

## Forest Drive Step Pool Conveyance System (SPCS)

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### ■ Problem:

Three destabilized culverts near the busy intersection at Hilltop Lane and Forest Drive in Annapolis were causing channel erosion and impaired water quality in Spa Creek, which drains to the Severn River. Additionally, the waters around Truxton Park, a public water access point used predominantly by residents in nearby lower-income neighborhoods, had become dangerously polluted.

### ■ Solution:

Using proceeds from its Watershed Protection and Restoration Program, Anne Arundel County installed a step pool storm conveyance system (SPSC) in the problem area. This system slows and stabilizes the water stream as it transitions from higher to lower areas. The step pools absorb pollutants and prevent sediments from entering Spa Creek, resulting in improved water quality.



Before Flooding and Scouring



After Step Pool Conveyance System

Photo Source Credit: Anne Arundel County.

### Key Project Facts

**Type of Project:** Stream restoration, SPCS

**Scale:** 500 linear feet addressing 41 acres of drainage

**Water Treatment:**

- 37.5lbs per year of nitrogen removed
- 34 lbs of phosphorous removed
- 64 TONS per year of sediment withheld from the Severn River

**Funding:** Anne Arundel County's Watershed Protection and Restoration Program fees

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**More Information:** <https://goo.gl/Zncshl>

## What is Polluted Runoff?

The growth of our cities has resulted in too many paved surfaces, which prevent rain water from being absorbed by the ground. Instead, the water runs off streets and buildings, collecting trash and dangerous chemicals on its way. This contaminated water overflows into our streams and rivers, creating public health hazards and toxic waters.

Stormwater projects create safe paths for polluted runoff to be captured and filtered before it reaches our waterways. They keep communities healthy and the environment clean.

When communities and their local governments work together to solve big problems like storm water runoff, that's a story worth telling!