

Westminster Community Pond

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■ Problem:

This recreational pond could not maintain an acceptable water level during dry periods with the water level dropping very low. This prevented nearby residents from taking part in recreational activities and wildlife appreciation. While renovating the facility, the county took the opportunity to treat millions of gallons of runoff from surrounding suburbs.

■ Solution:

Runoff from the surrounding drainage area is brought into the pond through storm drain structures and new manholes. Division structures within the manhole maintain a more steady flow into the nearby stream channel while diverting large storm flows and floodwaters into the pond during rain events. A new embankment and riser structure were constructed as well. The facility now meets and/or exceeds all current county and state stormwater management regulations. In addition to capturing and holding the 250-acre drainage area, the facility provides enhanced recreational benefits including fishing and a walking trail for the citizens of Carroll County to enjoy.



BEFORE: Maintaining water levels was a constant concern at the community pond.



AFTER: The new community pond serves as a stormwater management facility and a fun hot spot for the community.

Photo Credit: Carroll County

Key Project Facts

Project Location: Westminster, MD

Type of Project: Wet pond

Drainage Area: 250.22 acres

Urban Area Drainage: 87.85 acres

Cost: \$2,535,125 overall

- \$108,795 in engineering
- \$2,202,684 in construction
- \$224,046 in amenities

Per acre cost: \$28,857.42

Funding Sources: \$933,124.99 from Maryland State Highway – Transportation Alternative Program (TAP) and \$1,602,000 from joint county/municipal funds. Surrounding municipalities also contributed funding to the project in return for stormwater management.

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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!