

Lime Spring Square Brubaker Run

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Problem:

Lime Spring Square is a commercial development in Lancaster, Pennsylvania with retail, office, medical, industrial, and residential space. The proposed development area straddled an extended reach of Brubaker Run with severely eroded stream banks, poor water quality, and consistent flooding issues.

Solution:

Since new development would have exacerbated the flooding and water quality issues, the developer addressed the root of the problem by improving stream function. The project created new wetlands, restored existing wetlands, and restored nearly 5,000 linear feet of the stream. The project reduced flooding, improved water quality, and enhanced groundwater recharge.

Economic Benefits: Oak Tree Development Group met their stormwater management requirements and freed approximately eight additional acres of land for development, which would have been lost using traditional stormwater basins. East Hempfield Township was also able to meet a majority of MS4 Chesapeake Bay Pollutant Reduction Plan goals at no cost to taxpayers.



Eroded stream banks before restoration.
Photo Credit: LandStudies, Inc.



Restored floodplain.
Photo Credit: LandStudies, Inc.

Key Project Facts

Project Location: Lancaster, PA

Type of Project: Stream/floodplain restoration

Total Cost: \$1.5 million for design, build, & monitoring

Scale: 8.4 acres of wetlands created, 11.5 acres of wetland restoration, 4,750 linear feet of stream restored

Funding Source: Oak Tree Development Group

Partners: Oak Tree Development Group, East Hempfield Township, LandStudies, Inc.

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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. Projects like these 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!