

**Project Name:** Hendrix Creek Preserve

**Project Location:** The Village at Hendrix, Conway, Arkansas

### **SITE TOUR - OUTLINE:**

#### **1. Purpose of the Project:**

- The restoration of the Hendrix Creek Preserve (HCP) has created an 18-acre multi-functional environment in the form of a conservation easement. The primary purpose of the HCP is to provide stormwater management to prevent flooding within a 500-acre watershed area in the City of Conway. Through selective plantings and controlled stream flows, water leaves the environment cleaner than when it enters. The Watershed also collects and retains storm events to recharge ground water.
- In addition, the HCP redirects and improves a pre-existing overburdened stream to create a natural public recreation area that is a cornerstone to The Village at Hendrix's sustainable community development. Southwestern Energy also benefits from the HCP as it teaches their employee's the value of ecological restoration and how the environment can be affected in a positive way. The series of trails and boardwalks that wind through the HCP provide a tranquil place for public recreation. The constructed wetlands in the watershed promote habitat for aquatic life, migratory birds and waterfowl. Additionally, the improved habitat functions as an outdoor classroom to encourage the study of the natural systems inherent in the HCP.

#### **2. Role of the Landscape Architect**

- The (HCP) was a collaborative project involving the landscape architect with the leadership of The Village at Hendrix, Southwestern Energy, environmental studies and biology faculty, environmental engineers, and the US Army Corps of Engineers. The landscape architect lead a design team that included stream and wetland delineation and mitigation reports, CORPS 404 permitting, HEC-RAS modeling, traffic engineering and structural engineering. The landscape architect was responsible for construction documents, bidding and negotiation, construction administration and project inspections.

#### **3. Significance**

- Prior to restoration; the creek was polluted, dysfunctional, and unable to accommodate the growing needs of Conway and The Village at Hendrix. While most water management issues were resolved by installing drain pipes in city streets; The Village wanted to create a natural, educational, and practical solution as it relates to stormwater management. The HCP was integrated into The Village as a recreational component; it also provides an educational component that creates a learning laboratory and an opportunity to be a national leader in outdoor creek reclamation.

#### **4. Special Factors**

- The HCP creates a natural environmental machine that handles with rainwater collection, cleansing, purification, and distribution. The Army Corps of Engineers; is representative of the governmental body to which the HCP is held accountable, permitted only native trees, shrubs, and herbaceous species that are currently adapting to the existing climate and micro-climate. These plant species were purchased within the same geographic region that they were planted. Additionally, turtles and fish now inhabit the creek, and the new wetlands serve as migratory resting points for waterfowl. The maintenance plan includes non-native species removal and re-population of native species as directed by the Landscape Architect.