

Frequently Asked Questions

1) Will this project reduce or increase flooding?

The project is flood neutral, meaning it will not increase nor decrease flooding.

2) As a landowner along the creek, will I have to sign an easement?

Most property owners will be asked to sign conservation easements. The Township needs easements to build and maintain the project on private land.

3) Will the government take my property?

Absolutely not. The easements only allow the Corps and the Township to construct and maintain the project.

4) Who will maintain the completed stream restoration project?

Upper Southampton Township will maintain the project.

Who is involved?

The Corps has partnered with U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, University of New Hampshire, and Upper Southampton Township.

The project is funded by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (stimulus package). The Corps will fund 65% of the project while the township will fund 35%.

For more information...

On the web:

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Southampton Creek page:
<http://www.nap.usace.army.mil/projects/screek/index.html>

Upper Southampton Township:
<http://www.southamptonpa.com/>

Partners:

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Philadelphia District
Attn: Heather Jensen
100 Penn Square East
Philadelphia, PA 19107

Upper Southampton Township
939 Street Road
Southampton, PA 18966

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Pennsylvania Field Office Hydrologist
315 South Allen Street, Suite 322
State College, PA 16801



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Where is the project?

The study area is located along Southampton Creek in Upper Southampton Township, Bucks County, Pennsylvania. Southampton Creek is the northeastern tributary of the Pennypack Watershed.

The creek flows through the southwestern portion of Upper Southampton Township and has a total drainage area of 5.8 square miles.



What is the project?

The goals of the project are:

- Restore bank stability,
- Improve aquatic habitat
- Re-establish sediment transport through the project reach.

Watershed Issues

Development and inadequate stormwater management has caused erosion that disconnected Southampton Creek from its floodplain. A missing or damaged floodplain cannot absorb floodwater or sediment. It also doesn't provide adequate habitat for plants and animals.

Floodplain: the flat vegetated land bordering a stream that floods periodically as part of a natural cycle. Floodplains perform a critical part of stream function and provide important habitats for plants and wildlife.

- Floodplains spread out floodwater volume, reducing the energy, force, and depth
- Floodplains act like a sponge: 1 acre can absorb 333,000 gallons of water
- Floodplain vegetation transfers thousands of gallons of water to the atmosphere daily

Why are we doing the project?

- Stabilizing stream banks and restoring riparian buffers will greatly reduce the amount of pollutants and sediment flowing into the creek



- Features in the restoration design, including wetlands, will retain and absorb stormwater
- Healthy vegetation on stream banks and areas surrounding the creek filter sediment and pollutants from stormwater runoff prior to entering the creek
- To improve fish and wildlife habitat

