CUYAHOGA COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH

Hudson High School/Tinkers Creek Stream Restoration Design-Build

Hudson, Ohio





from top: Restored stream; Stream Day conducted by Hudson High School, U.S. EPA, and Biohabitats

The Cuyahoga County
District Board of Health
called upon Biohabitats to
help restore approximately
2,000 linear feet of a degraded
tributary to Tinkers Creek.
The tributary, which flows
through the Hudson High
School campus, had been
channelized, incised, and disconnected from its floodplain.

This project not only restored ecological function and value to a degraded urban stream; it also provided high school students with hands-on experience in ecological science and a living outdoor classroom that will continue to enrich their education.

The goals of the project were to improve water quality and aquatic and riparian habitat; dissipate stream energy; minimize erosion and sedimentation; protect existing infrastructure; provide a minimum of 2,000,000 gallons of storage to reduce storm flows. The project also enhances the high school's Land Lab, a living outdoor classroom.

Biohabitats' design met these goals in a way that maximizes ecological benefits, minimizes disturbance, and inspires and facilitates ongoing stewardship and education. The site was divided into three reaches, each associated with an ecosystem indicative of Ohio's riparian systems: wildflower meadow, forested wetland, and scrub/shrub emergent wetland.

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