

Mill Creek Tributary Step Pool Conveyance System

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■ Problem:

A 600-foot tributary to Mill Creek had become severely eroded and was starting to undermine the integrity of structures in the surrounding area. The degraded tributary was damaging property values, endangering community assets, and contributing polluted waters to the Magothy River.

■ Solution:

Using proceeds from its Watershed Protection and Restoration Program, Anne Arundel County installed a Regenerative Step Pool Storm Conveyance System (SPSC) to stabilize channel conditions and protect the homes of adjacent landowners. The system reconnected the stream to its floodplain and enhanced the nutrient uptake of the stream and wetland system.



Prior to installation, stream was extremely eroded and threatening surrounding area.



The completed project restored the stream and surrounding environment

Photo Credit: AA County Watershed Protection & Education Dept

Key Project Facts

Type of Project: Stream Restoration, SPSC

Scale: 600 linear feet treating runoff from 18.2 acres

Pollutants Removed: 27.5 lbs/yr nitrogen, 34 lbs/yr phosphorous, 62 tons/yr sediment

Cost: \$217,000

Funding Sources: Anne Arundel County's Watershed Protection and Restoration Program, MD Department of Natural Resources

Contact: Robb Fish, WPRP Anne Arundel County, (410) 222-4241, pfish26@aacounty.org

More Information: <https://goo.gl/RINzDg>

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 stormwater runoff, that's a story worth telling!