

NEREID BOAT CLUB

Nereid Shoreline Stabilization

Rutherford, New Jersey



from top: Living shoreline with inset of typical Nereid flooding;
Raingarden helps manage stormwater on the site

A newly stabilized, living shoreline enhances a historic property's aesthetic and ecological value, more effectively manages stormwater entering the Passaic River, and facilitates engagement with the river through Nereid's crew program.

The Nereid Boat Club, established in 1866, was reconstructed in the 1990s with a bulkhead along its Passaic River shoreline. Not long after its construction, the bulkhead began to deteriorate. Also during that time, severe flooding occurred on a more frequent basis in the area. Rather than simply reconstructing the failing bulkhead, the Club called on Biohabitats to design a more cost-effective and ecologically sound alternative.

After a thorough site analysis, which included studies of soil and sediment, Biohabitats discovered that upland stormwater forces, rather than river forces, were compromising the bulkhead. To resolve the

site's stormwater management problems, Biohabitats designed a natural system featuring a rain garden and a living shoreline. Using native plantings, strategic grading, and ecological restoration techniques, Biohabitats designed, constructed, and installed a "living shoreline" to replace the dilapidated bulkhead. This new shoreline simultaneously prevents further erosion, enhances stormwater management and local ecology, and restores the river bank to a more natural state.

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