

Project Title: Silver Spring Mill dam removal and habitat restoration
Project Location Trindle Spring Run, Mechanicsburg, PA; Cumberland Co.
Latitude 40.251666 Longitude -77.006666

Dam removed Silver Spring Mill dam, DEP No. 21-033
Date of removal June/July 2006
Linear feet restored 2,534 feet riparian habitat; 1,267 feet instream habitat
Stream miles opened 5.5 miles
Species to benefit coldwater species, coolwater species

Project Costs:

Growing Greener contribution \$14,700 toward design/engineering
Federal contribution \$0
State contribution \$15,000
Private contribution \$40,000 toward implementation

Project Overview:

This 9-foot high dam, built of hand-cut stone, was the first blockage on Trindle Spring Run approximately 400 feet from its confluence with Conodoguinet Creek, a major tributary of the Susquehanna River near Harrisburg. The creek supports a reproducing population of rainbow trout and the dam was removed to improve fish habitat as well as to remove a liability to the new dam owner. The dam was over 150 years old and was originally built to power a grist mill, but it has not been used for this purpose for many decades. The removal required significant sediment management and disposal, due to some elevated levels of metals in the impounded sediments. Frequent turbidity measurements were taken throughout the course of the construction to ensure that sediment mobilization was minimized. The Cumberland Valley Trout Unlimited chapter and the Conodoguinet Watershed Association will assist with site monitoring for the newly-established riparian area and a newly-created stormwater treatment wetland for the adjacent shopping complex.



Picture 1 –Dam and plunge pool



Picture 2 – reservoir and upstream view of dam



June 19, 2006 - Placing flow into bypass channel. Turbidity - 32 - 62 NTU



June 19, 2006 - Excavation of impounded sediment



June 19, 2006 – Placing excavated sediment into trucks for disposal



June 28, 2006 – Returning flow to permanent channel – turbidity 78 – 470 NTU



July 26, 2006 – Completed project