Open Space STL

Open Space STL™

Mission

Open Space STL™

Founded in 1965, the Open Space Council works independently and collaboratively to conserve and sustain land, water and other natural resources for the health and well-being of communities throughout the St. Louis region.

You probably know us best for…

Operation Clean Stream

A Project of The Open Space Council

But did you know….

Open Space STL identifies areas that can be acquired and set aside for public use, discouraging improper land use and detrimental development. We raise and provide funds for new open space projects, offering landowners, cities and counties an alternative to development.

Open Space STL™

Land Trust Program

- Public land acquisition support and private land conservation easements
- While we do projects within 100 mile radius of St. Louis, historically most of our projects have focused on lands in the Meramec watershed:
  - Castlewood State Park
  - Forest 44 Conservation Area
  - Myron and Sunny Glassberg Conservation Area
  - Forest River Trails park Sunset Hills
  - Young Conservation Area
  - Kviirwjiphiv$Gsyrx}$Tevo

Meramec Land Protection Program

Focus | To protect additional lands in the **Meramec River Watershed**

Values | *ecological, public use, viewsheds, water quality, land protection*

Goals -

Collaborate & Integrate | Overlay **values** into Municipal Plans

Partnership-Projects | Partner with others on outside-agency projects in the watershed; assist & support, i.e OS STL as agent for **Land Acquisitions** for other Landholders/Agencies; public lands, open spaces, etc

OS STL Projects | Identify properties in the watershed, i.e OS STL as **Conservation Easement holder;** Private Landowner & Church in Creve Coeur project

Meramec Land Protection Program

Joint Feasibility Study-Meramec River Basin Ecosystem Feasibility Study (USACE 2018)

Lower Meramec Watershed Plan (EWG 2017)

Meramec River Conservation Action Plan (The Nature Conservancy 2014)

Lower Meramec River Source Water Protection Strategy Exchange Report (Open Space Council 2009)

St. Louis County Meramec River Greenway Concept Plan (St. Louis Co. 2003)

TNC Lower Meramec Floodplain Tool

USACE Lower Meramec Multi-Jurisdictional Floodplain Management Plan

Open Space STL landowner relationships

Ways we can help

We can be a partner to city or county or other public land manager in many different ways

- ➔ Funding
- ➔ Landowner relations
- ➔ Less red tape; can hold land until a public land manager is ready to accept land donation
- ➔ Fulfilling funding conditions of other grantors
- ➔ Ongoing management of new public open space

Our primary goals in the watershed are preserving open space from development, stormwater and flood mitigation, floodplain protection, biodiversity and climate change resiliency, and to provide additional recreational opportunities.

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