

Spring Creek Trail Public Art Tour



Vivarium Subterranium by **Carolyn Braaksma** is located at the underpass at Taft Hill Rd. It reveals what you would see if you could see through the large concrete retaining walls. Images of roots and fossils, in a large scale, create a visual, tactile environment with an educational theme. The railings mimic the organic imagery with large bronze stems and flowers appearing to grow from the wall. The names of the creatures and plants are sandblasted into the wall at the entrance to the underpass.

The public art site located south of the Drake Road Bridge is used as part of the City's Utilities Education Program.

The *Water Cycle Wall* (top right) by **Janet Austin** illustrates the water cycle, the connections between water and other living things. The wall is constructed of cast relief concrete with colorful mosaic tiles. Hand-made ceramic tile and bronze elements use imagery created by local youth interpreted by the artist.



Water Washes the Earth (left) by **Joe McGrane** illustrates stormwater management. A tile-mosaic form flows over a retaining wall and functions as a basin to collect water from mist towers above. Once captured in this "watershed," water washes into a carved stone basin, flowing into an area of native grasses. Visitors can activate the mist by pushing a button in the retaining wall.

Joe McGrane also created interpretive signs (bottom right) about the City Utilities' goals for the watershed and the evolution of the creek's form.



Season Cycle (right) by **Ren Burke** is a mural in the Walk and Wheel Skills Hub located south of Rolland Moore Park near the Ross Natural Area in the north parking lot at Drake Rd. and Dunbar Ave. The Hub is a community bicycling and walking skills course designed to help people of all ages feel comfortable navigating Fort Collins. Ren's mural serves as a practice roundabout.



Allie Ogg painted three neighboring transformer cabinet murals titled *Slither*, *Slow Snail*, and *Squirrel Jump* (left). They can be found just south of trail on Bay Rd.



Raindrops (left) by **Mark Lechliter** is a flood marker located in Creekside Park just west of College Ave. The sculpture consists of a monolithic column with five flood event level indicators. The highest level indicates the height of the flood waters during the Spring Creek Flood in 1997.

Human Spirit (top right) by **Jack Kreutzer**, also in Creekside Park, was created to honor the victims of the Spring Creek Flood that struck Fort Collins in 1997. The bronze sculpture recognizes the many rescuers who risked their lives and the community members who selflessly worked side by side to help those in need.



Formliners created by **Barb McKee** for water detention structures in the Red Fox Meadows Natural Area were reused on the cement wall (bottom right) adjacent to the railroad tracks at the west end of Creekside Park. The formliners were created from hand carved panels of clay and feature patterns of water and wetland plants. The existing molds were used to create the relief walls onsite.



Carolyn Braaksma designed artwork for the wall next to the trail beneath the Riverside Bridge, which crosses Spring Creek near Edora Pool and Ice Center. The wall surface is textured and patterned with stripes and spots to represent water and the different fish and animals relevant to the creek near the bridge. The graphic designs of the animals are inspired by the sports and games played in the nearby fields. The chub minnows have a basketball net pattern on their bodies. Sunfish scales look like soccer ball patterns.

For more information, fcgov.com/artspublic

