

Little Bushkill Creek Restoration Project
Growing Greener Plus Grant Program – Project # C990002569
Plainfield Township

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: The Little Bushkill Creek and its tributaries had become degraded by erosion and sediment pollution as they run through Plainfield Township, Northampton County. In partnership with Wildlands Conservancy, Plainfield Township completed stream restoration at four sites in order to implement our Pollutant Reduction Plan as part of the MS4 process. Stream restoration was completed in 2021 and 2023 to stabilize eroding streambanks, install instream habitat and grade control structures to prevent future erosion, and seed and plant newly graded streambanks.

PROJECT GOALS: Preventing collapse of severely eroded and undercut streambanks, improving water quality, preventing continued sedimentation of downstream areas, increasing floodplain storage capacity, restoring wildlife habitat

PROJECT RESULTS: The project resulted in the stabilization and restoration of 1,601 linear feet of degraded stream and banks in the Little Bushkill watershed. Stabilizing these areas will also remove 32 tons of sediment per year from washing downstream and blanketing vital streambed substrates.



Before photo on left shows the severely eroded and undercut streambanks typical of the project areas along with sediment deposition. After photo on right shows the installed instream habitat structures and newly graded streambanks.

PROJECT COSTS: \$361,586 in state funding, county funding, and local match

LESSONS LEARNED: Don't automatically accept the first offer – rebidding the construction portion of the project in 2023 allowed us to save a significant amount of money from 2022's high bids received.

PARTNERS: Wildlands Conservancy, Waste Management; ARM Group provided designs/engineering and Flyway Excavating completed stream restoration

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