

Install More Infiltration Trenches in the Neighborhoods of Upper Crabby Creek
Growing Greener 2 DEP Contract C990002506
Valley Forge Chapter of Trout Unlimited

Project Description Valley Forge Chapter of Trout Unlimited (VFTU) has completed, in partnership with Tredyffrin Township and the Valley Creek Restoration Partnership, its six-year effort to fund, design, and install four stormwater capture and infiltration systems in the Crabby Creek Watershed of Valley Creek. A total of four underground collection and infiltration systems were installed in the Williams, Beechwood, and Laurel Lane neighborhoods in Tredyffrin Township during the fall of 2024. Valley Creek, an Exceptional Value, Class A Wild Brown Trout Fishery, has been the focus of restoration efforts by VFTU for over 20 years.

Project Goals The project will capture and infiltrate runoff from 24.4 acres of land, reducing flooding to properties and streets, lessening downstream streambank erosion, and slowing the further degradation of trout habitat in Crabby and Valley Creeks. It is the goal of VFTU to improve the habitat for wild trout downstream, and well as to make sufficient improvements to ultimately support the reintroduction of native brook trout in the upstream section of Crabby Creek. Native brook trout were documented to have existed in the Upper Crabby Creek as late as 1996.

Project Results The four infiltration beds, 18 additional (“green” inlets), and temporary underground storage of the Williams, Beechwood, and Laurel systems have already measurably reduced the volume of stormwater runoff reaching Crabby Creek. This was evidenced by the ability to remove of flood protection berms and barriers previously required at the most heavily impacted downstream property. Sediment reduction from the regular cleanout of six sediment traps is estimated at 4 tons per year. These four systems complement the impact from four other stormwater infiltration projects previously installed in the Crabby Creek watershed by the Partnership and VFTU.

Project Costs Total project design and construction: \$809,847; \$256,300 grant from Growing Greener

Partners Funding was obtained by the Partnership from Growing Greener 2, the Tredyffrin Township Stormwater Fund, PA Department of Community and Economic Development, ARPA funding through Chester County, the Valley Creek Trustee Council, and the Marshall Reynolds Foundation.

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(1) Streambank erosion as the Oak Lane tributary enters Crabby Creek, (2) Infiltration crate installation in one of the two Beechwood Lane infiltration beds, (3) Three of the eight additional inlets installed leading to the two Beechwood Lane infiltration beds, and large junction boxes, flanking the original stormwater drain infrastructure, with new curbing and lawn reseeding.