

DEP Growing Greener Grant **Final Report**

Grantee: East Earl Township
Project Title: East Earl Township Bioswale Design and Construction
Document Number: C990000742

Final Report Prepared 11/1/2023

The project consisted of design and installation of a bioswale to reduce erosion and sedimentation into a tributary of the Conestoga Creek.

Only approximately 60% of the project was completed on one side of Witmer Road as the second property owner would not sign off on easement for construction.

While we had hoped for both owners' approval the completion of the one segment that was completed was a success. In addition, this successful implementation project has stimulated several other significant projects within East Earl Township. Those projects include a bioswale installation, basin retrofit and stream bank restoration in the Cedar Creek Catchment Area.

The single most challenge/problem was getting the second property owners' approval, however, moving forward on the one bioswale and its successful completion provided community and elected officials to move forward on additional significant projects within the Township.

The completion of this project reduced the sedimentation and runoff to the tributary reducing loading downstream.

The spending was less than the grant approval because of the withdrawal of the one property owner.

This project, while relatively small, is a perfect example of a first time storm water reduction/pollution control project. By taking this small project and ultimately only a portion of the original goal and successfully completing the work, it gave the Township confidence in the ability to do this work. This catalyst project gave the Township staff and elected officials the confidence to move forward on additional projects such as:

1. Martin Street swale and basin retrofit (completed by Township staff)
2. Grant approval to design and construct a basin retrofit at Shady Maple (design complete bid 1/1/2024)
3. Grant approval for design and construction on Martin Farm Bioswale (under construction completion 11/15/2023)
4. Grant approval to design stream restoration project of 322 properties/Martin (pending grant approval)

This small project led to the above projects with far reaching sediment and pollution reduction projects.

Maintenance of Bioswale

As part of the easement agreement, East Earl Township requires/allows the Township to do twice annual mowing and the Township has included this in their regular inspection protocols prior to and following major storm events. In addition, this is part of the Townships annual MS4 inspection program.