

Mill Creek & Fourmile Run Stream Improvement Project

Document Number: C990003002

Loyalhanna Watershed Association, Inc.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION Some areas of Mill Creek and Fourmile Run are impacted by severe bank erosion, lack of flow and fish habitat. This project enabled the Loyalhanna Watershed Association and partners to rehabilitate and enhance the streambanks by installing natural looking log and rock structures which are incorporated into existing bank problem areas to provide future protection from heavy water events and ice and increase the stream flow and improve aquatic life. Project timeframe: June 2022-December 2024. This streambank restoration project was comprised of four sites over the past three years.

PROJECT GOALS To protect and stabilize the streambank and restore in-stream habitat along Mill Creek and Fourmile Run by installing necessary in-stream habitat and bank restoration structures.

PROJECT RESULTS This project consists of 2,940 feet of in-stream bank protection devices constructed. A total of 88 BMP devices were installed during this project to protect and restore the streambanks and enhance aquatic life. It is estimated that approximately 132.3 tons of sediment will be prevented from entering Mill Creek and Fourmile Run as a result of this project. This figure is based off of 2,940 linear feet of streambank protected, with an average sediment load of 90 lb/cubic feet.

BEFORE



AFTER



PROJECT COSTS Growing Greener Grant amount: \$233,000. Non-point source, restoration and protection.

LESSONS LEARNED The importance of working with experienced partners ensures that the job will get done well and when a process needs adjusting they are willing and capable to make it right. Ensure that all access points are accessible for equipment and materials, landowners understand all aspects and expectations of the project and begin permit process as early as possible to avoid last minute adjustments that could delay the start date.

PARTNERS Loyalhanna Watershed Association, PA Fish & Boat Commission, Western PA Conservancy, Westmoreland Conservation District, John Hardiman Excavating.

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