

Town Branch Water Walk is a self-guided walking tour of Lexington's hidden water body, Town Branch. This interactive and educational experience of the hidden Town Branch reveals the river that runs beneath the city and demonstrates the impact of each resident on this waterway. The Water Walk highlights aspects of Lexington's history and future, to make the interrelations of ecology, geology, industry, stormwater, habitat, and history legible.

The podcasts are available online and can be experienced independently or in group expeditions. You can also walk the water walk as part of Town Branch Water Walk Events on September 20, October 11 and November 8, from 2:00 – 5:00 PM, on a dedicated bike and pedestrian path from Vine Street and Limestone to Charles Young Park. Visit townbranchwaterwalk.com to learn more.

The Town Branch Water Walk is a collaboration between designers, educators, nonprofit and corporate sponsors, and was developed through the LFUCG Stormwater Incentive Grant Program. Maps and podcasts were developed by landscape architecture students at the University of Kentucky in collaboration with SCAPE Landscape Architecture and MTWTF graphic design studio.

The Town Branch Water Walk was created by: SCAPE Landscape Architecture PLLC, MTWTF, the Lexington Downtown Development Authority, Peach Technology, and the University of Kentucky's Landscape Architecture Program in collaboration with Bluegrass Greensource, the Fayette Alliance, Town Branch Trail, Lord Aeck Sargent, Lexington-Fayette Urban County Government, Fayette County Cooperative Extension, Downtown Lexington Corporation, University of Kentucky's College of Design, and the YMCA.

brought to you by:



Walk, Ride, Explore • Sept 20, Oct 11, and Nov 8 • 2–5pm
Vine Street at Limestone to Charles Young Park

Town Branch Water Walk

A self-guided audio tour of downtown Lexington's hidden waterway
townbranchwaterwalk.com

in partnership with:



livableLEX

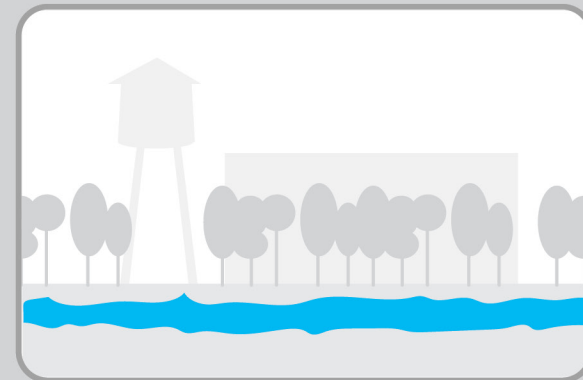
How to use the Town Branch Water Walk:



Download or stream audio episodes of the tour at townbranchwaterwalk.com



Listen to the episodes on your phone during the walk.



Enjoy the landscape of downtown Lexington!

Self-guided tour episodes:



HISTORY

Water Urbanism

All cities need water to grow, and Lexington is no exception. Though it is now hidden from view, Town Branch defined not only the location of the city, but also its industry.

Swept Under the Streets

An investigation into the rich history of the creek hidden beneath the streets of Lexington.



KARST GEOLOGY

Bluegrass Bedrock

What makes the Karst so special and how does it contribute to Kentucky's identity?

Trickling Predicaments

After locals describe the strange things that occur after heavy rains, the detective decides to get to the bottom of it all. What is a sinkhole and why do they happen?



ECOLOGY

Sounds of Kentucky

What plants and animals have found their home in Town Branch in the past? What can live there now?



WATER SYSTEMS

Not In My Backyard

Chris Clean has lived in Lexington his whole life, but has never known where his water comes from or where it goes.

Quality Control

LexNews reports on the different sources of water pollution throughout Lexington and investigates how agricultural, industrial, suburban and urban land uses affect local water.



GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE

Town Branch Commons

The Town Branch Commons is a part of Lexington's plan for a series of public spaces along Town Branch that feature water in different forms.

Green Infrastructure

Are there other ways to deal with stormwater besides pipes? How can green areas make a difference?

Town Branch Water Walk

Did you know there is a creek beneath the city? Lexington was founded on the banks of the Town Branch Fork of the Elkhorn River, which provided a source of freshwater for colonial settlers. As the city grew, Lexington's relationship with Town Branch changed, and the creek was buried below ground in two culverts. Use this map to guide you along the culvert lines (shown in white) as you tread over the city's underground stormwater system (represented by shades of blue), to investigate the history, ecology, geology and infrastructure that impact the city's hidden waterway.

