

# City of South Euclid: Oakwood Green



- **Multi-Purpose Asphalt Trail**
- **Length:** One Mile
- **Cost:** \$400,000.00
- **Funding Sources:** Funded entirely by First Interstate Properties

County: Cuyahoga  
District 11



1. The 21-acre public greenspace features a multi-purpose asphalt trail
2. First Interstate Properties constructed the public greenspace and then donated it to the City of South Euclid, as part of the Development Agreement with the city which allowed for the construction of the adjacent Oakwood Commons Shopping Center
3. It features over a one mile looped trail with fitness stations throughout
4. Total Cost: \$400,000
5. First Interstate paid the entire construction cost and will make a \$12,000 annual payment to the city for on-going maintenance
6. The public greenspace represents an over 50% increase in the amount of parkland now available to the residents of South Euclid.
7. It also represents the first time in over 100 years the public has had access to the former Oakwood Country Club Property. The land has now been restored to its natural state.

## Project Contact Information

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## City of South Euclid: Oakwood Green



- **Amenities:** One mile looped trail with exercise stations
- **Connections to other non- project assets:** Adjacent to retail centers and residential neighborhood

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1. Oakwood Commons is the region's first sustainably built shopping center. All buildings constructed are required to be LEED-Certified. It is adjacent to Oakwood Green.
2. Oakwood Green is adjacent to the Cedar Center Neighborhood- the residential streets between Cedar Center and Oakwood. The Cedar Center Neighborhood is one of the neighborhoods targeted by the Green Neighborhoods Initiative, a Neighborhood Stabilization Program (NSP) funded project. The Cedar Center Neighborhood now features two community gardens and a pocket park. It is a short walk from Oakwood Green to the community gardens and the pocket park.
3. Oakwood Green is also near the new Cedar Center North Shopping Center which features a variety of national retailers and restaurants.

## City of South Euclid: Oakwood Green



- **Benefits to the Public:** access to the former Oakwood Country Club
- **Environmental enhancements:** Grounds restored to their natural setting
- **Social Equity:** Improves the surrounding neighborhood

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1. For the first time in over 100 years, residents have access to the former Oakwood Country Club.
2. The new Oakwood Green has been restored to its natural setting. Chemically-treated grassy areas have been replaced by meadows and native plantings, wetlands and streams have been restored.
3. Providing access to a passive park improves the desirability of the Cedar Center Neighborhood and the City as a whole.
4. The opening of Oakwood Green will continue the transformation of the Cedar Center Neighborhood. This neighborhood was severely impacted by the foreclosure crisis, but with significant investment from the city, is now on the road to recovery.
5. After obtaining grant funding from the federal Neighborhood Stabilization Program as a sub-grantee of Cuyahoga County, the City launched its Green Neighborhoods Initiative with the Cedar Center Neighborhood as the target.

6. Investment included complete green rehabilitation of five homes, construction of one new home, two community gardens, and a pocket park. Oakwood Green serves as another major rejuvenating factor for this neighborhood.
7. Oakwood Green also ensures many large native trees are preserved and the nearly 5.5 acre stormwater wetland offers educational opportunities.

## City of South Euclid: Oakwood Green



- Completed in September 2013
- A dedication ceremony held on May 5<sup>th</sup>
- Use by the community has increased since the dedication ceremony.

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Working with the developer, First Interstate Properties, the City had a large media presence at the May 5<sup>th</sup> Dedication Ceremony. The dedication ceremony increased awareness of Oakwood Green and the number of visitors to the park continues to increase. The dedication ceremony will also be heavily promoted on the City Website, through our social media platforms, and in our E-Newsletter.



# City of South Euclid: Oakwood Green



- Oakwood Green is just one of many examples of South Euclid's commitment to sustainability

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Photo #1: Stormwater Wetland Educational Sign at Oakwood Green

Photo #2: Green Neighborhoods Initiative Logo

- The setting: Suburban

- Project Champion: First Interstate Properties was very much aware of the Green Neighborhoods Initiative and South Euclid's commitment to sustainability. Thus, from their initial introduction of the project, they were committed to building a green retail center and creating a passive park for the city. The city negotiated with First Interstate to increase the amenities in Oakwood Green and receive an annual \$12,000 maintenance fee.

- Project Story: Planning for Oakwood Green began immediately after First Interstate's purchase of the former Oakwood Country Club in December 2010. Throughout 2011, the Oakwood Commons retail project received its necessary approvals from the boards and commissions, City Council, and the residents. Once Oakwood Commons was approved, the focus turned to Oakwood Green and community design sessions were held to ensure the passive park was created in such a way that residents would enjoy and utilize it. Oakwood Green was constructed

throughout 2012 and 2013, with completion in fall of 2013. It was officially dedicated on Monday May 5<sup>th</sup>.

- As mentioned above, Oakwood Green continues the City's commitment to sustainability and sustainable development. The City began this initiative in 2008, when the former Langerdale Retention Basin was converted into the Langerdale Urban Marsh. This was followed by the launch of the Green Neighborhoods Initiative in 2009, and continues with the development of Oakwood Commons and Oakwood Green.