

## Strides Forward

In 1994, Hedeen joined Mike Fremont and Robin Corathers to found the Mill Creek Restoration Project under the auspices of the conservation group Rivers Unlimited. To educate the public about the stream and its potential to benefit the community, the new organization began by publishing Hedeen's first book, The Mill Creek: An Unnatural History of an Urban Stream. Since its inception, the project has focused on the restoration of the Mill Creek and its banks, construction of streamside trails, transformation of derelict properties bordering the waterway, revitalization of Cincinnati's neighborhoods adjacent to the creek, and

environmental education. The project has worked with 40,000 students and recruited and trained over 1000 teachers, volunteers, and neighborhood residents. In 2011, the nonprofit changed its name from the Mill Creek Restoration Project to Groundwork Cincinnati/Mill Creek. In partnership with the National Park Service, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, and Groundwork USA, Groundwork Cincinnati/Mill Creek works with other Groundwork trusts in cities across the nation to engage inner-city residents in urban transformation.



