

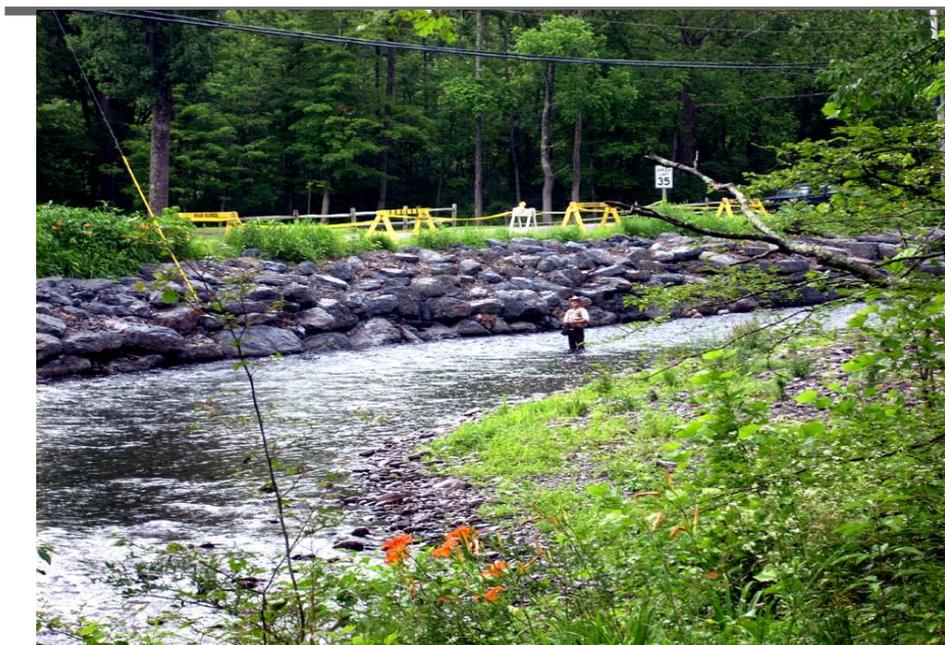
Lehigh Valley Greenways Conservation Landscape **SUCCESS STORY**

By: Bushkill Township
Bushkilltownship.org
Brian Harris, Township
Manager

West Douglassville "Penny Hole" Streambank and Riparian Buffer Restoration (2011)

SUMMARY

This project involved restoration of the Bushkill Creek streambank and riparian buffer. A popular area for fishing, hiking and biking (known locally as the "Penny Hole"), the restoration of a riparian buffer resulted in beneficial environmental impacts as well as improving the aesthetic value of the Creek. By removing existing gabion baskets and installing flow deflectors, stabilizing the streambank allowed the riparian buffer to reestablish itself to assist in recuperating the health of Bushkill Creek.



CHALLENGE

Bushkill Creek had been targeted for restoration for many years, but lacked the necessary funding to complete an improvement project. Erosion along the stream had developed due to past roadway and land development within the Township. Existing practices of streambed stabilization had resulted in decreased water quality, as well as a threat to nearby West Douglassville Road. Existing, deteriorating methods of streambed stabilization such as gabion baskets required removal to alleviate the threat to the environment and safety.

FUNDING

Grant Award:
\$11,160

Match:
\$11,160

Total Project Cost:
\$22,320

PARTNERSHIP IS KEY

**Bushkill Township
Environmental Advisory
Council**



SOLUTION

All existing gabion baskets were removed and the streambank was stabilized using a combination of structural and bioengineering techniques. Flow deflectors were installed in the stream channel and the earthen portion of the streambank was fortified.

RESULTS

This solution allowed for improved water quality in the Bushkill Creek, mitigated the migration threat, and allowed the riparian buffer to be reestablished. It also serves to protect an important recreational experience while improving the overall health of the watershed.

Contact



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