

Suttree Landing Park, Knoxville, Tennessee

Suttree Landing Park is an 8-acre, linear park along the south bank of the Tennessee River in Knoxville. The Suttree Landing property was previously home to a bulk oil storage facility, a textile dyeing operation, and an engine parts manufacturer from the 1940s until 2004. After 2004, the property was vacant and abandoned.

In 2009, The City received a \$400,000 Community-Wide Brownfield Assessment grant from the EPA. They used the funding to complete an environmental assessment for properties along the waterfront to examine environmental impacts. The City of Knoxville saw the property as an opportunity and negotiated a Brownfield Voluntary Agreement with the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation's Division of Remediation in 2010. The City of Knoxville worked closely with the Division of Remediation to make sure the property met the standards for safely turning the property into a park. As a result, they identified 12 properties along the waterfront with significant redevelopment potential to become part of the park.

After strategic planning and community engagement to establish a common vision, the City of Knoxville opened the park in 2016. The park contains a Riverwalk, two festival lawns, overlook areas with seating and picnic tables, an ADA-accessible children's playground, launch areas for kayaks and canoes, multi-use path for bicyclists and pedestrians, and parking. The project also contains an irrigation system that pumps water from the river and bio-swales to manage water run-off. In 2017, the project received a Governors Environmental Stewardship Award.



Before (left photo was taken in 2008) the property was previously home to a bulk oil storage facility, a textile dyeing operation, and an engine parts manufacturer. After revitalization, the property was transformed into an award-winning park (right photo was taken in 2018).