

Stream Restoration on Tacony Creek at Whitaker Avenue

Restoration Project

Tacony-Frankford Watershed



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Status: Design

Partners:

Cheltenham Township (CT)
Fairmount Park Commission (FPC)
PA Department of Environmental Protection
(PADEP)

Delaware Estuary Program (DELEP)
Friends of Tacony Creek Park (FTC)
Pennsylvania Environmental Council (PEC)

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Currently in the design phase, this project will implement a sustainable approach to stream habitat restoration that will mitigate the impacts of urban development and related hydrologic and hydraulic modifications. The Philadelphia Water Department has assembled a project team to develop an approach for the restoration of Tacony Creek that encompasses the replication of natural hydrologic and ecological cycles, sustainability, enhancement to riparian and in-stream aquatic habitat, improved aesthetics, and significant cost savings over structural solutions. The results of this approach include not just stable stream bank geometry, but also long term ecological stability.

Benefits:

- Minimization of impacts of non-point source pollution contributed by upstream runoff
- An integrated restoration of 1700 ft of stream that improves the physical, chemical, and ecologic metrics of stream health
- A stable channel in dynamic equilibrium with its surrounding watershed
- Stream bank stabilization measures featuring soil bioengineering and natural channel design measures that protect infrastructure and the environment in a highly sustainable manner
- A healthy, vegetated riparian zone to add biological diversity to the stream system
- Enhanced, in-stream aquatic habitat
- Opportunities for the community to learn about stream ecology and morphology

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