

Tri-State Marine Wetland Creation

<https://mostcenter.umd.edu/casestories>

Problem:

The Tri-State Marine (TSM) property, a full-service marine business, featured a large, unsightly gravel lot used to store boats and trailers. TSM's former owners, Tom & Mary Beth Magenau, believed a company relying on a clean, healthy Chesapeake Bay should contribute to projects that help prevent polluted runoff.

Solution:

TSM and the Arundel Rivers Federation transformed the barren gravel lot into a beautiful wetland. The project includes landscaping that captures pollution and debris and a pond ringed by native trees and plants that manages stormwater and prevents flooding. Each feature cleans polluted runoff and improves water quality, reduces stormwater peak flow rates, and recharges groundwater. The wetland also traps sediment. The site has exploded with a diverse array of wildlife and is home to frogs, dragonflies, pollinators, ducks, fish, and blue herons.

The project installed over 1,000 trees and plants to create a functional, diverse wetland system that provides habitat and water quality benefits to the Chesapeake Bay. This project is the first public-private partnership for stormwater work in southern Anne Arundel County. It also stands out because of the landowner-led effort to treat stormwater while prioritizing habitat on a large scale.



Before: Gravel lot



After: Wetland

Photo Credit: Arundel Rivers Federation



The project also won 3rd in the 2019 BUBBAs for Best Habitat Creation.

Key Project Facts

Project Location: Deale, MD

Type of Project: Wetland

Scale: 60,625 sq. ft. of wetland created; over 1,000 native plants installed

Cost: \$450,000

Funding Sources: Chesapeake Bay Trust; Anne Arundel County's Watershed Protection and Restoration Program; MD Department of Natural Resources; Tri-State Marine

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More info:

TSM project page: buff.ly/2MxL4ZV
Arundel Rivers Page: buff.ly/2yAOhiZ
BUBBA Award Page: buff.ly/2TuvVdd

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. It keeps communities healthy and the environment clean.

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