Westmoreland Conservation District

Watershed Restoration

Jacobs Creek Streambank Stabilization

Design Features: rip-rap, riparian buffers

Date of Installation: 2007

Location: 1733 Route 982, Mt. Pleasant, PA 15666

Client: Jacobs Creek Watershed Association

Cost: $15,500

Project Partners: Jacob's Creek Watershed Association, Westmoreland Conservation District

Project Contact: Rob Cronauer
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Severe streambank erosion on a section of Jacobs Creek

Project Specifications:

The sharp bend of the streambank along Jacobs Creek in Laurelville was severely eroding from the force of water hitting the exposed soil. The yard of the home next to the creek was being worn away, decreasing the water quality downstream.
The Westmoreland Conservation District provided technical assistance and project management for this project. Funds were acquired from a Growing Greener grant to implement various streambank stabilization techniques along the eroding section. R-7 sized rip-rap was placed along the section of eroding streambank to create a shallower slope and prevent the water from wearing away the bank further. Smaller R-3 stone was used to fill in the gaps of the larger rip-rap, and the area was seeded and mulched. A riparian buffer of trees was also planted to help stabilize the area near the bank.

Benefits:

Overall, this project stabilized around 500 feet of actively eroding streambank. The rip-rap stabilization and 200 feet of riparian buffer ultimately reduced sedimentation, improved the stream habitat, cooled the stream with vegetation cover, and protected the landowner's property.

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Streambank erosion on a bank section of Jacobs Creek next to a landowner's house and property

Installed rip-rap and riparian buffer on the same section a year after construction

Jacobs Creek streambank nine years after construction