

## Applications for Grants

Application forms and instructions are available on-line. Completed applications may be returned via the internet or mailed to the Restoration Coordinator. Applications are reviewed twice per year. Deadlines for submission are **April 30** or **October 31**. The application form itself contains information about qualifying projects, eligible applicants, and how the grant applications will be reviewed and evaluated. There are no restrictions on how much funding may be requested although matching funds are strongly encouraged.

## Past Projects Funded by the Valley Creek Trustee Council

**Detention Basin Retrofit.** The Council provided \$3,000 to help the Valley Forge Chapter of Trout Unlimited fund a detention basin retrofit in cooperation with East Whiteland Township, near the headwaters of Valley Creek. The retrofit modified the grassed-basin with a raised outlet to allow a small amount of water retention, lengthened the path of water flow to increase evaporation and infiltration and planted trees, shrubs, live stakes and meadow grasses to increase evapotranspiration (Figure 3).



(a)



(b)

Figure 3. Detention basin retrofit during (a) and after (b) construction.

## Contact The Council

**Restoration Coordinator:** The restoration Coordinator for the Valley Creek Trustee Council is Chuck Marshall. Phone: (610) 647-6432; Email: [cgmarshall@nni.com](mailto:cgmarshall@nni.com).

Please contact the Restoration Coordinator for copies of the Valley Creek Restoration Plan and strategies or projects therein as well as questions related to the grant application, application process or evaluation process.

**Website:** Visit the Valley Creek Trustee Council website to download the Valley Creek Restoration Plan or grant application form and to obtain additional information on the Valley Creek Watershed, grant program, and application process.

Website address:

[www.savevalleycreek.org](http://www.savevalleycreek.org)

Valley Forge National Historical Park  
1400 North Outer Line Drive  
King of Prussia, PA 19406-1009



Valley Creek Trustee Council

National Park Service  
Pennsylvania Fish and Boat  
Commission



## Restoring the Valley Creek Watershed

## Valley Creek Trustee Council



NPS Photo

## Grant Opportunity for Restoration of Valley Creek

The Valley Creek Trustee Council is pleased to announce a grant program to provide funding for restoration of the Valley Creek Watershed in Chester County, PA.

The goal of this funding is to improve trout habitat and angler access through implementation of projects related to stormwater management, streambank stabilization, implementation of environmentally sensitive land practices and projects that directly improve angler access. Anyone is eligible to apply.

### The Trustee Council

The Valley Creek Trustee Council is composed of representatives of the United States Department of Interior and Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. The U.S. Department of Interior is represented by the Superintendent of Valley Forge National Historical Park and the Commonwealth of PA is represented by the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission (PFBC). The Council was established under a March 2000 interagency agreement that described how the group would function to restore affected resources.

Valley Creek was found to be contaminated in the mid-1980s with polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs), a suspected carcinogen and neurotoxin. Contamination by PCBs resulted in a significant loss of angler use as well as direct damages to natural resources.

Monies to compensate for natural resource damages and lost angler use were received through legal settlements with the responsible parties and placed into a Restoration Fund administered by the Valley Creek Trustee Council. As of October 2006, the Restoration Fund stood at approximately \$1.5 million.

### Valley Creek Watershed

The Valley Creek Watershed encompasses 23.4 square miles primarily (90%) within Tredyffrin and East Whiteland Townships, Chester County, Pennsylvania. The last two miles of Valley Creek pass through Valley Forge National Historical Park to the confluence with the Schuylkill River (Figure 1).

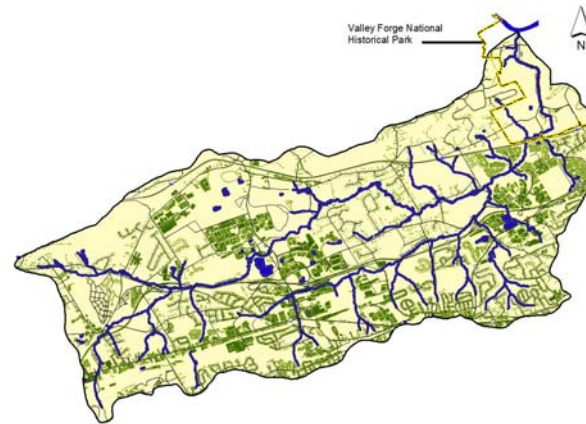


Figure 1. Impervious surface area, shown in green, within the Valley Creek Watershed.

The Valley Creek Watershed has been designated “Exceptional Value”, affording the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection’s highest level of protection. It has also been designated a “Class A” Wild Trout Fishery by the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission. These designations demonstrate the significance of this resource at the local, state, and national levels.

Many of the threats to Valley Creek are related to changes in land use and urbanization of the watershed. As in many other watersheds near major urban centers, land use over the last 50 years is characterized by change from a primarily agricultural landscape to more industrial uses such as corporate and industrial centers and residential developments.

Between 1987 and 1995, the amount of impervious surface area within the Valley Creek Watershed increased from 9% to 18%, with some estimates as high as 24% impervious (Figure 1).

An increase in impervious surface area has resulted in an increase in the frequency and intensity of flood events and associated impacts such as streambank destabilization, erosion, sedimentation, and increased water temperature (Figure 2).



(a) (b)  
Figure 2. Streambank loss in front of George Washington’s Headquarters between 2001 (a) and 2004 (b) resulting in exposure of a sewer line.

### Projects Eligible for Funding

The Valley Creek Restoration Plan (2004) presents restoration strategies and potential projects that can be implemented to

enhance natural resources and improve angler use within the Valley Creek Watershed. This document serves as a primary source of guidance for the Valley Creek Trustee Council in administering Restoration Fund monies.

Projects submitted to the Valley Creek Trustee Council for funding must be consistent with the principles and strategies identified in the restoration plan. Copies may be obtained on-line or from the Restoration Coordinator.

The Trustee Council has identified five broad categories of projects that will be considered for funding through the Restoration Fund:

- **Stormwater Management**  
Examples: detention basin retrofit, infiltration, low-impact development
- **Stream Channel Stabilization**  
Examples: stabilize eroding banks, streambank plantings
- **Establishment of Greenways**  
Examples: land purchase for preservation, easements, establish Riparian buffers
- **Increased Public Access**  
Examples: establish trails, create access points for anglers
- **Brook Trout Restoration in Crabby Creek**  
Examples: create in-stream habitat

**Visit us at: [www.savevalleycreek.org](http://www.savevalleycreek.org)**