

Parks Starlight Park

Starlight Park is the result of a decades-long community-driven planning effort. The creation of this 25-acre park on previously inaccessible brownfield sites closes an important gap in the 25-mile Bronx River Greenway, reconnecting local communities to a restored waterfront with active and passive recreational features, including the state of the art Bronx River House. The New York State Department of Transportation (NYSDOT) created the park masterplan, and the New York City Departments of Parks and Recreation and Design and Construction completed the Bronx River House, which serves as the new headquarters for the park’s lead programming partner, the Bronx River Alliance. The park’s design and engineering consultants included NV5, WSP, Hardesty and Hanover. Kiss + Cathcart Architects and Starr Whitehouse designed the Bronx River House.



NV5

Starlight Park is 25-acre park extending from Westchester Avenue to East Tremont Avenue in the Bronx, New York.



NV5

- 1 Site Selection & Planning **15/32**
- 2 Public Access & Interaction **34/78**
- 3 Edge Resiliency **52/102**
- 4 Ecology & Habitat **56/66**
- 5 Materials & Resources **7/39**
- 6 Operations & Maintenance **18/20**
- 7 Innovation **15/20**

TOTAL 197/357
Certification is at +130 Points

- New pathways and foot bridges will provide access to the Bronx River from Soundview on the east side of this section of the river for the first time in over 25 years, as well as increasing overall greenway continuity.
- Habitat restoration efforts include the replacement of hardened shorelines with restored tidal wetlands as well as 1.75 acres of wildflowers; more than 3,500 shrubs; nearly 200 trees; and 2,000 groundcover and vine plantings.
- In conjunction with NYC Parks’ regional restoration and invasive species removal plan for the Bronx River, the park is undertaking a rigorous two-year, park-wide invasive species management plan.
- More than 60,000 square feet of rain gardens and an expansive 30,000 square foot retention basin have been planted, which will capture and filter 95% of the park’s runoff before it enters the Bronx River. The Bronx River House also provides 100% of its non-potable demand by capturing, storing, and treating stormwater runoff from its roof and hardscapes.
- Bronx River House’s design mitigates the urban heat island effect by reducing temperatures around the building by up to 50 F in the summer. The building envelope is clad with two layers of moss and vine-screens, which contribute to the cooler microclimate (and associated reduced load/operating costs) change colors with the season and provide habitat for birds and insects.