

LEGION PARK AND NORTHSIDE
PREPARATORY RIVEREDGE

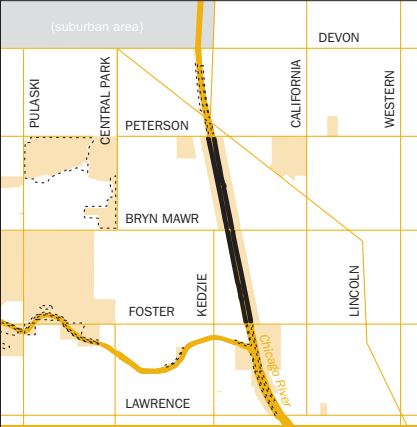
Taken together, the habitat restorations at Legion Park **1 2 3** and behind Northside Preparatory High School **4** are excellent examples of what can be accomplished with habitat restoration on the Chicago River.

At Legion Park, the steep river bank remains fenced off from public access. However, between Bryn Mawr and Peterson Avenues, along the top edge of the bank a matrix of native plants is starting to take hold. Black-eyed susans form dense blankets; they share the stage in mid-summer with lavender monarda and violet blazing stars.

Across the water on the west side of the river, there's a prairie and wetland restoration between Northside Prep. High School and the river.

Classrooms use the park and the river for educational projects. Behind the soccer field, stairs lead down to the river. The bottom step of a series of wide steps can be used as a spot for launching or taking out a canoe or kayak. Joe pye weed and purple coneflowers are among the showy native flowers bordering the steps; there are also non-native perennials planted along this area. The prairie was seeded in 2002.

Solar-powered lights illuminate the recreational path at Northside Prep.



Legion Park and Northside
Preparatory Riveredge



ADDRESS 5501 N Kedzie Ave
OWNER Metropolitan Water Reclamation District
ACREAGE 14.33

HABITATS
1 2 3 4 Riparian / Water Edge
5

DIRECTIONS For Legion Park, from Bryn Mawr go south on Virginia; park around Balmoral. For Northside Prep's river edge, turn into the parking lot for the high school immediately south of Balmoral.

