ChooseCleanWater COALITION
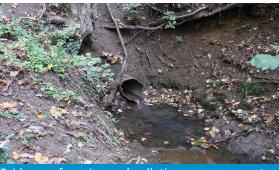
Old Bay Ridge Drive, Cat Hole Creek

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Problem:

In Annapolis' Bay Ridge neighborhood, a culvert at Cat Hole Creek had become overwhelmed by the volume of stormwater flowing from surrounding areas during rain events. Excess water had eroded the hillside near the culvert and caused sinkholes to form, making the area unsafe for Bay Ridge residents who had enjoyed swimming in the Creek.

Solution:

Bay Ridge residents took action to restore the Cat Hole Creek culvert area, by writing letters to Annapolis City Council members. In response, Anne Arundel County removed the underperforming culvert, filled the dangerous sinkholes, and installed a Step Pool Storm Conveyance System (SPCS) to manage and treat stormwater. County stormwater fee proceeds made this project possible. Positive outcomes include a safe place for neighborhood children to swim and play, improved aesthetics, and reduced pollutants entering the creek.

Evidence of erosion and pollution were apparent.
Photo Credit: Anne Arundel County

A new SPCS solved the problem using County stormwater fees. Photo Credit: Anne Arundel Co

Key Project Facts

Location: Annapolis, MD

Project Type: Step Pool Storm Conveyance System (SPCS)

Cost: $372,000

Scale: 75 linear feet treating runoff from 127 acres

Funding Sources: Anne Arundel County Stormwater Fees

Contact: Dennis McMonigle
E-mail: pwmcmo@aacounty.org

More info: https://goo.gl/TjMCFc

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!