets Trailhead (18575 Outlet Blvd., Chesterfield, MO 63005).

For more info, call Great Rivers Greenway at **314-436-7009**
or visit **www.GreatRiversGreenway.org**

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WHILE YOU'RE EXPLORING

- Launch a canoe or kayak from the boat ramp or fish from the dock at the lake in River's Edge Park
- Watch for migratory birds, bats, and other wildlife in the diverse habitats and ecosystems in River's Edge Park
- Grab a bite to eat at Chesterfield Outlets, St. Louis Premium Outlets, or in the Chesterfield Valley
- Cross over the Missouri River on the Boone Bridge and visit the Katy Trail and Busch Greenway

LEARN ABOUT THE AREA

What natural and manmade features make your community a suitable place to live? Natural and built features impact the past, present and future of the St. Louis region. This portion of the Missouri Greenway is built on top of the Monarch Chesterfield Levee. Engineering feats such as levees are an important feature in our region with direct impacts on daily life. The Monarch Chesterfield Levee protects 4,000 acres of land from the waters of the Missouri River.

Rivers are flooding more often. One cause is construction and paved surfaces in areas along rivers that have historically flooded during high rain events. Another cause is narrowing of the river basins with levees that push the water downstream instead of allowing it to spread out. After the Monarch Chesterfield Levee broke during the flood of 1993, the height and width of the levee was built up. Seepage berms (raised strips that slow down and reduce the force of water seeping under the levee), flood walls and gates, and high power pumps were added to further protect the development on the land side of the levee from the waters of the Missouri River.

Natural features such as the wetlands in River's Edge Park absorb floodwater along a river instead of pushing it downstream. A wetland is like a sponge. It can be filled with water some of the time or all of the time. When you use a sponge to soak up a spill and then slowly squeeze it out, you are mimicking the way a wetland stores floodwaters and then releases the water into the ground. By slowly releasing the water, the potential for damage by erosion is reduced. It also creates a deep "sponge" of water for plant roots to soak up during otherwise dry periods.

GREENWAYS CONNECT US ALL

Greenways are outdoor spaces connecting people and places. Each greenway is unique, reflecting the character of the communities it connects. Greenways can include **trails, conservation projects** such as rain gardens and restored prairies, **amenities** like restrooms and drinking fountains, and **connections** to businesses, neighborhoods, parks, schools, waterways and transit. There are over 125 miles of greenways throughout St. Louis City, St. Louis County and St. Charles County for you to explore and enjoy.