Watershed Restoration Program and Purpose of the Forest Estates Stormwater Project

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What is the Problem?

- Impervious (hard surfaces) = Increased runoff & pollutants

- Reduced groundwater recharge (infiltration)

- Increased storm flows & decreased base flows

- Streams eroded, incised

- Storm drain systems convey heated, dirty water directly to streams

- Infrastructure threatened

- Degraded aquatic habitat & water quality

Montgomery County's (NPDES) Permit
National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System

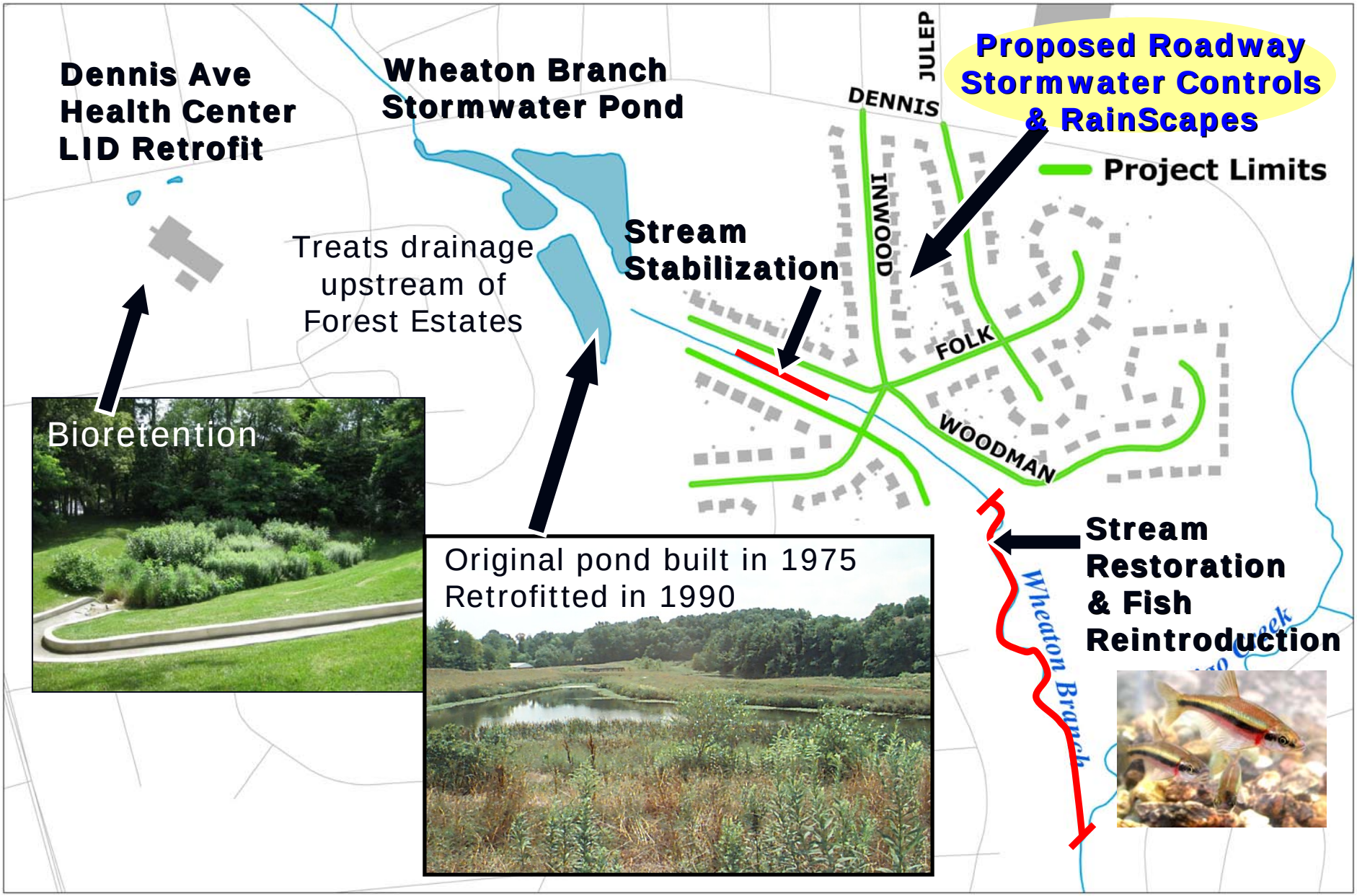
- Montgomery County's NPDES Permit (issued in 2010) Requires:
  - New stormwater management for 20% of existing impervious area that is currently unmanaged (~ 4,100 acres).
  - Meet goals set forth in the "Potomac River Watershed Trash Treaty"
  - Identify pollution sources and improve water quality in all county watersheds
  - Increase use of Environmental Site Design (ESD), or **Low Impact Development (LID)**
    - Variety of small-scale practices to capture stormwater runoff close to the source
    - Slows rate and reduces volume of runoff
    - Allows stormwater to soak into the ground, replenishing ground water
    - Filters out pollutants

Bioretention

Pervious Pavers

Curb Extension

Efforts on Wheaton Branch



Proposed Project Goals

- Maximize stormwater management to improve conditions in the Wheaton Branch tributary and Sligo Creek
- Improve water quality treatment
- Encourage infiltration of runoff from parking lots, roadways and other impervious surfaces
- Fulfill the requirements in the County's National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit

It's easy being green...
Happy St Pat's Day to Ya!
joish07