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CSP

Tennessee Aquarium
Chattanooga, Tennessee



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This major public Aquarium at the edge of the Tennessee River in downtown Chattanooga focuses on the ecology and biological diversity of the Tennessee River from its origins in the Appalachian Mountains to its outlet in the Mississippi Delta of Louisiana. The exhibits are organized as a linear progression from the headwaters of the River to the bayous of the Delta, seen in terrestrial habitats under skylights, to the underwater realms of the central Tennessee, seen from dark interior spaces. This was the first major Aquarium to focus on the habitats and life of America's inland waters. The Aquarium was conceived and designed to be a catalyst of downtown waterfront redevelopment, reconnecting the city to its river. The principals of CSP were responsible for programming, site selection and all design services.