

RESTORATION



Photo by Madalyn Neff

Wissahickon Headwaters Stream and Riparian Restoration Project

The \$1.4 million headwaters restoration project in Upper Gwynedd Township was completed in the fall of 2020 and is the culmination of five years of planning and collaboration among Wissahickon Trails, Merck, Upper Gwynedd Township, PA DEP, PECO, William Penn Foundation, and National Fish and Wildlife Foundation.

The project restored and stabilized the stream channel and reconnected it with its floodplain along 1,775 linear feet of the Wissahickon Creek in the PECO Right-of-Way power line corridor.

The project converted this property along a highly eroded stretch of the Wissahickon Creek into an actual floodplain. The floodplain slows down the force of the water and allows it to percolate into the ground instead of flowing downstream.

“Working closely with local stakeholders such as Merck, Upper Gwynedd, and PECO—and being backed by additional state, federal, and private dollars—is an essential aspect of this project. This type of public/private partnership is necessary when addressing complex environmental challenges like stormwater. In the Wissahickon, we have local public and private partners who are committed to being a part of the solution.”

– Gail Farmer, Wissahickon Trails Executive Director



Governor’s Award for Environmental Excellence
 from the PA Department of Environmental Protection,
 October 2021



Environmental Stewardship Award
 under the Montgomery Awards program from the Montgomery County Board of Commissioners and Montgomery County Conservation District, November 2021



Achievement Award
 from the Water Resources Association of the Delaware River Basin, August 2022