Franklin Soil and Water
Conservation District

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Conservation Stewardship Fund

photo credit: Kori Gasaway

Forebay of new stormwater treatment wetland

Crawford Farms Park

A Stormwater Pond Retrofit Project

Most stormwater used to pass quickly through the Crawford Farms Park basin without being filtered or slowed. The new retrofit design slows water, allowing solid pollutants to drop out and reduces both the rate and amount of water leaving the basin.

Natural processes in the pools and flats of the new wetland filter and remove additional pollutants from stormwater runoff. These changes improve and reduce the negative impact of stormwater from this basin on Dysart Run and all of the waterways downstream. In addtion, the design provides more habitat with native plants and provides an attractive feature for the neighborhood.

The Design Includes:

Forebay - a pool through which the stormwater first flows when entering the stormwater treatment wetland

Berm - in this case, a ridge of soil that directs water flow

Micropool - the pool through which the water leaves the wetland

Funding provided by:

319 Grant from the Ohio EPA

Matching funds and in-kind services from the City of Columbus

Funds and in-kind services from Franklin Soil and Water

Public right-of-way raingarden during a rain event.

Brook Run Rain Gardens

The Brook Run Project is a neighborhood network of 21 rain gardens in the suburb of Westerville, Ohio. This pilot project has been an important part of stormwater monitoring and research by several Ohio State University students, is featured regularly on local tours, and has received national attention.

The subdivision was one out of four neighborhoods that participated in stormwater education for the opportunity to receive free garden installations in 2010. The landscaper directed downspouts into the 16 home gardens, amended the soil, and installed native plants which are cared for by their residents. The 5 right-of-way public gardens receive roadside runoff from several curb cuts and drain through an engineered soil mix.

Funding provided by:

319 Grant from the Ohio EPA EPA Environmental Education Fund and The Ohio Water Development Authority

In-kind support from partners including The Ohio State University and Franklin County Master Gardeners

Residential rain garden collecting roof runoff

Aerial view showing early construction at Hellbranch Meadows

Hellbranch Wetland and Stream Restoration Project

Hellbranch Meadows is a nearly 200 acre property located in western Franklin County near the Village of Galloway. Taking place on this site, this project will result in the restoration of 2,890 linear feet of Hellbranch Run including: restoration of a floodplain bench, the day-lighting and restoration of a tributary stream, development of floodplain and upland wetlands, extensive riparian plantings, reforestation outside of the riparian zone, and prairie planting throughout the project area. Restored areas will receive additional protection in perpetuity through the recording of an environmental covenant with the Ohio EPA.

Funding for purchase of property provided by:

Clean Ohio Fund

Matching funds from Franklin County Commissioners

Restoration funding provided by:

Ohio EPA - Water Resource Restoration Sponsor Program (WRRSP)

Design model showing subsurface storage and exfiltration trenches

Grove City Safety Building Stormwater Treatment Train

This project is located within the central business district. This project grew out of the intent to provide a public gathering space and a desire to incorporate the positive benefits of Low Impact Development by means of a stormwater retrofit.

A stormwater treatment train begins with rooftop control of stormwater runoff using an innovative "blue roof". A "Blue" roof uses controlled release of rooftop runoff to desynchronize the effects from the storm event and release runoff more slowly or evaporate it entirely. Combined in a treatment train, the slow release allows time for downstream treatment volumes to recover.

In this project, the successional stage in the treatment train is underground storage. The runoff generated by a 1" storm event from the roof area will be stored in an underground collection device. This volume will be allowed to infiltrate to the groundwater or stage up to the next stage of treatment of engineered soils adjacent to the storage area. The final staging is to exfiltration trenches followed by an outlet to existing stormwater lines for any excessive flow volumes.

Completed project with educational signage

Funding provided by:

Ohio EPA - Surface Water Improvement Fund with Matching funds from Grove City

Franklin Soil and Water Conservation Stewardship Fund

If we are going to protect our water resources in Central Ohio successfully, we need long term funding sources for projects and programs to supplement local, state, federal, and private grant programs.

Conservation Project Support

Help Franklin Soil and Water Conservation District provide financial support for on-the-ground conservation projects! We have been providing conservation project assistance to non-profits since 2013.

Past Recipients:

High Point Elementary

Jefferson Township

Worthington Hills Garden Club

Canal Winchester Human Services

Chadwick Arboretum and Learning Gardens

City of Reynoldsburg Parks & Rec dept

Columbus Zoo and Aquarium

FLOW & Cranbrook Elementary

Franklin Co Public Facilities Mngt

Franklinton Gardens

Friends of the Ohio Governor's Mansion and Heritage Garden

Friends of Upper Arlington Parks

Girl Scouts of the Ohio Heartland- Camp Ken-Jockety

Green Columbus

Hamilton Twp Community Center

Iuka Ravine Association

Ohio Ass'n of Garden Clubs

Southeast, Inc. (Friends Community Garden)

Wilma H. Schiermeier Olentangy River Wetland Research

Worthington Libraries--Northwest Library branch.

Worthington Parks & Recreation Department

Purpose: To raise funds for the implementation of conservation projects targeted to improving water quality for the benefit of wildlife, recreation and drinking water. While focused on water quality and rainwater runoff, these projects will also benefit wetlands, forestry, carbon offsets, pollinators, native plants, and bird populations throughout Central Ohio. Projects will be focus on the reduction and treatment of water runoff before it reaches our streams.

Area: The focus area of this fund initially will be Franklin County. The focus area may expand to projects throughout Central Ohio as funds expand. Funding can be designated by specific watersheds including the Big Darby Creek, Upper Scioto River, Olentangy River , Alum Creek and Big Walnut Creek Watersheds.

Projects: Potential Conservation Fund projects eligible to receive funding support will include wetland and stream restoration, the creation or enhancement of rain gardens, bioswales, stormwater basin retrofits, tree plantings, invasive species removal, installation of practices through our community backyards program, and natural area protection through fee simple or conservation easement acquisition.

Management: Franklin SWCD will be the manager of these funds in partnership with Columbus Foundation. Project implementation may be led by other local governments or non-profits through coordination and oversight provided by Franklin SWCD. Franklin SWCD has a proven record for responsible fund management as well as working well with partners.

Each year the Board of Supervisors will authorize spending from the Conservation Fund to ensure long term sustainability of funds as well as to ensure that funds are used according to the established purpose.

To learn more or to start supporting on-the-ground conservation projects in Central Ohio, please contact Jennifer Fish or contribute to our fund online at the Columbus Foundation: visit *The Giving Store* and search for *Franklin Soil and Water.*

Franklin Soil and Water Conservation District
Creating Conservation Solutions for Over 70 Years

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