

FLOW: Can You See the River?

FLOW: Can You See the River? is a project initiated by internationally recognized visual artist Mary Miss and commissioned by the Indianapolis Museum of Art for its Virginia B. Fairbanks Art & Nature Park. It is the first new work commissioned for the park since the park opened in 2010. **FLOW is being created in collaboration with EcoArts Connections and more than 20 Indianapolis arts, science, environmental, municipal and other organizations.**

FLOW is a precedent project of the City as Living Laboratory, co-developed by Mary Miss and Marda Kirn, as a framework to bring together the arts with other disciplines to make sustainability personal, visceral, and actionable.

Dates Exhibit Opening September 22, 2011
 Festival September 22 – October 1, 2011
 Installations, Raindrop, and Website September 2011 – August 2012

Locations Various locations throughout Indianapolis and points north

Collaborating Organizations

- Butler University Center for Urban Ecology
- Central Indiana Land Trust
- City of Indianapolis Office of Sustainability
- Eiteljorg Museum of American Indians and Western Art
- Empower Results
- Friends of the White River
- Hoosier Environmental Council
- IDNR- Indiana Project WET
- IUPUI Center for Earth and Environmental Science
- Indiana State Museum
- Indianapolis Art Center
- Indianapolis Museum of Art
- Indianapolis Zoo
- Indy Parks
- KI Eco-Center
- La Plaza
- Marian University
- The Nature Conservancy
- Riverside Civic League
- USGS
- White River State Park
- and other collaborators to be confirmed

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Project Components

1. **Art Installations** - created by visual artist **Mary Miss** at the IMA and along a six-mile stretch of the White River and the canal. Additional sites in the upper watershed of the White River will be marked virtually on the special *FLOW* website. These installations and markers will reveal important and unique elements of the White River water system – its history, ecology, and origins - engaging visitors and increasing awareness of the watershed and the role that it plays in the life of the city and its inhabitants.
2. **The *FLOW: White River Festival*** facilitated by EcoArts Connections with performances, exhibits, talks, tours, panels, and other activities presented throughout Indianapolis by more than 20 collaborating arts, science, environmental, municipal, and other organizations for people of all ages and walks of life.
3. **A Raindrop App** which is a “virtual awareness tool” that will allow smart phone users to trace a raindrop from its location anywhere in Marion County to see how water flows to the White River. Raindrop is being created through a collaborative team, led by Tim Carter, Director of the Butler University Center for Urban Ecology. Additional team members include the IMA, Williams Creek Consulting, Mary Miss Studio, and EcoArts Connections.
4. **The *FLOW Website*** that will include information about the history, ecology, origins, and other aspects of the White River, links to the Raindrop App, and information about *FLOW White River Festival* events and collaborator events as they relate to the River for three years or more.

Goals

- Expand public awareness of the White River watershed: what it is, how it functions, what it means to Indianapolis citizens environmentally, socially, and economically.
- Help each citizen to viscerally experience his or her actions – at home, at work, in school, at play – in direct relationship to the river upstream and downstream.
- Provide new ways for citizens to improve the health and sustainability of the City and their own lives through research, mapping, and linkages to existing resources.

- Inspire new learning and collaborations among individuals, institutes, and agencies through a wide variety of engaging events that can lay the foundation for future activities.
- Increase public awareness, audiences, and media attention for each collaborating organization and its goals and activities as they relate to the White River watershed.

Contact Information

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