



Clean Water. Healthy Life.

BEST PRACTICES *for* STORMWATER MANAGEMENT IN METROPOLITAN KANSAS CITY

STREAMBANK STABILIZATION | EROSION CONTROL

Lazy Branch Creek, Salem East Subdivision, Independence, Missouri

Goals

To stabilize streambanks, reduce stormwater flow rates, and reduce further erosion. The resulting pools and riffles, complete with native vegetation, will provide habitats for wildlife.

Description

The project is located in the Salem East Subdivision in unincorporated Jackson County. There are approximately fifty five homes with rear yard frontage to the creek which has experienced erosion problems over the last two decades, due to excess stormwater.

The Jackson County Legislature approved a \$1 million bond in 2005 to address the problems in the creek. A plan using natural stabilization techniques has been prepared with construction to begin in summer 2006 and completion in 2007. The plan stresses the use of natural methods of streambank restoration, including vegetative slope stabilization and Turf Reinforcement Mats (TRMs).

Several public meetings were held to gain input from residents on the project and to give the county the opportunity to educate them on stormwater issues. Residents became supportive of the project after touring similar project sites.

Community Benefits & Lessons Learned

The Lazy Branch Creek stabilization project has given the county an opportunity to educate residents in the Salem East neighborhood about stormwater issues, especially regarding the benefits of using native plants for stabilization and runoff retention. Once complete, the project will be part of the county's ongoing campaign for community involvement in reducing the effects of stormwater through rain gardens as well as the widespread use of native plants.

Funding Sources and Partnerships

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Complete erosion of the concrete aprons in the Lazy Branch Creek.



Example of using natural stabilization to divert and reduce the flow of water.