Since 2001, Town Branch Trail, Inc., a 501(c)(3) nonprofit corporation, has been awarded local, state, and federal grants, and tax-deductible contributions. TBT, Inc. has committees meeting on a regular basis, an extensive website, and a periodic newsletter.

If you wish to make a tax-deductible contribution or have any questions please visit our website:

www.townbranch.org

or write to us at:
Town Branch Trail, Inc.
155 Constitution St.
Lexington, KY 40507

Town Branch flows 12 miles northwest of Lexington into the South Fork of the Elkhorn Creek. Town Branch is part of the Kentucky River Watershed. wildlife that have returned to their restored habitat. Follow interpretive signs that explain the natural history and ecology of the creek corridor. Town Branch Trail will help us all to restore Town Branch Creek. When the creek becomes a popular public asset, the pollution that has made the Town Branch one of the state’s most degraded waterways will no longer be tolerated. With everyone working together, we can restore the creek to better serve wildlife, water quality, and flood control.

**Recreation, Health and Alternative Transportation.**
- Envision a shady scenic trail where people of all ages can take in fresh air and exercise at their own pace. A pastoral greenway free of the hazards, noise, or pollution of automobile traffic. A pleasant route where commuters can enjoy their trip to work or school on foot or bicycle.

**History and Education.**
- Envision standing at the banks of a spring where settlers gathered during the American Revolution and named this frontier land for the Battle of Lexington. Admire National Historic Landmarks built by pioneer Kentuckians. Take a walk with your children and learn first hand about Lexington’s past. Dry-laid stone settlers’ houses (circa 1790), an old stone mill (circa 1820), an historic rail line (circa 1830), an historic farmstead (circa 1850), and a former bourbon distillery are all still present beside the creek. The trail will reconnect Lexingtontians with the rich and varied history that still remains along the banks of Town Branch.

**Environment and Education.**
- Envision yourself listening to the soft gurgle of Town Branch as it winds through healthy masses of native vegetation. Enjoy watching for birds and other native wildlife that have returned to their restored habitat.

**Community and Economic Development.**
- Envision shopping in a creek-side market filled with the goods of local artisans and farmers. Imagine dinner at an outdoor café beside restored dry-laid stone creek banks. Town Branch Trail will provide a scenic venue for shopping, dining and entertainment, fostering a more vibrant pedestrian tourism in Downtown Lexington. The trail will attract visitors and local citizens, providing a vital component in Lexington’s urban renaissance. The trail will help to transform urban industrial areas and older neighborhoods that have witnessed decades of decline. By investing in an attractive shared-use greenway trail, Lexington will provide the necessary catalyst for the reinvestment and redevelopment that much of the creek corridor needs.
Features along Town Branch Trail

- Masterston Station Park: Lexington’s largest park, once pastures for Kentucky’s first Methodist Church built in 1787. Rambling park offers equestrian facilities, dog run, soccer fields, bird nesting areas, and ample greenspace.
- Town Branch Greenway: Phase I and II of the trail have been planned, funded, and await construction. This initial two-mile segment runs from Bracktown and the entrance of Masterston Station to Lewis Manor and Alexandria Drive.
- Lewis Manor: Federal-style national register home built at the turn of the 19th century by Col. Thomas Lewis, a Revolutionary War veteran. Home is adjacent to historic spring that feeds Town Branch.
- Wolf Run Creek: As a tributary to Town Branch Creek, Wolf Run provides a potential link for a trail into the Cardinal Valley neighborhood.
- Veterans’ Hospital: Handsomely landscaped campus of state’s oldest hospital with medical buildings that have served the Bluegrass since 1931.
- Former City Landfill: This site is undergoing extensive environmental cleanup. Like Raven’s Run, it has the potential to provide vital reclaimed green spaces.
- Old Woolen Mill: Built circa 1820, this large stone mill is the oldest remaining industrial building along Town Branch. The mill later served as a jail and city work house. It is owned by the county government.
- Spring Hill Farm: National Register Greek Revival farmhouse and outbuildings circa 1850 encircling a rock house. It is owned by the county government.
- McConnell Springs: Site of the founding of Lexington in 1775, a recently dedicated city park with an engaging interpretive trail. The Blue Hole spring and mossy bar oaks afford a pleasant stroll through our unique karst topography.
- McConnell House: William and James McConnell, pioneer founders of Lexington, built two dry-laid stone houses circa 1790 along Town Branch Creek. These are among the oldest structures remaining in the Bluegrass.
- James E. Pepper Distillery: Home to “Old 1775.” One of the earliest sites for bourbon making in the Bluegrass pulled water from a neighboring spring. Large buildings used in bourbon making remain beside Town Branch Creek.
- Town Branch Creek: At this location the creek ‘daylights’ from underneath the Downtown. Despite a century of neglect, dry-laid stone creek banks that date back to Lexington’s early history still line the stream.
- Mary Todd Lincoln House: The childhood home of one of Lexington’s most famous citizens is now a beautifully restored house museum with a formal garden.
- Lexington Civic Center and Heritage Hall: A premier state venue for conventions, athletics, and entertainment. In Triangle Park a 300-foot long cascading fountain is a favorite gathering place on summer evenings.
- Old Courthouse and Cheapside Park: The Old Courthouse was built in 1855 on the site used for Fayette County Courthouses for 210 years. Cheapside Park has been the scene of a wide spectrum of community history from slave auctions, early schools, and markets to political speeches and public riots.
- Farmer’s Market: On Saturday morning throughout the growing season Lexingtongians can find the finest local and regional produce at this vibrant outdoor marketplace, site of former 1873 Lexington City Market House.
- New Courthouse Plaza and Phoenix Park: New public urban spaces stand in the midst of art galleries, theaters, restaurants, and a dramatic five-story Peabody Pavilion and Clock in the central library.
- Bank One Plaza and the Kentucky Theater: This Main Street park is a favorite outdoor spot for a picnic lunch from the various nearby restaurants. Across the street is Lexington’s historic Kentucky Theater, a 1922 ornate movie house restored as a favorite venue for live performances and movies.
- Thoroughbred Park: A linear fountain anchors elegant stone work and superbly rendered bronze sculptures of racing thoroughbreds. A rose garden awaits the winner.
- Charles Young Park and Goodlottown: Here the Trail will link to another of Lexington’s historic African-American settlements and to one of the city’s older neighborhoods, named after an African-American veteran of WWII.