Dirt Gravel and Low Volume Roads Program

Che Che Road, Dirt and Gravel Road Project

Design Features: Three new crosspipes, two new through the bank pipes, infiltration, and tar and chip.

Date of Installation: 2024

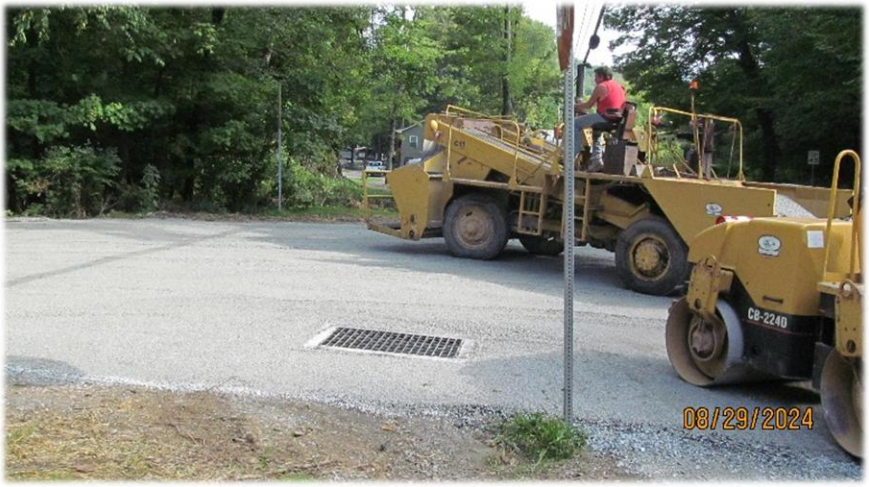
Location: Che Che Road, St. Clair Township, Westmoreland County

Client: St. Clair Township

Cost: $59,600.00 of Dirt and Gravel road funds were used with an in-kind contribution of $35,448.48 from the township. The total cost of the project was $95,048.48.

Project Partners: St. Clair Township, Westmoreland Conservation District, and the Center for Dirt and Gravel Road Studies.

Project Contact: Kelly Brestensky, kelly@wcdpa.com



Road surface being sealed with tar and chip

Project Specifications

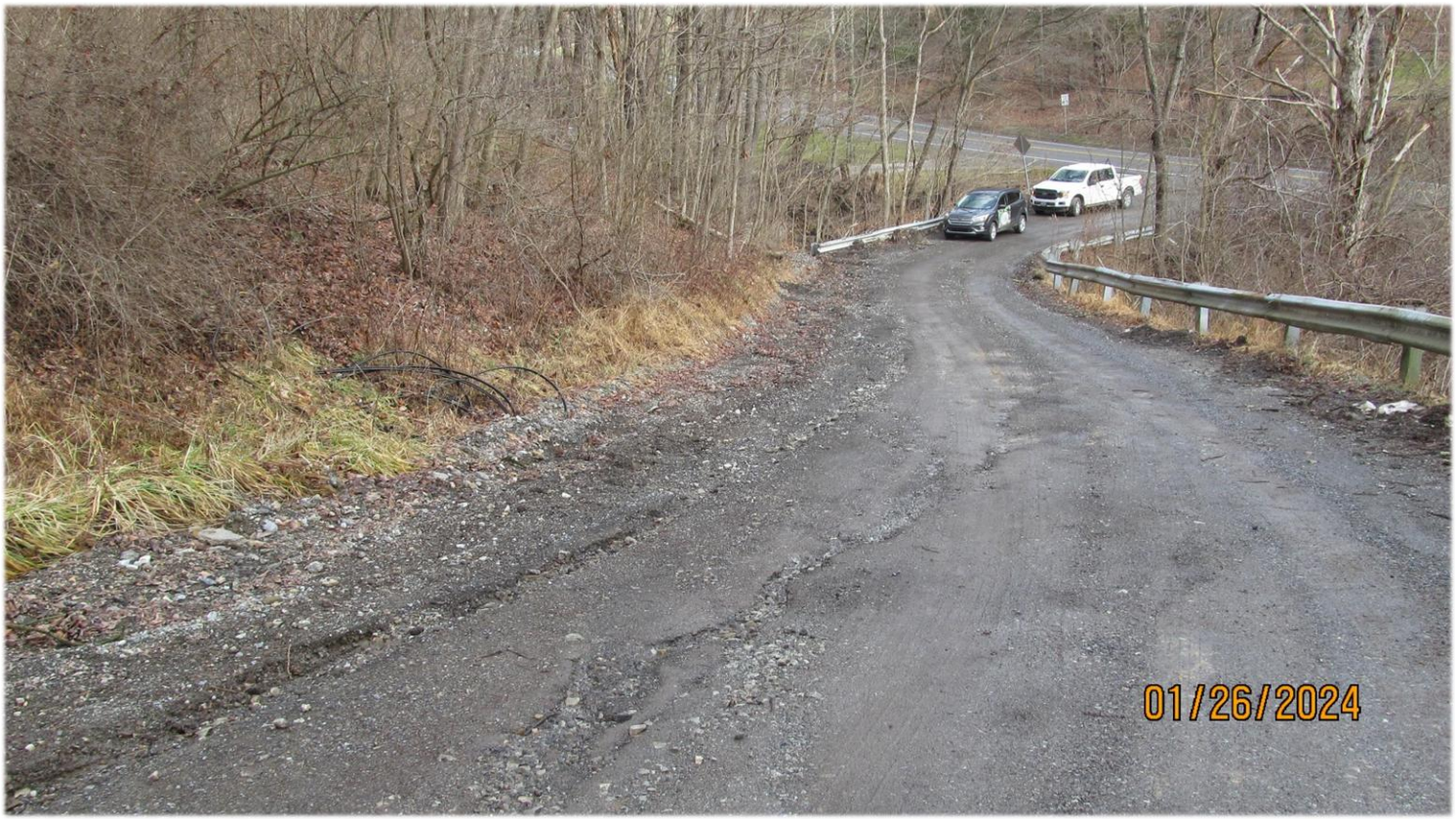
Previously there were no drainage practices on the very steep road. This caused large amounts of erosion due to the velocity of runoff coming down the gravel road and in the ditch line. All of the drainage from the road discharged into Shannon Run a high quality stream, which intersects with Che Che Road at the bottom of the hill. Three new crosspipes and two new through the bank pipes were installed to divert the water away from the stream. Additionally, fill was added to elevate the road and encourage the water to drain off the road to the newly created ditch line.

Benefits/Performance Measures

By discharging the road drainage before the stream, the sediment and pollutants in the road runoff are no longer directly entering the stream.

By installing the crosspipes, through the bank pipes, and sloping the road it no longer allows the runoff the opportunity to flow down the road surface. Instead, it is directed through the various pipes and allowed to infiltrate.

The installation of the drainage practices reduces the township maintenance on Che Che Road. Previously, the township would need to continually add gravel to the road for maintenance due to the erosion. The road was sealed with tar and chip surfacing to help prevent erosion and stabilize the surface.



(Before): *Unstable gravel surface and eroding ditches*

(After): *Stabilized ditch line and stabilized surface*