

Summary Project Description
Growing Greener Grant Document Number C990000670
Project Title: Pickering Creek Headwaters Restoration
Grantee: Natural Lands Trust

Project completed December 2021

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: Pickering Creek is a HQ-TSF, MF stream that serves as a public drinking water source for several southeast Pennsylvania communities, including Philadelphia. Five headwater streams to Pickering Creek are located within Natural Lands' Bryn Coed Preserve. The objective of this project was to protect and enhance the water quality of Pickering Creek, particularly by addressing agricultural runoff, impervious surface runoff, and thermal pollution. To address these issues, this project was to establish riparian buffer, create wetlands, daylight a buried stream, and remove dilapidated buildings and asphalt to reduce impervious surface.

PROJECT GOALS: Reduce agricultural pollution, decrease stormwater runoff, and eliminate thermal pollution issues

PROJECT RESULTS

1. Planted 12,500 trees to create 64 acres of riparian buffer
2. Restored a source spring by removing a half-acre pond and created a 1-acre wetland
3. Daylighted 300 linear feet of stream and restored stream banks with plantings
4. Removed 52,000 sq. ft. of impervious surface



Left: Restored stream channel

Right: Created wetland



LESSONS LEARNED: Have soil tested before the start of excavation to assess for contaminants and possible remediation costs.

PROJECT COSTS: \$568,990 (GG grant value: \$240,650)

PARTNERS: Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, Bureau of Recreation and Conservation Community Conservation Partnerships Program

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