

Coldwater Heritage Partnership Year-End Status Report

Year: 2019

Grant Round: Spring

Organization: Heritage Conservancy

Stream Name: Cooks Creek

Project Title: Cooks Creek Riparian Buffer Restoration

Estimated physical completion (%) at year-end: 100

Estimated expenditures at year-end:

Grant Funds: \$7310 Cash Match: \$5636 In-Kind Match: \$1809

Project Update:

Heritage Conservancy Cooks Creek Riparian Buffer Planting Report

Public Meeting: March 7, 2019 – Held on site meeting to discuss and plan riparian buffer planting with community including Friends of Fuller Preserve.

Before photos:



After photos: March 7, 2019 Planting

Please submit the completed form to Rachel Kester at c-rkester@pa.gov.



After photos: October 7, 2020 Planting



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Project Summary

Project began in May 2019 and ended in October 2020

- First volunteer invasive removal plant removal to establish planting zone was conducted with our Fridays in the Forest volunteers which included controlled burns of Japanese barberry on May 2, 2019 for 7.5 hours.
- Summer interns worked on additional invasive removal on June 20 and June 27, 2019
- Heritage Conservancy staff with eight volunteers planted 65 native trees and shrubs and protected them with 5' fencing cut into cages about 24" round on the riparian areas of our Fuller and Hickory Run Preserves - September 26, 2019,
- Final planting with 5 volunteers who worked a total of 28.5 hours. They planted 55 trees with protective tree shelters covering a total of 300 feet of stream bank - October 19, 2020

Project Outcomes: All of the project outcomes were met and the project is complete. Heritage Conservancy staff will monitor the property and repair/replace any tree shelters that are damaged.

Project sustainability

Heritage Conservancy staff will monitor the property (10 times per year) and repair/replace any tree shelters that are damaged. Threats included over browsing/tree shelter damage by a large deer population and an increase in heavy rains that caused streambank flooding.

Next phase or future projects - Would this project benefit from an additional phase/ Describe any future efforts that would increase the benefits of the current project.

This project would benefit from an additional phase by establishing a riparian buffer further upstream. Future efforts will include staff and interns maintaining tree cages by cutting and removing invasive plants immediately adjacent to the cages up to 5'.

List partners and volunteers and describe their involvement in the project including number of volunteers and in-kind hours.

Volunteers for the riparian buffer planting included five from Secant Corporation, two from Heritage Conservancy's Friday's in the Forest group and one from the Friends of Fuller who worked a total 40.5 hours of in-kind services for the first planting.

Number of linear feet improved 900'

Number of trees planted – 120 native trees and shrubs (blackhaw, spicebush, pawpaw, sugar maple, red maple, American elm, basswood, ironwood)

iii. Number of structures placed – 120 trees shelters were constructed

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