

Urban Conservation Accomplishments - 2011

Urban Statistics

By Lance Gardner

<u>Soil Erosion and Sediment Control</u>	<u>Plans</u>	<u>Acres Protected with BMPs</u>
Residential Sites	182	15,516.9
Commercial Sites	95	4,535.2
Governmental Projects	144	2,224.8
Standard Plan Sites	12	15.0
Forest Harvest Sites	10	268.1
Mining and Fill Sites	6	689.8
Green Stamp Plans	38	-
Waiver Letters	21	-
<u>Rough Grading Permits</u>	20	2,041.7
<u>Subdivision Plans</u>	4	-
<u>Pond Plans</u>	81	-
<u>Pond As-Builts</u>	9	-
<u>Exempt Pond Plans</u>	40	-
Total Plans	662	Acres 25,291.5
Total Number of Plan Reviews		1,339.0
Average Review Time in Days		2.4

New School Construction Committee

By James Whisonant

The construction of Prince George's County public schools is a time sensitive and time driven project. A school construction committee has been formed consisting of representatives from key County review and permitting departments and agencies that each play a role in this process. This committee was created to help expedite resolutions to any problems that might hinder a permit from being issued and prevent delays of the construction of any of the proposed schools.

A member of the District's urban staff has participated as a representative on the committee to assist in resolving varying issues that may hinder the acquisition of a permit in regards to grading, erosion, sediment control, and dam safety. To this date, the District has not encountered any issue that could not be handled in a timely and professional manner.

Among the many schools on the committee's list of projects is the new Avalon Elementary school. The Gazette newspaper reported in a November 30, 2011 article that construction of this new school will begin in January 2012. The District is pleased to support the progress of projects such as these that benefit the citizens of Prince George's County.

Local Banks Yield High Interest

By Brenda Sanford

The erosion of streambanks is a natural process of a flowing stream over time. However it becomes detrimental when accelerated by land development or lack of vegetation. Over time this will affect the integrity of uphill slopes.



Stream bank failure scarp near Route 1, College Park

The Department of Environmental Resources has identified and submitted several sediment control plans for streams within the County that have critically eroded banks and slopes. At most sites, the slopes are at risk of failure or are currently failing. The restoration process employs several natural techniques to repair the stream banks along with mechanical stabilization for toe of slope stabilization. Some of the methods used for stream restoration are: cross vanes (lines of stone placed at an angle to direct water to the center of the stream), step pools (rocks placed to form a pool and dissipate the water flow), root wads (trunks of roots placed for anchoring banks and providing aquatic habitat), live fascines (live branches bundled together and planted along stream banks), and imbricated rip rap (large rocks placed to form a wall and stabilize embankment soils).

The Prince George's Soil Conservation District approves the sediment control plans for proposed stream restoration sites to inhibit erosion and enhance the local waterways.



Cross vane focuses flow toward the stream's center