GROUNDWORK JACKSONVILLE

- Chartered in 2014
- 21 Groundwork Trusts
- Key Partners
  - City of Jacksonville
  - Groundwork USA
    - National Park Service
    - US Environmental Protection Agency
MISSION & PURPOSE

- Transform Jacksonville’s Urban Core
  - Creek Restoration
  - Trail Building
  - Community Building
  - Leadership/Stewardship/Workforce Development
PRESENTATION OUTLINE

- Emerald Trail Plan
- Neighborhood Demographics
- Social Justice Issue
- McCoys Creek Restoration Project
- Community Engagement/Partnership
EMERALD TRAIL SYSTEM

NEW TRAIL
PROGRAMMED CONNECTIONS
EXISTING TRAIL

EMERALD TRAIL

EMERALD TRAIL SYSTEM

NEW TRAIL
PROGRAMMED CONNECTIONS
EXISTING TRAIL

EMERALD TRAIL

EMERALD TRAIL SYSTEM

NEW TRAIL
PROGRAMMED CONNECTIONS
EXISTING TRAIL

EMERALD TRAIL
TRAIL BENEFITS

- Recreation
- Health & Wellbeing
- Economic Development
- Mobility
- Neighborhood Revitalization
- Social Connectivity
MCCOYS CREEK
NORTH RIVERSIDE/MIXON TOWN
NEIGHBORHOOD DEMOGRAPHICS

- 78% African American/Black
- $20,446 median household income
- 48.2% living below the poverty line
- 16.7% unemployment
- 61.9% renter occupied housing units
### HOUSING AND POPULATION

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>North Riverside Housing</th>
<th>1980</th>
<th>1990</th>
<th>2000</th>
<th>2017</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total Housing Units</td>
<td>1,971</td>
<td>1,787</td>
<td>1700</td>
<td>1,692</td>
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<tr>
<td>Homeowners</td>
<td>1,020</td>
<td>777</td>
<td>720</td>
<td>509</td>
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<tr>
<td>Renters</td>
<td>745</td>
<td>722</td>
<td>739</td>
<td>681</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vacant</td>
<td>206</td>
<td>288</td>
<td>241</td>
<td>502</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- 1980: 5,559
- 1990: 4,648
- 2000: 4,475
- 2018: 3,495
MCCOYS CREEK
AFTER NORMAL STORM
40 ACRE PARK – 1 PLAYGROUND
MCCOYS CREEK RESTORATION PROJECT

- Reduce Flooding
- Improve Water Quality
- Create Habitat for Fish & Wildlife
- Create Access
- Ecologically-sensitive Recreation
NEIGHBORHOOD PARTNERS

- Engagement
- Community Leadership/Stewardship Training
- Equity Plan Development
- Future Workforce
- Partners
NEIGHBORHOOD SURVEY

11. What do you like LEAST about your neighborhood?

12. Do you feel safe in your neighborhood? Yes No
   a. If you answered no, please explain why?

13. Do you have access to healthy and affordable food for you and your family?
   a. Yes No
   b. If no, please explain.

14. What is your neighborhood's greatest strength?

15. Where do people gather in your community?

16. Where do you get information about your neighborhood (i.e. friends, community bulletin boards)?

17. How do you contribute to the community?

18. What are your unique skills/talents?

19. What is your age? (check one)
   - Under 22 years old
   - 23-37 years old
   - 38-54 years old
   - 55-64 years old
   - 65-74 years old
   - 75 years or older

20. What outdoor activities do you enjoy in your neighborhood? (i.e. walking, biking, hiking)

21. What outdoor activities would you like to have in your neighborhood? (i.e. walking routes, tennis)

22. What activities would you like to have at McCoy's Creek?

23. What activities, if any, do you enjoy at McCoy's Creek today?
Groundwork Jacksonville invites you to...

MCCOYS CREEK FEST!

FOOD | MUSIC | FAMILY ENTERTAINMENT

Join us to learn more about our great Jacksonville resource McCoys Creek. Hear from local experts about the History, Ecology and Restoration of McCoys Creek. At the Festival, restoration alternatives will be presented by the McCoys Creek design team. We want to hear feedback from you!

SAVE THE DATE
Saturday, November 10th
11AM - 2PM
McCoys Creek Blvd between King and Stockton Streets.
For any question please call: 904-633-8117
WHAT WE HEARD...

- MULTIPLE FISHING OPPORTUNITIES THROUGHOUT CREEK
- PICNIC / GRILLING
- HABITAT
- SEATING AND SHADE
- PUBLIC RESTROOMS
- OUTDOOR LEARNING SPACE
- FITNESS STATIONS
- ACTIVE RECREATION - BASKETBALL, TENNIS
- COMMUNITY GARDENS
- PLAYGROUNDS FOR ALL AGES
- POLLINATOR GARDENS
WHAT ELSE WE HEARD

- Leadership
- Mentorship
- Improve Neighborhood
- Soft Skills
- Jobs
- Littering/Environmental Health
Community Restoration Environmental Stewardship Training (CREST)

During community engagement meetings, the residents of the McCoys Creek showed a strong interest in leadership, career and educational opportunities for youth and adults. In response to this feedback CREST was conceived and designed to help residents and other stakeholders of the community achieve some of their goals around personal and community growth. **This is a program for adults and youth who are at least 13 years old.** Think you may be a good candidate. Consider the following questions:

- Are you interested in being a leader in your community?
- Do you love North Riverside/Mixon Town?
- Are you interested in being a mentor?
- Would you like to have a mentor?
- Do you want to advocate for environmental justice?
- Are you interested in learning about environmental science?

If your answer is yes to any one of these questions, CREST is a program for you.

**What should you expect from the training?**

- CREST members meet two times per month on Saturdays. Sessions last 2 hours.
- There is once monthly interactive classroom time that provides information about McCoys Creek water, native plant, fish and animal life, air quality, leadership principles and advocacy.
- There is also once monthly outdoor activities such as bird watching, creek and community clean-ups.
- Three local field trips to areas of environmental conservation interest.
- The opportunity to speak with elected officials about your community concerns.
- Learn to use the shared information to help others in your community

**Other information of interest?**

- Six adult CREST members will have the opportunity to train and work as **PAID** Water Quality Technicians with the City of Jacksonville (COJ) Environmental Quality Division.
- Teen CREST members can receive volunteer credit needed for school.
- All CREST members will receive a small stipend for helping with McCoys Creek clean-up and maintenance activities.
CREST FOCUS GROUP

- St. Johns Riverkeeper
- Water Management District
- Zoo
- Audubon Society
- City of Jacksonville
- University of FL
CREST

- Multi-generational
- Classroom
- Field Trips
- Lead
- Training/Job
RESIDENT CONCERNS

- Displacement
- Home Repair
- Unemployment/Underemployment
- Safety-abandoned homes
- Lack of fresh fruits, vegetables and meat

50-year tradition
EQUITY PLANNING

- Residents are not displaced
- Reap benefits of our work
- Shared prosperity
- Resident ownership
- Partnerships
EQUITY PLANNING-THE PROCESS

- Engagement
- Training
- Steering Committee
- Resident/Stakeholder led vision
- Plan
- Partnerships/Ownership
NORTH RIVERSIDE VISION

- Economic Opportunity
- Housing
- History & Culture
- Environmental Stewardship
- Nutrition
- Youth
- Safety
EQUITY PLANNING-NEXT STEPS

- Develop the Plan
  - Housing is top concern
    - Home Repair Program
    - Affordable Housing
    - Homeownership

- Find the right Partners
  - LISC

- Implement the Plan
- Emerald Trail Stewards
CONNECT WITH US

- Visit our website groundworkjacksonville.org
- Host an Informational Event for Your Business/Group
- Follow/Share @GroundworkJax

Contact: Kay Ehas, CEO | 904.401.0453 | Kay@GroundworkJacksonville.org
Gloria McNair | 904.472.7167 | Gloria@GroundworkJacksonville.org

Groundwork Jacksonville, Inc., is the city’s nonprofit partner in building the Emerald Trail and restoring McCoys Creek and Hogans Creek. Groundwork was formed in 2014 as a partnership between the City, the US National Park Service, the US Environmental Protection Agency and Groundwork USA. Groundwork is one of only 21 Trusts across the country and the only Trust in Florida.