

Webinar hosts: Seneca Valley Trout Unlimited

A tale of two programs: Watershed Restoration and Whole Farm Stewardship Citizen Science using Open-Source DIY Technologies





8 March, 2021

Dave B. Arscott, Executive Director

Advancing knowledge & stewardship of freshwater systems through global RESEARCH, EDUCATION, AND WATERSHED RESTORATION



Est. 1967 Avondale, Pennsylvania







Stroud Water Research Center

An independent, third party, non-advocacy, 501(c)3 non-profit

Staff

- ~50 full-time employees
 10 Ph.D. scientists/educators
- +10 part-time employees
- 20-30 undergrad interns annually
- Volunteer corps





Our Flagship Research Sites

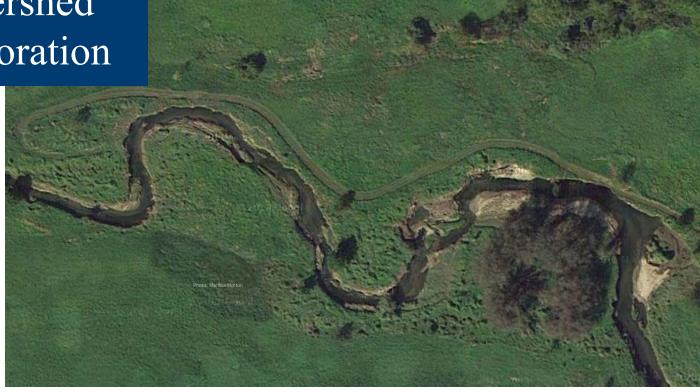








Watershed Restoration



Aims to re-establish normal rates and magnitudes of physical, chemical, and biological <u>processes</u> that create and sustain river and floodplain ecosystems



Watershed Restoration



Channel and reach focus not producing the desired recovery of ecosystem functions and biodiversity (e.g. Bernhardt et al. 2005; Palmer 2009)

Fundamental disconnect between watershed science and restoration practice



To Get Cleaner, Healthier Waterways:

We Need To Reduce:

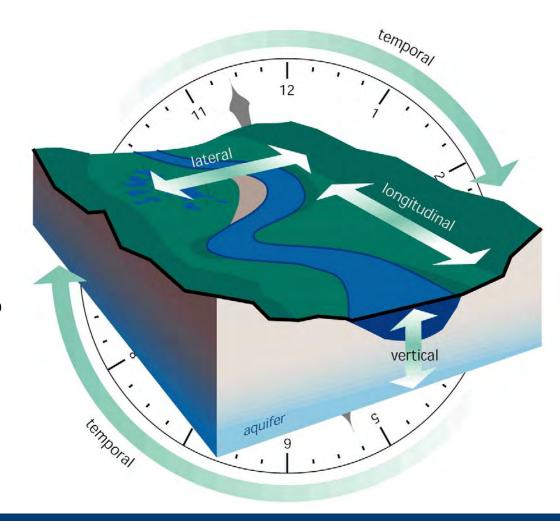
- Stormwater runoff & flooding
- Sediment
- Pathogens
- Nitrogen and phosphorous
- Other "stuff" coming off of our landscapes
- Water temperature

Streams are dynamic systems

Streams are not static in place, time, hydrology or ecosystem function

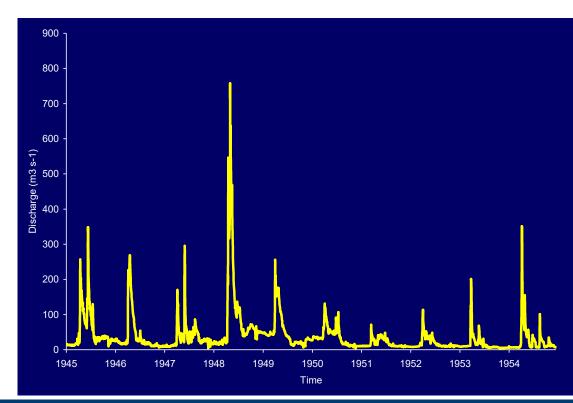


Watersheds are dynamic in 4-dimensions



Climate and weather drive variations through time

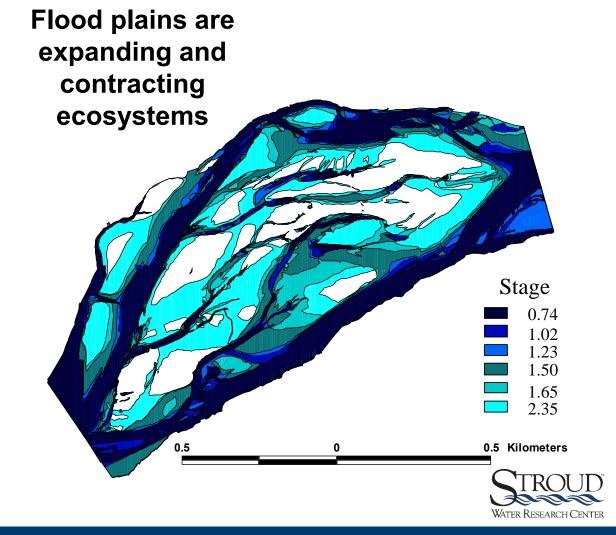
Hydrology (and weather) dominates our perspectives of temporal dynamics (but people and biology matter too)



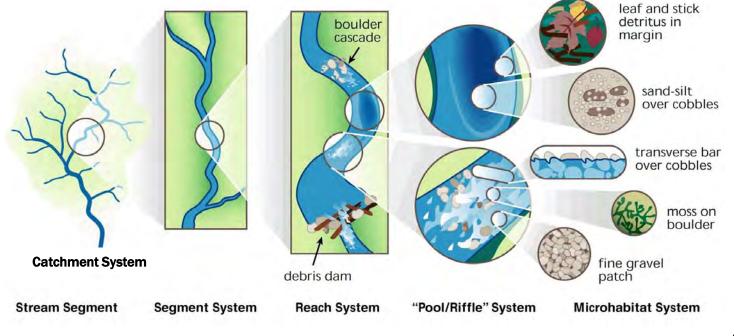






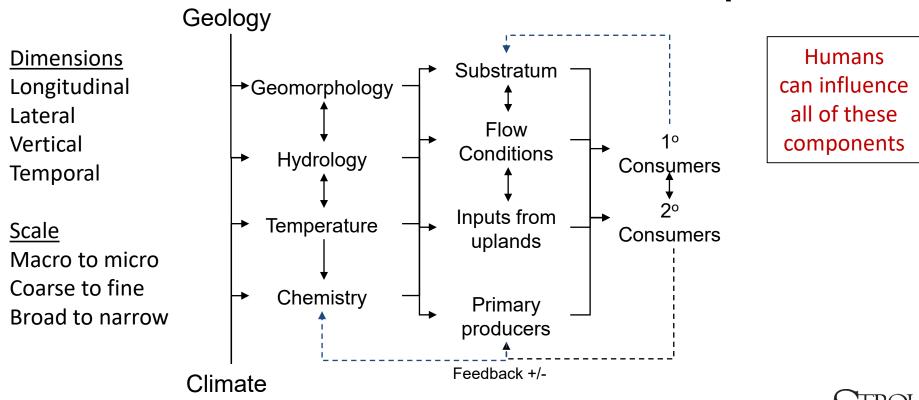


Recognizing the importance of <u>scale</u> in understanding river and watershed ecology





The Riverine Habitat Template





Mississippi Floodplain Loss

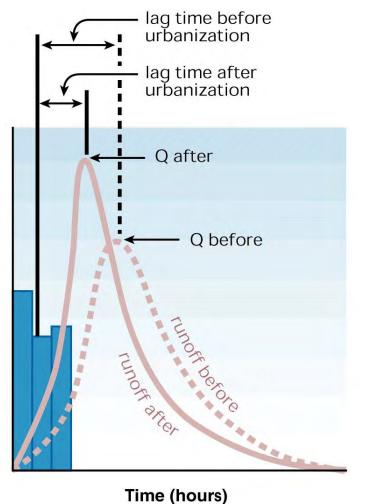
1600 1992 👖 MISSOURI ARKANSAS TN Memphis Little Rock MISSISSIPP cksburg OUISIAN **Baton Rouge** DRAFT GIS MAP



Bottomland wetland forests in the Mississippi River floodplain

Land Use Impacts on Hydrograph







Balancing watershed production of water and sediment with dynamics of stream geomorphology

Changes in the watershed that lead to more runoff and stream discharge or more sediment delivery will result in stream channel adjustments

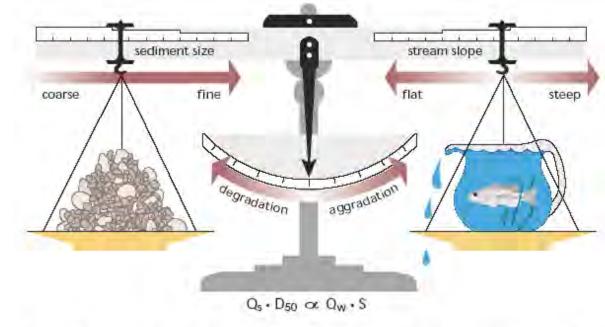
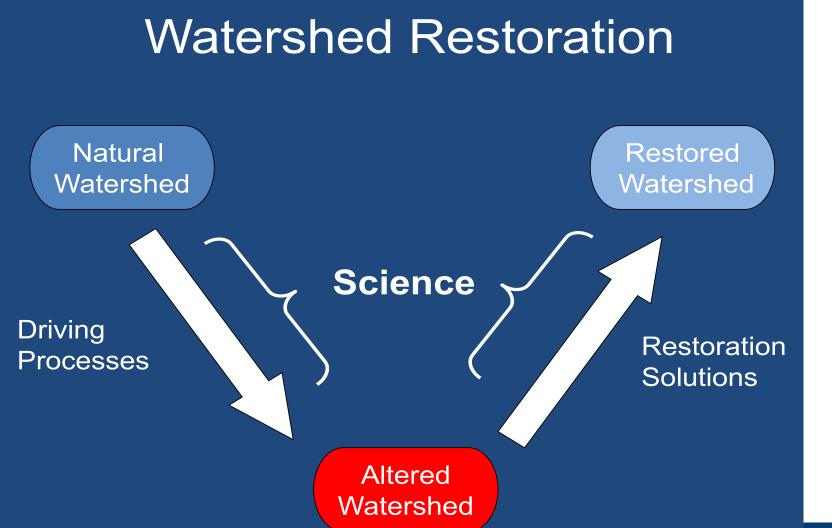


Figure 1.13: Factors affecting channel equilibrium. At equilibrium, slope and flow balance the size and quantity of sediment particles the stream moves.

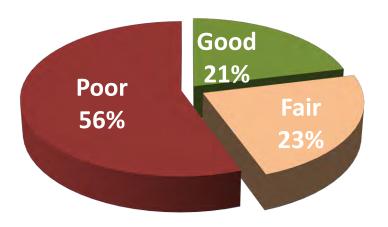
Source: Rosgen (1996), from Lane, *Proceedings*, 1955. Published with the permission of American Society of Civil Engineers.





National Rivers and Streams Assessment 2008-2009 Report

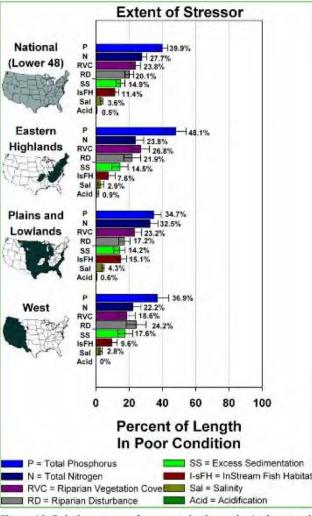
 56% of the nation's river and stream miles do not support healthy populations of aquatic life



WHY?

- **Chemical stressors**
 - Total phosphorus, total nitrogen, salinity, acidification,
- **Physical stressors**
 - Excess streambed sediments, instream fish habitat, riparian vegetative cover, riparian disturbance





Leading problems (from 2012-13): nutrient pollution and habitat degradation

- 40% of miles w/ high phosphorus
- 27% with high nitrogen
- 24% poor vegetative cover
- 20% high levels of human disturbance nr stream banks
- 15% have excess levels of streambed sediments
- All can be addressed by riparian buffer restoration, soil health improvements, and whole farm management plans (to varying degrees)



US EPA – Report: National Rivers & Streams Assessment 2008-2009

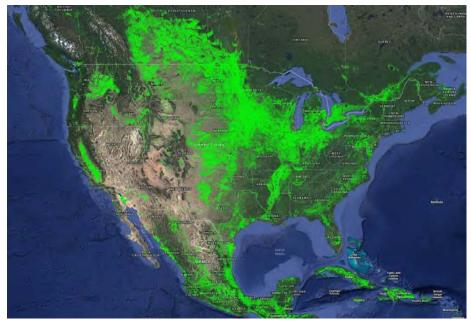
Figure 19. Relative extent of stressors in the nation's rivers and streams (EPA/NRSA).

To Get Cleaner, Healthier Waterways:

We Need To Reduce:

- Stormwater runoff & flooding
- Sediment
- Pathogens
- Nitrogen and phosphorous
- Other "stuff" coming off of our landscapes
- Water temperature

Land cover/use in United States (2017)



https://www.usgs.gov/media/images/map-croplands-united-states

U.S. croplands in a nominal 30-m resolution derived primarily with Landsat imagery for the year 2015. The United States has 166 million hectares of net cropland area and is ranked second in the world after India, which has 180 million hectares of croplands.

Land type	Land use (%)	Land area
Forests	27%	842,400 mi²
Shrubland	24%	748,800 mi²
Agriculture	17%	530,400 mi²
Grasslands and Pasture	17%	530,400 mi²
Wetlands	5%	156,000 mi²
Other	5%	156,000 mi²
Open Space	3%	93,600 mi²
Urban Areas	2%	63,400 mi²
Total	100%	3,120,000 mi ²
	https://www.visualcapitalist.com/america-land-use/	





Stroud Center's Farm Stewardship Program





Thus, farms are a great opportunity for:

scale of workpace of workimpact of work

Many Partners!



Replace Near-Stream Pollution with Forest [building buffer zones also may treat pollution from upland areas]









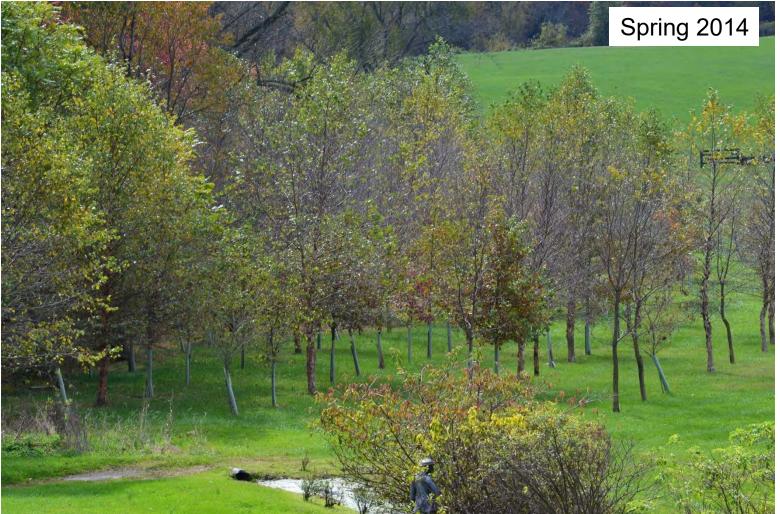


Planted Apr 2007 Photo Aug 2008



















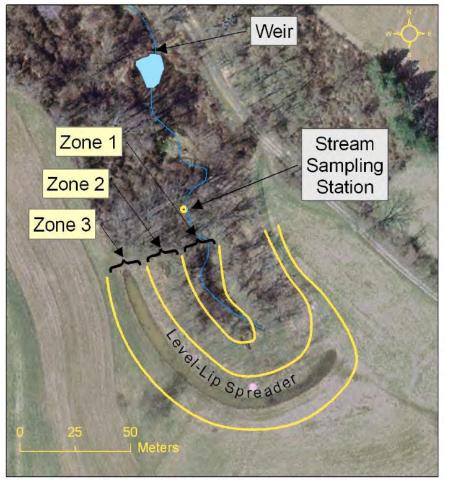


Figure 2. Morris Run (treatment) stream and the riparian forest buffer system with a level-lip spreader in April 2005.

Buffer Effectiveness Results (1998-2006) (Newbold et al 2009)

Nitrogen: 26% removed

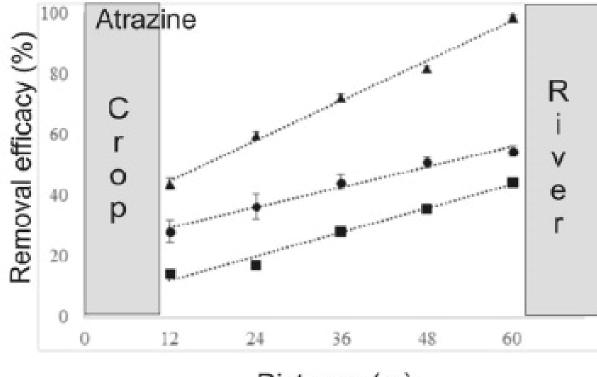
Suspended sediments: 43% removed

Total phosphorus reduction was inconclusive...

22% reduction in particulate P, but buffer released compensating quantity of dissolved P (likely after decomposition of particulate material)

Results required 10 yr minimum





Buffer Effectiveness

Other pollutants are also removed/retained/treated by riparian buffers

Distance (m)

Aguiar Jr., T. R., F. R. Bortolozo, F. A. Hansel, K. Rasera, and M. T. Ferreira. 2016. Riparian buffer zones as pesticide filters of no-till crops. Environ Sci Pollut Res 22:10618–10626.



Restoring Flood Attenuation and Ecological Resiliency in the Mid-Atlantic Piedmont



75 acres of riparian forest buffers44 swales, totaling 3 miles

1.5 acre floodplain wetland4 miles of stream enhanced with large wood



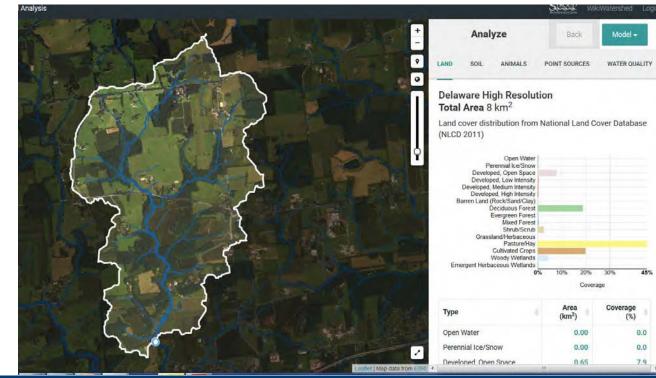






2 inch 24-hr storm yields approximately 37,000 m³ of runoff

Installed level spreader capacity to capture minimum of 5,150 m³ of runoff (>10% of total) and 590 kg of fine sediment



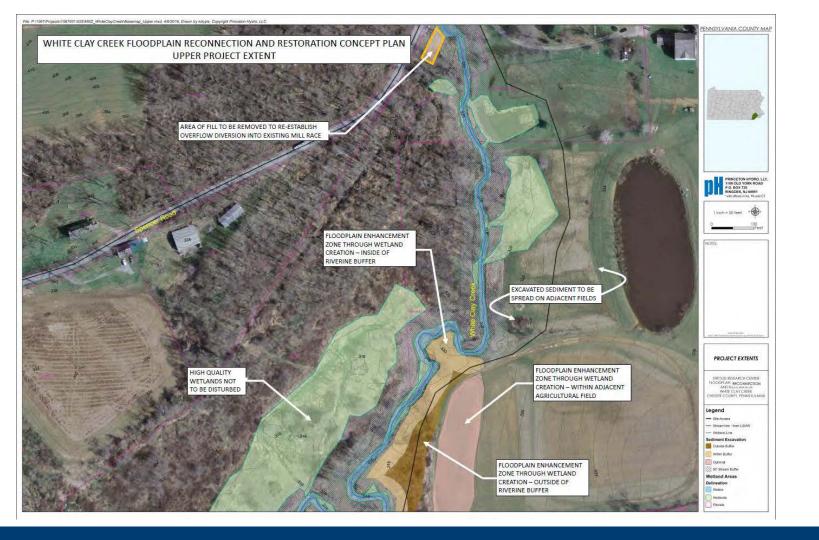




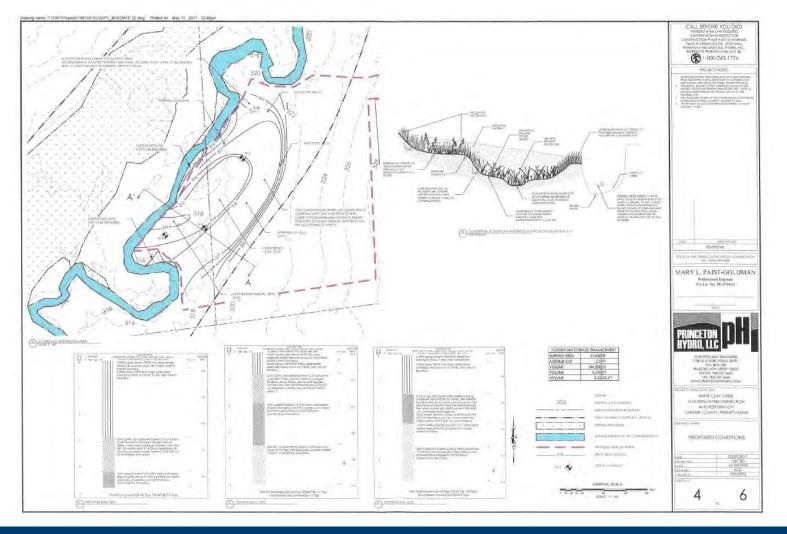
Large Woody Debris

- Slow stormwater flow and downstream sediment movement
- Improve in-stream habitat
- Alter channel shape













During-construction





Floodplain Wetlands

- Provide Flood Storage
- Capture Sediment
- Provide Critical Habitat



Beyond the Riparian Corridor, What is the Watershed Context?

How much can you impact Water Quality and Water Quantity with Watershed Management?

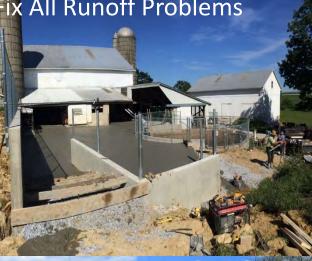
What impact will that have on the stream system?





Fix All Runoff Problems

Forested Stream Buffer



Soil Health

Farm **Stewardship Program:**

Whole Farm **Conservation**





Funded by:







OME	ABOUT



Looking for technical assistance? Find a specialist.

Enriching the Foundation of the Keystone State

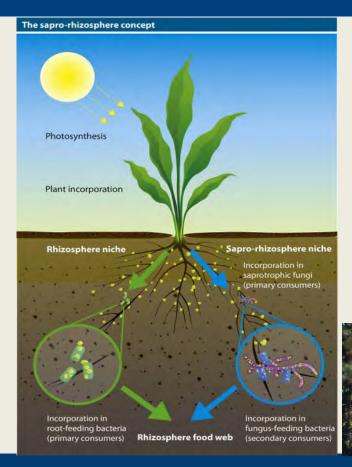
Meet the Members

Technicial Assistance

Soil Health Principles



Agricultural soils are part of a complex ecosystem



Living roots feed the soil biology

Ecosystem services:

- Nutrient cycling and mineralization
- Sequestering carbon & building organic matter
- Disease & pest suppression
- Building soil structure







Living plants & soil microbes build soils



For every 1% increase in soil organic matter, soils can have an additional 17,000 – 25,000 gallons of available water per acre

Improved soil structure and increased soil organic matter



Improving Infiltration

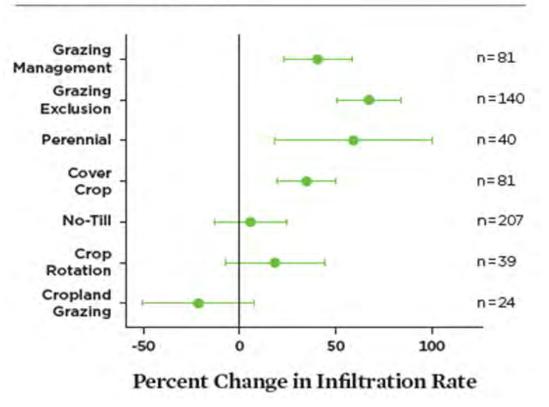


infiltration problem"

– Ray Archuleta



FIGURE 3. Water Infiltration Improves with Alternative Crop and Soil Practices





From Union of Concerned Scientists, 2017. "Soils as Sponges"

Less runoff = less flooding





Sediment transport

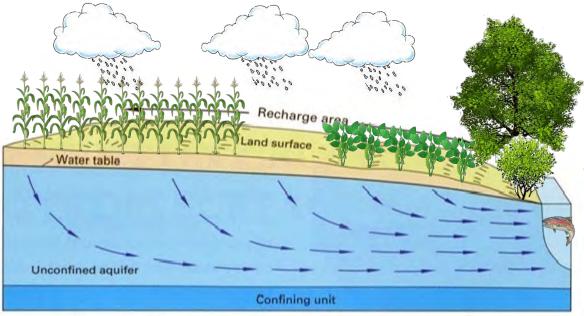


Excess sediment leads to:

- Loss of habitat
- Changes in stream morphology dynamics
- Delivery of nutrients and sometimes pesticides and other potential contaminants



Groundwater recharge

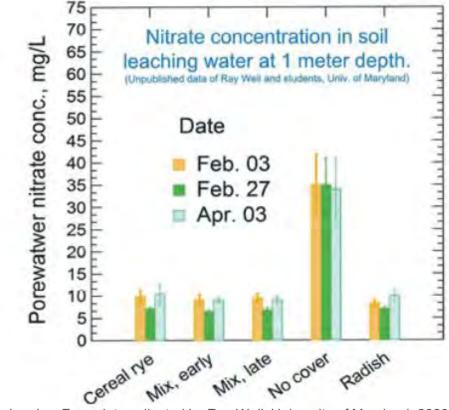


Created by Stroud Water Research Center

Improved soil infiltration rates allow for more groundwater recharge and increases base flow conditions in the streams. Groundwater flow paths can help process nutrients, filter some pollutants, and can help provide cool stream water in summer months



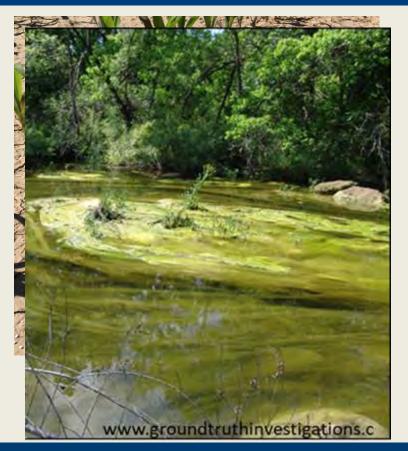
Cover crops can capture nitrates





Harborview Farm data collected by Ray Weil, University of Maryland, 2020.

Nutrient loss to the environment



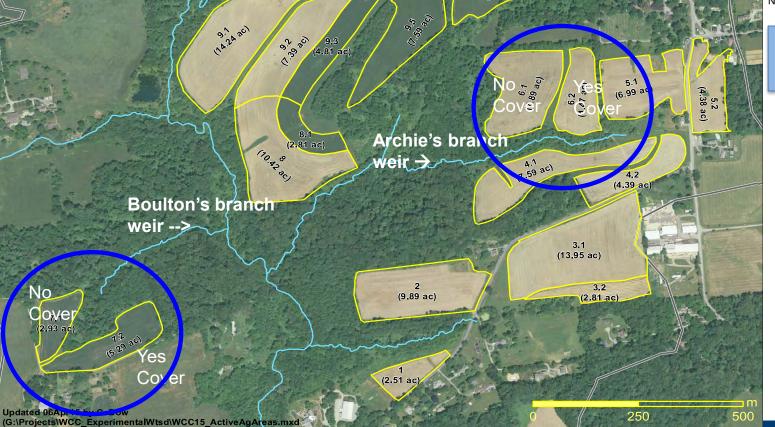
- Only about half of the nitrogen fertilizer applied is absorbed by the crop
- Some farmers are applying N based on 50+ year old research
- Phosphorus is bonded to soil particles and enters waterways via soil erosion
- Biologically active soils retain and cycle nutrients so less fertilizer is required







Evaluating How Conventional, Conservation, and Organic Farming Management Practices Enhance Soil Health and Improve Water Quality





United States Department of Agriculture

Natural Resources Conservation Service

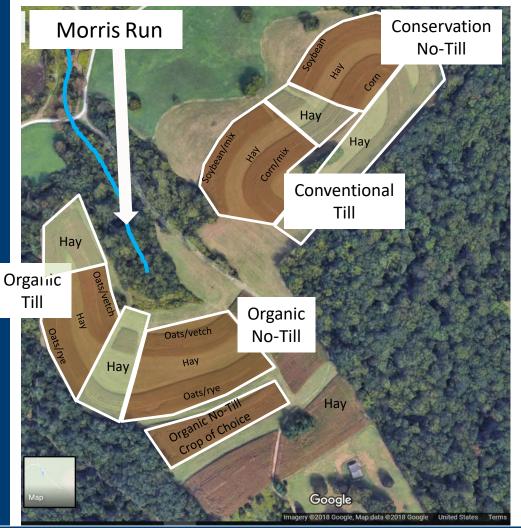




Reducing Pollution from Agriculture in the Delaware River Watershed



Research, outreach and education to identify and encourage the most effective "waterfriendly" agricultural production methods









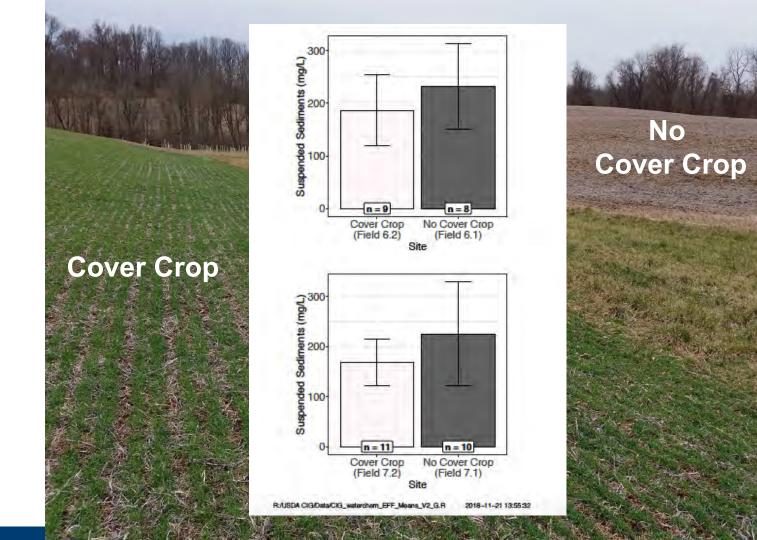




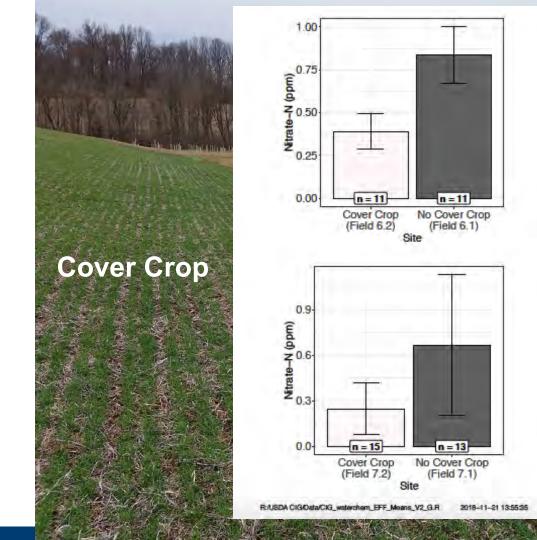












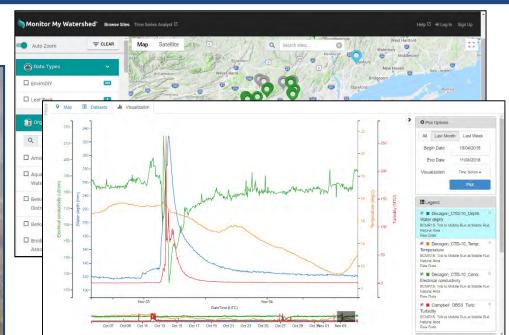




EnviroDIY.org & **Monitor My Watershed**[®] Open-Source Systems for Low-Cost, Realtime Monitoring



U build & deploy



Web software for data capture/visualization

Monitor My Watershed[®] & CinviroDIY.org Webinar Specific Online Resources



https://WikiWatershed.org/

http://MonitorMyWatershed.org/

Monitor My Watershed®



https://www.EnviroDIY.org/





A community of enthusiasts sharing do-it-yourself ideas for environmental science and monitoring

- <u>open-source</u> compatible hardware/software
- web-based forum for users to help each other
- web-based mapping and data capture/visualization
- workshops for training (researchers, citizens scientist, educators, students)

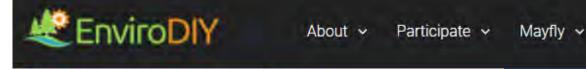


EnviroDIY promotes do-it-yourself environmental monitoring and sells electronic hardware



Shop ~

Videos



Shop



Building an EnviroDIY Monitoring Station Workshop (#260000) \$425.00



EnviroDIY Mayfly Data Logger Board and Starter Kit (Pack of 5) \$405.00

Forums ~

Stroud Water Research Center EnviroDIY Mayfly Data Logger

FREE Shipping by Amazon Only 10 left in stock - order soon.

\$6000

Board

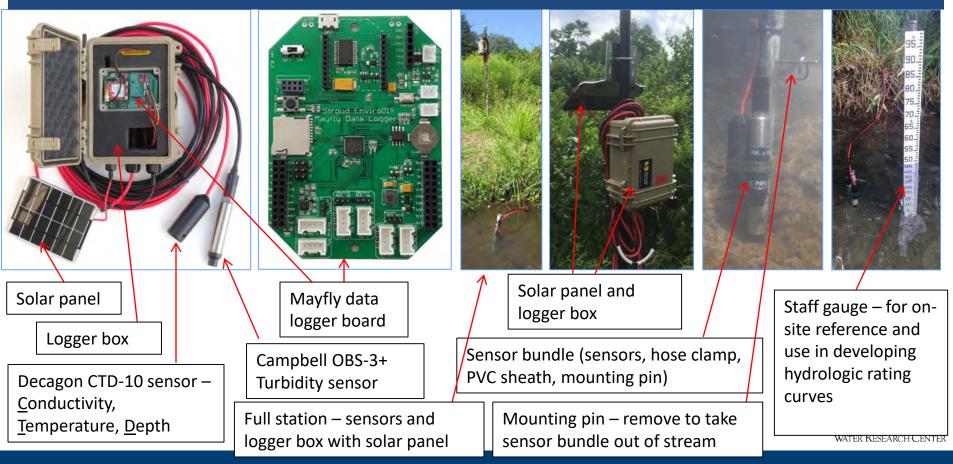
Blog

amazon prime Get it as soon

Read more



EnviroDIY Sensor Station



The Mayfly Datalogger connects to water sensors and transmits data via 4G cell network



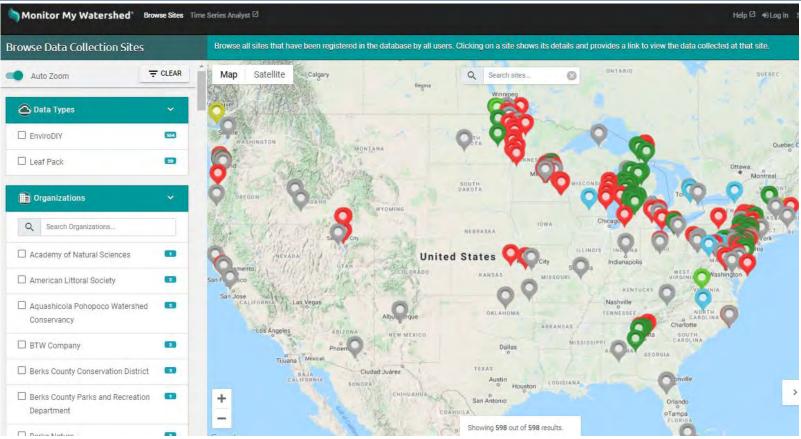




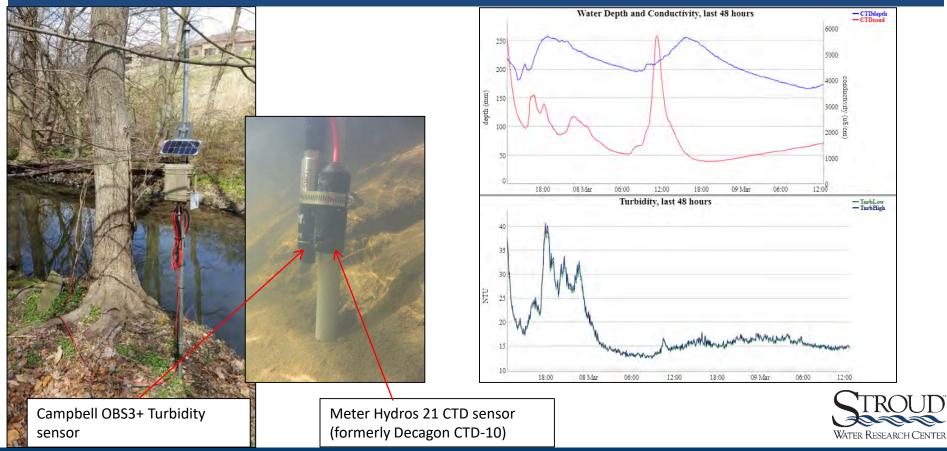


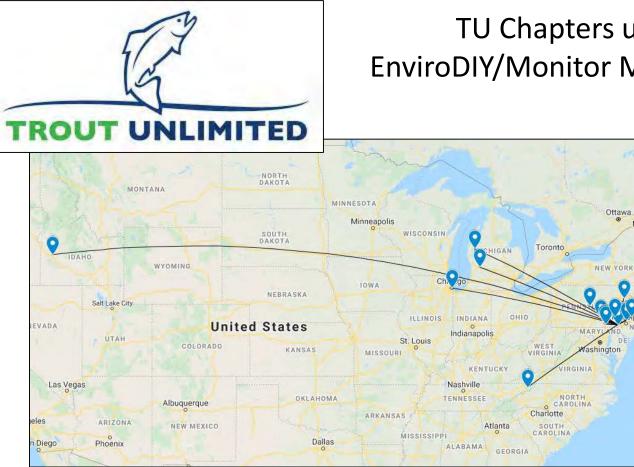
Monitor My Watershed is a web-based data sharing app (an environmental IoT technology)





EnviroDIY Sensor Station





TILChanter	Sta
IY/Monitor My Watershed	
U Chapters utilizing	

Mon

TU Chapter	State
Valley Forge TU	PA
Pike/Wayne TU	PA
Cumberland Valley TU	PA
Donegal TU	PA
Perkiomen TU	PA
Muddy Creek TU	PA
S.E. Montgomery Co. TU	PA
Pennsylvania TU	PA
Tulpehocken TU	PA
Pere Marquette TU	MI
Grand Rapids TU	MI
Elliot Donnelly TU	IL
Overmountain TU	TN
TU National Science Team	ID
New Jersey TU	NJ



50+ sites belonging to various TU Chapters or individuals working with TU Chapters

Bear Creek, Michigan installation with Jake Lemon 2019



Rum Creek, Michigan installation during TU workshop 2019

Valley Creek, PA installation with TU members









¹/₂ to 3 days long, hands-on (usually), all audiences





The *EnviroDIY* Workshop

Hardware Components and Sensors







Programing with Open

Source Software



Building Monitoring

Stations

Strategies for Deployment



Quality Assurance and Control







Data Management, Analysis, and Interpretation





User group support workshops and small group trainings

- For individuals who are already using sensor stations
- Time for discussion, networking, and updates; topics:
 - Maintenance/upkeep
 - Field procedures
 - Quality control procedures
 - Data analysis usage of MonitorMyWatershed
 - Defining/refining goals for data usage









EnviroDIY Hardware

 Departments Browsing History David's Amazon.com
 Today's Deals
 Hello, David Your Account +
 Prime Lists +
 10 Cart

 Computers
 Laptops Tablets Desktops Monitors Computer Accessories PC Components PC Gaming All Electronics

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 FREE Two-Day Shipping with your no-cost account.
 Image: State and Sta

Electronics + Computers & Accessories + Computer Components + Motherboards



Roll over image to zoom in

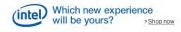
EnviroDIY Mayfly Data Logger Board, Arduino Compatible by Stroud Water Research Center Be the first to review this item

Price: \$60.00 Prime

In Stock.

Sold by Stroud Water Research Center and Fulfilled by Amazon.

- Fully programmable microprocessor board, compatible with the Arduino IDE software
- Atmega 1284p processor, 128K flash memory and 16K RAM
- 24 digital I/O pins, and 8 analog pins, plus a 4-channel 16bit analog-to-digital converter
- Realtime Clock chip, microSD card slot, Bee RF module socket, and solar battery charging capability





the Mayfly, and 2 Grove cables



EnviroDIY Mayfly Data Logger	Share 🖂 📑 💆 👰	
Arduino Compatible Board and Starter Kit	Qty: 1 🔻	
by Stroud Water Research Center Be the first to review this item	Add to Cart	
Price: \$90.00	Turn on 1-Click ordering for	this browser
In Stock. Sold by Stroud Water Research Center and Fulfilled by Amazon.	Ship to: David B. Arscott- LINCO	
 EnviroDIY Mayfly Data Logger Board plus accessories to get you started 	-	
 Includes waterproof enclosure with clear lid and 0.5watt solar panel 	Add to List	+
 Custom microSD connector board plugs into Mayfly for easy access to the memory card 		
+ 4GB microSD card and adapter included	Have one to sell?	ell on Amazon
Also includes 1-meter microUSB cable for programming		

EnviroDIY Forums

About v Community v Mayfly v Blo

Register Log In Q

An Initiative of Stroud Water Research Center

💐 EnviroDIY

Subscribe O EnviroDIY on Gitt fub

Ask a Question

Start a forum topic

Error installing EnviroDIY libraries in

Sara Damiano on Optical dissolved oxygen

rushi on Optical dissolved oxygen solutions?

Sara Damiano on Error installing EnviroDIY

ACTIVITY >

FORUM TOPICS

PlatformIO

O 2018-10-31

FORUM REPLIES

libraries in PlatformIO

Have a question about Dry environmental monitoring? Post it in the forum.

Welcome to EnviroDIY, a community for do-it-yourself environmental science and monitoring. EnviroDIY is part of WikiWatershed, a web toolkit designed to help citizens, conservation practitioners, municipal decision-makers, researchers, educators, and students advance knowledge and stewardship of fresh water. New to EnviroDIY? Start here



Check out the EnviroDIY Mayfly Data Logger, a powerful user-programmable microprocessor board that is fully compatible with Arduino IDE software.



For sketches, libraries, and documentation, visit our EnviroDIY GitHub repository.

COMMUNITY ACTIVITY

SEE ALL ACTIVITY >



Sara Damiano replied to the topic Optical dissolved oxygen solutions? in the forum Environmental Sensors

2 days, I hour ago

I've made an Arduino library for communicating with the Yosemitech sensors: https://gt0uib.com/EnviroDIV/YosemitechModbus-

It's built on top of my modbus library: https://github.com/EnviroDIY/SensorModbusMaster

In the modbus library there's a hardware folder with the plans for a little "wing" board to more easily connect a Yosemitech sensor to. [Read more]



rushi replied to the topic <code>Optical dissolved</code> oxygen solutions? In the forum <code>Environmental Sensors</code> \exists days, 23 hours ago

Hi Thomas and anthony,

) know it has been long since the post was discussed but by any chance did you guys move along with the project and made any breakthroughs? It would really help me alot. Thanks



Forums v

SEE ALL >

lideos

Help

The Internet of Things Meets the Internet of Water © 2018-10-17

BLOG COMMENTS

ENVIRODIY BLOG

neilh on Construction of Water Level Monitoring Sensor Station

Booka on Ultrasonic water depth sensor

fisherba on EnviroDIY Mayfly logger stations deployed in PA, DE and MNI

https://envirodiy.org



EnviroDIY Hardware



About ~ Community

Help darscott 🔯

Q

EnviroDIY on GitHu

An Initiative of Stroud Water Research Center

Home > Getting Started With the Mayfly Data Logger Getting Started With the Mayfly Data Logger

The EnviroDIY Mayfly Data Logger is a powerful, user-programmable microprocessor board that is fully compatible with the Arduino IDE software. It features the ATmega1284p processor, which is much more powerful than the 328p chip found on most other Arduino boards. It has 4 times more flash memory for sketches, 8 times more RAM, and almost twice as many input pins.

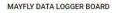
Features:

- 128K Flash memory, 16K RAM
- 28 digital I/O pins, 8 analog pins, plus 4 additional high-resolution ADC pins
- 2 serial UART ports
- microSD memory card socket
- Onboard realtime clock (RTC) (DS3231)
- Solar lipo battery charging
- Low power consumption (6.5 mA when on but idle, 0.27-0.43 mA when in sleep)
- Bee module socket
- 2 LEDs, 1 user programmable pushbutton
- 3.3v main board voltage, additional 5-volt boost circuity for external devices
- Two 20-pin headers for accessing all available I/O pins
- 6 Grove-style sockets for easy connections to sensors and devices



https://envirodiy.org

Mayfly ~



Getting Started

Subscribe

Hardware

Forums ~

loa ~

- Board Features
- Jumper settings

Starter Kit

Accessories

Software

Mayfly Forum

RECENTLY ACTIVE MEMBERS









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EnviroDIY

Do-It-Yourself Environmental Science & Monitoring

EnviroDIY 💿 Stroud Water Research Ce... 💿 http://envirodiy.org/ 🖾 info@envirodiy.org

Users share code here: https://github.com/EnviroDIY

Repositories 21

🚨 People 10 👘 Teams 0 🕅 Projects 0

Pinned repositories

Customize pinned repositories

≡ ModularSensors

An Arduino library to give environmental sensors a common interface of functions for use with Arduinocompatible dataloggers, such as the EnviroDIV Mayfly.

🛑 C++ 🔺 11 🛛 😵 5

≡ SensorModbusMaster

An Arduino library to act as Modbus Master to control a sensor/slave

C++ +4 ¥2

≡ Arduino-SDI-12

Arduino library for SDI-12 communications to a wide variety of environmental sensors. This library provides a general software solution, without requiring any additional hardware.

A library to use an Arduino as a master to control and

communicate with the modbus sensors produced by

Pull requests Issues Marketplace Explore

Settings

● C++ ★ 51 ¥42

≡ YosemitechModbus

Yosemitech. Depends on the EnviroDIY/SensorModbusMaster library.

C++

EnviroDIY_Mayfly_Logger

Sketches and documentation for Arduino-compatible EnviroDIY Mayfly data logger

●C++ ★7 ¥15

≡ Libraries

81

Arduino libraries used with the EnviroDIY Mayfly data logger board

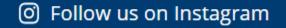


GitHub



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https://stroudcenter.org/events/



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Become a Friend of Stroud Water Research Center



You can take pride in knowing that you are supporting freshwater research, environmental education, and watershed restoration. The Stroud Center's strong financial health and commitment to accountability and transparency have earned it the highest rating from Charity Navigator, America's largest independent charity evaluator. Friends receive our e-news, annual

reports, and invitations to special events.

FUTURE OF FRESH WATER INITIATIVE

Goal: \$20 Million

Nowhere else in the world is there an organization like Stroud Water Research Center, which has focused on understanding, preserving, and protecting fresh water since 1967. To strengthen ongoing research and to expand community empowerment programs to protect clean fresh water regionally and around the world, the Stroud Center has announced its Future of Fresh Water Initiative.



Help us reach our goal. Give to the Future of Fresh Water Initiative. Gifts to the Executive Director's Fund and the Environmental Education Fund will be **DOUBLED** thanks to generous challenge grants!

WATER RESEARCH CENTER



https://stroudcenter.org