

Project Summary

Fayette County joined several municipalities to educate residents of Fayette on how to protect and improve the county's watersheds. First, our goal was to educate township employees, contractors, and residents regarding Best Management Practices (BMPs) to assist with stormwater management. Participants included Dunbar, German, Luzerne, and Wharton Townships, all of whom hosted various classes for residents and employees to learn. In our judgment this proved successful, for several folks had become knowledgeable about stormwater management, because of the program. A class for contractors was held in Uniontown at city hall. The Pennsylvania Non-Point Source Plan calls for improving the quality of water from all sources in the Commonwealth by employing Best Management Practices and correcting stream bank erosion, and stormwater runoff.

Accomplished with Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection grant funds were the following projects.

- ▶ Connellsville City completed a streambank stabilization project to protect Mounts Creek (see attached photos).
- ▶ Perry Township installed bioswales to aim runoff to it to keep sediment out and allow for cleaner runoff to be absorbed, with an intent, currently, to protect and improve adjoining Washington Run (see attached photos).
- ▶ Bullskin Township achieved a streambank stabilization project for Mounts Creek to stop erosion, as well as protect the creek in their region of the county (see attached photos).

At the end of the day, the Fayette County project had a couple of minor obstacles to overcome with its project largely due to the COVID pandemic. For example, the county contended with staffing issues and Dunbar Borough retreated from their part of the project altogether.

Nevertheless, we turned the latter crisis into a positive because additional funds were necessary to accomplish the Connellsville City project, which met with cost overruns. So, we obtained PA- DEP approval to transfer some of Dunbar's grant money to the city of Connellsville and everything worked out for the betterment of the project. Next, the rain garden at the FACT Bus Station will be planted in the spring of 2024 due to the preparation not being completed and numerous unforeseen incidents before the ground became frozen. It is the county's intention to have the rain garden seeded and functional in the spring of 2024. Seedlings have been acquired.

All in all, Fayette County has reduced pollutant loads, fortified partnerships, educated residents, and improved the way in which Non-Point Source pollution is managed. Fayette County's Public Relations Group has promoted the project and will regularly publish articles concerning the completion of all projects throughout Fayette County's media network.

We would like to thank PA-DEP for both its technical assistance and funding throughout the term of the project and for making these projects successful. We look forward to future alliances.



Bullskin Twp. - Streambank Protection



City of Connellsville – Streambank Protection