

# New Street Ecological Park Stream Corridor and Floodplain Restoration

Lititz, Lancaster County, Pa.



BEFORE

Pfizer Pharmaceuticals, in partnership with Lititz Borough and LandStudies, Inc., underwrote the design and implementation of the New Street Park Ecological Restoration Project. Although LandStudies has designed and built numerous other similar projects in the Lancaster County area, the New Street Park project is unique because of its status as a pilot project to help establish nutrient pollution trading parameters in the Conestoga Watershed, the waters of which flow into the Susquehanna River and, ultimately, the Chesapeake Bay.

Using the principles of Natural Channel Design, LandStudies relocated 900 linear feet of stream channel to its more natural path; excavated the floodplain down to its natural elevation; and created wetland pockets within the floodplain.



DURING

The results are a stabilized stream channel, reduced streambed and bank erosion, and nutrient-laden sediments collected in the floodplain instead of being carried downstream. The final stage of the project was the installation of herbaceous and woody, native vegetation selected for its adaptation to periodic inundation from minor and desirable flooding. The vegetation, itself, will provide uptake for some of the undesirable nutrients otherwise carried downstream.



AFTER

The New Street Park Ecological Restoration Project will contribute to the current body of knowledge about sediment- and water-borne nutrient pollution. The completed project has created a stable stream system characterized by periodic, non-damaging flooding, native vegetation, enhanced riparian and in-stream wildlife habitat, and a greatly decreased need for maintenance.

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