Accomplishing WIP Goals in the Pequea Creek Watershed

Growing Greener Contract Number: C990000684

Lancaster County Conservation District

Project Description:

The Pequea Creek (Stoltzfus Stream Restoration Project) and Big Beaver Creek (Esh-Lapp Stream Restoration Project) were targeted for two stream restoration projects due to eroded banks contributing sediment and nutrients to the stream, unrestricted livestock access, and a lack of riparian and in-stream habitat. The project was for design, permitting, and construction of these two projects including in-stream habitat and bank stabilization structures, 35' average width riparian buffer, streambank fencing, and stream crossings. The project also included time for outreach and project coordination in the Pequea Watershed by the Assistant Watershed Specialist. Projects were installed in 2020 (Stoltzfus) and 2023 (Esh-Lapp) and outreach was done from 2019-2023.

Project Goals:

The project aimed to expedite the implementation of the Pequea WIP by completing two stream projects that reduce N, P, and sediment loads to the Chesapeake Bay. It also aimed to coordinate future projects in the Pequea WIP and expedite the implementation of BMPs that clean up Pequea Creek.

Project Results:

Both projects restored about a mile of stream (5,151 linear feet), established 1.78 miles of streambank fencing (9,416'), planted 7.3 acres of riparian buffer, and installed various in-stream habitat and bank stabilization structures including 4 stream crossings. As well, the Assistant was able to permit and oversee construction for both projects, oversee and permit two projects funded by a CAP grant, and conduct site visits for nine potential restoration projects in the Pequea watershed.

Stoltzfus Stream Restoration Photos:





Partners:

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Unique Excavating, Partners for Fish & Wildlife, Constellation Energy (formerly Exelon), Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay, Foundation for California University of PA

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