Rivers in China are as diverse as the culture of China itself. In Xinyang, China, the City’s primary river corridor (Xinyang Suo River) has transformed to the point that its origins as a natural system are no longer apparent. SWA was retained by City of Xinyang and a large Chinese developer to create a master plan vision that could explore viable ecological and development opportunities along the river corridor’s 36km length. Current strategies seek to heighten the existing uses of the river (fish ponds, wetlands, agriculture) while incorporating a natural systems approach to ecology and a recreation-based program of passive and active uses for residents, tourists and visitors.