

FRIEND PARK POND REHABILITATION



DESCRIPTION

PHOTOS

Forest Hill, Harford County, MD

Friends Park Pond was a State-owned regional stormwater management facility and recreational pond located in Forest Hill, Maryland. The Maryland Department of Natural Resources (DNR) initiated a transfer ownership and maintenance responsibilities to Harford County Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR). The existing pond riser, barrel and embankment were in poor condition and required costly repairs that DPR wanted completed before assuming ownership. The pond was routinely stocked with trout annually and due to poor water quality, fish kills were common during the summer. DPR contracted BayLand for engineering, environmental assessment, permitting, services during construction, and as-builts for the rehabilitation the facility. BayLand also coordinated with Harford County Department of Public Works (DPW) to maximize the amount impervious area treatment credits the project would obtain for their National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System municipal separate storm sewer system permit.

BayLand closely coordinated all design phases with DPR and DNR. BayLand assessed the existing facility, including a MD-378 dam safety inspection to determine the maintenance needs to bring the facility into compliance with Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE) dam safety regulations. BayLand also maximized the amount of water quality that could be provided within the current facility footprint while maintaining the existing flood control. A grading plan for removal of deposited sediments and additional excavation below the original pond bottom was prepared to increase capacity and water quality volume, reduce sediment resuspension and sediment nutrient flux, increase mixing and pond water turnover (inversions), lower water temperatures, and provide deeper fish habitat. Shallow aquatic benches were designed and landscaped with native wetland plantings to provide habitat, nutrient uptake and aesthetic enhancement. A cobble beach area was designed as a fishing area to reduce erosion and increase pedestrian safety. A walking trail and fishing pier were also designed for improved pedestrian access. The embankment, principal spillway, and emergency spillway were completely redesigned to bring the facility into compliance with MD-378 dam safety regulations.

BayLand was responsible for obtaining all permits and approvals from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, MDE Water Management Administration Nontidal Wetlands Division and Dam Safety Division, Natural Resources Conservation Services/Soil Conservation Service, Harford County DPW, and County Fire Department.

The project was successfully completed in August 2012 and provides 11.7 acres of impervious area treatment and 147, 17 and 9,100 pounds per year removal of Total Nitrogen, Total Phosphorous and Total Suspended Solids respectively. The pond and associated park are a popular designation for Harford County residents for recreational activities.

Client | Harford County Department of Public Works

Engineer | BayLand

Completed | 2012

Construction Cost | \$650,000

