

**Swatara Creek Floodplain Restoration Phase 1 Construction Project Final Report
Document #4100080470**

1. Project Description

The Swatara Creek Floodplain Restoration Phase 1 Construction Grant project sites were in the Northern Swatara Creek Watershed (NSCW) within and upstream of Pine Grove Borough (Pine Grove), Schuylkill County, PA. Resource extraction, development and agriculture have significantly changed NSCW's landscape characteristics resulting in deforestation, destruction of wetlands, and loss of floodplains. As a result of these watershed wide changes, the NSCW is prone to flooding and impacted by nutrient and sediment pollution. Since 2004, Pine Grove has experienced over 10 major flood events which have severely impacted businesses and residents. The Swatara Creek Floodplain Restoration Phase 1, Swatara Creek Floodplain Restoration Phase 1, North End Streambank Stabilization and Upper Little Swatara Creek Floodplain Restoration – Wolfes Road Projects (Swatara Floodplain Projects) were implemented under this Grant. The Swatara Floodplain Projects lessened flooding impacts to Pine Grove and communities downstream and reduced nonpoint source pollution leading to improved water quality in the NSCW and ultimately the Chesapeake Bay.

2. Project Goals

Reduce flood impacts while reducing nonpoint source pollution in the Swatara Creek Watershed through environmental restoration projects such as floodplain restoration, streambank stabilization, wetland creation, etc.

3. Project Results

Restored 20.9 acres of floodplain, created 8.1 acres of wetlands, and stabilized 8,139 linear feet of streambank.

4. Picture – View of the upstream section of Phase 1 flooding on September 1, 2021



5. Project Costs

Growing Greener Grant: \$2,991,000.00; Total Project Match Cash (County of Schuylkill's DCED CDBG-DR Grant) & In-kind: \$2,550,317.52

6. Lessons Learned

A solution to a complex and challenging problem can be developed when a group of determined partners work together utilizing their individual skills/talents in a coordinated unwavering effort. Flood mitigation and nonpoint source pollution reduction projects can be successfully implemented when utilizing environmental best management practices.

7. Project Partners

Schuylkill Conservation District, Northern Swatara Creek Watershed Association, PA DEP, PA DCED, County of Schuylkill, Pine Grove Joint Treatment Authority, Guilford Performance Textiles by Lear, Pine Grove Borough, Roots Farm Inc, Philip Riehl

8. Contact Information

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