

Larimer Road Restoration

Design Features: Raising the road profile, installation of underdrains and crosspipes.

Date of Installation: Fall 2013

Location: Larimer Trail Road, Apollo, PA

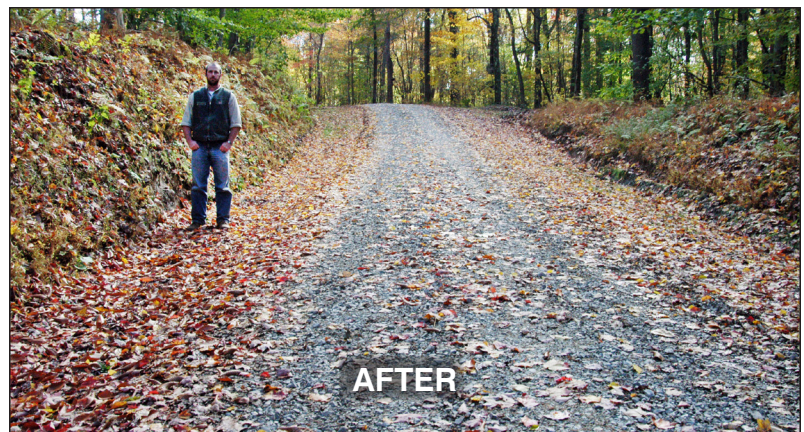
Client: Washington Township

Cost: \$48,000

Partners: Local landowner, Washington Township; the Westmoreland Conservation District; the Foundation for PA Watersheds; and the Center for Dirt and Gravel Road Studies at Penn State University.

Project Contact: Rob Cronauer,
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Environmentally Sensitive Maintenance
Practices for Dirt & Gravel Roads
www.fs.fed.us/eng/pubs/pdf/11771802.pdf.



District Watershed Specialist, Rob Cronauer dramatically illustrates the road conditions – before and after – improvements. The top photo illustrates a severely eroding 3ft ditch. The bottom photo shows the road after it was raised 3ft and ditch is completely filled in.

Project Specifications

This project, completed in the fall of 2013, is an excellent example of how people can work together to bring about a long-term community benefit. For many years, Larimer Trail Road, a horseshoe-shaped feeder road near Routes 66 and 356 in Washington Township, had been eroding badly, and was often muddy and difficult to travel.

Description

Environmentally Sensitive Maintenance Practices were performed on 2400ft. of Larimer Trail Road. This included the installation of 268 ft. of (6) culverts and six rock aprons to prevent scouring at the outlets of the culverts. There was a total of 700ft. of underdrain installed to dry out the roadside ditches and road base. The road profile was raised two to four feet in areas to more closely resemble the natural topography and six grade brakes were installed to divert surface water across the road.

Benefits & Performance Measures

Larimer Trail Road significantly easier and safer for motorists to travel, but it also will be less costly for the township to maintain from this point forward.

An added bonus of the road-improvement partnership project is the significant decrease – a reduction of more than 40 tons of sediment a year – in pollutants that enter Beaver Run and then further impact the Allegheny River and other waterways downstream.

All of the community benefits of this project were accomplished with a total investment of some \$48,000 in materials, services, and in-kind donations, which were used to install proven Best Management Practices including cross pipes, stone fill, and underdrains.