Breewood Watershed Restoration
A community collaborative effort to bring life back to an urban stream

Breewood is located in the southeastern portion of the County near Wheaton. It flows into Sligo Creek which is a tributary of the Anacostia River. The tributary drains 63 acres of highly developed urban area. A comprehensive biological and water quality study shows that past development had degraded the tributary. Over the years, the uncontrolled storm flows have resulted in erosion, pollution and poor water quality and wildlife habitat.

In 2009, Montgomery County, in partnership with the community, launched a multi-year restoration initiative to implement a series of projects to reverse the stream damage and improve water quality. The $4.7 million multi-year initiative was completed in 2018. The County will continue to monitor the condition of the stream and the performance of the projects implemented.

Breewood Stream Restoration
1,200 linear feet of stream channel was reconstructed to reduce erosion and improve habitat for aquatic life. Additionally, trees, shrubs and meadow grasses were planted along the tributary to further improve environmental conditions.

University Towers
New stormwater management practices, including rain gardens and pervious pavements were installed at the condominium to manage stormwater runoff from the parking lot. [Impervious Surface Treated: 3.70 Acres]

Northwood Presbyterian Church
The bioretention garden located at the end of church parking lot captures and filters the runoff from the parking lot. [Impervious Surface Treated: 0.50 Acres]

Breewood Manor
Roadside bioretention gardens along Breewood Road side bioretention and raingardens were installed along the end of Tenbrook Drive and Breewood Road to filter and slow runoff before it reaches the stream. [Impervious Surface Treated: 0.07 Acres]

Breewood Road Bioretention
The bioretention garden located at the end of Breewood Road captures stormwater coming from the neighborhood and filters the runoff before it reaches the stream. [Impervious Surface Treated: 0.01 Acres]

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Did you know?
Maryland’s Chesapeake & Atlantic Coastal Bays Trust Fund grant provided $3.2 million to construct the projects in Breewood.
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Bioretention Gardens:
How does it work?
Bioretention gardens are built with layers of filtering materials (e.g. sand) to absorb and filter rain water. Water typically drains after 24hrs.

Pictured: Bioretention garden at Northwood Presbyterian Church

Bioretention Gardens:
Seasonality
Bioretention gardens are planted with various salt tolerant flowers and grasses to help absorb rain water. These flowers bloom during different seasons giving a different look over the year.

Pictured: Breewood Manor Green Streets Bioretention garden at the end of Tenbrook Drive.

The stream was severely eroded and incised from urban runoff. The restoration work stabilized the stream banks, raised the stream bed, and new trees were planted along the stream. This helped the stream reconnect with the floodplain allowing water to infiltrate and reducing the speed of the stream flow. The graph below shows the depth of the stream channel before and after restoration.

### AREA 1, XSEC1

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Width/Depth Ratio</th>
<th>Entrenchment Ratio</th>
<th>Floodprone Width (ft)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
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<tr>
<td>11.6</td>
<td>1.2</td>
<td>6.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>55.5</td>
<td>1.8</td>
<td>36.5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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**Tree Box at University Towers**

**Porous Pavement at University Towers**

**Bioretention Garden at University Towers**

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**February 2013**

**June 2015**

**Fall**

**Winter**

**Spring**