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National Fish & Wildlife Foundation Delaware River Restoration Fund | 2014 Award Descriptions

<p>Restoring Paulins Kill Floodplain Forests and Functions (NJ Highlands)</p> <p>\$99,759</p>	<p>The Nature Conservancy</p>	<p>NJ</p>	<p>TNC proposes a 20-acre, one-mile riparian restoration and vegetative streambank stabilization project within a contiguous 3-mile restoration corridor of the Paulins Kill to improve water quality, floodplain function and promote long-term watershed health. The project will further enhance and extend an ongoing riparian restoration partnership project that was successfully initiated in 2012 throughout 2 miles of adjacent floodplain and link a riparian corridor across agricultural, commercial, and state-preserved properties.</p>
<p>Barrett's Run Afforestation and Grassland Buffer Project (Kirkwood-Cohansey)</p> <p>\$63,852</p>	<p>American Littoral Society</p>	<p>NJ</p>	<p>The American Littoral Society will afforest and develop grasslands on 7.5 acres of recently preserved land along Barrett's Run in Hopewell Township, Cumberland County. Much of the preserved property is currently in agricultural use. The riparian buffer will be increased by afforesting and establishing grasslands on this site -- thereby protecting water quality and habitats in Barrett's Run and surrounding wetlands. This area will also be used as an outdoor classroom for nearby Hopewell Crest School (K-8). Plants and habitats will be identified by signage to include quick response (QR) codes that link directly to an integrated plants database to help facilitate extended learning.</p>
<p>Synergistic Conservation Strategies in the Highlands (NJ Highlands)</p> <p>\$132,213</p>	<p>New Jersey Audubon Society</p>	<p>NJ</p>	<p>The New Jersey Audubon Society will improve, enhance and restore land that provides both habitat and natural resource protection opportunities. The project will focus on riparian restoration; implementation of agricultural and forest best management practices; and nutrient removal via alternative technologies, such as phytoremediation (using bulrush, cattail and warm-season grasses). Stream bank stabilization will be promoted and/or utilized where appropriate to help reduce sediment load and maintain low water temperatures. Alternative cover crop vegetation for habitat and soil retention will also be promoted.</p>



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<p>Turkey Hill and West Portal Brook Restoration: Ag BMPs (NJ Highlands)</p> <p>\$100,000</p>	<p>Musconetcong Watershed Association</p>	<p>NJ</p>	<p>In the proposed Turkey Hill and West Portal Brook Restoration Project, the Musconetcong Watershed Association will utilize agricultural best management practices to restore two tributaries to the Musconetcong River, major tributary to the Delaware River in the New Jersey Highlands. This work will result in reduced nutrients and bacterial contamination (specifically fecal coliform) and help the Musconetcong meet state water quality standards.</p>
<p>Creating a Model for Local Green Infrastructure Practices (Kirkwood-Cohansey)</p> <p>\$75,000</p>	<p>Association of New Jersey Environmental Commissioners</p>	<p>NJ</p>	<p>This project will build capacity of local governments to adopt green infrastructure and encourage green infrastructure practices on private lands. With Rutgers Cooperative Extension Water Resources Program and the Woodstown-Pilesgrove Environmental Commission, ANJEC will perform an impervious cover assessment, create a reduction plan, install up to four examples for residents and municipal officials, and use this project as a case study to inform and encourage other municipalities and private landowners on best management practices for stormwater and how to implement them in their communities.</p>
<p>Agricultural Best Management Practices in the Kirkwood-Cohansey Cluster (Kirkwood-Cohansey)</p> <p>\$138,355</p>	<p>New Jersey Audubon Society</p>	<p>NJ</p>	<p>This project will increase agricultural BMP implementation in the Kirkwood-Cohansey Cluster, and includes promotion and implementation of natural resource conservation practices in the Salem, Cohansey-Maurice, western Cape May, and Greater Hammonton focal areas. Emphasis will be on BMPs that mitigate agricultural impacts to the Kirkwood-Cohansey Aquifer system and associated waterways to reduce water use, soil erosion, and nutrient inputs to surface waters and groundwater. NJAS expects 190 acres to be enrolled in BMPs in four focal areas as a result of this project.</p>
<p>Brandywine-Christina Watershed Restoration Project (Brandywine-Christina)</p> <p>\$250,000</p>	<p>Brandywine Conservancy, Inc.</p>	<p>PA</p>	<p>In the proposed Brandywine-Christina Watershed Restoration Project, the Brandywine Conservancy will provide outreach, technical assistance and implement agricultural best management practices within three of the NFWF-grant designated Brandywine-Christina focus areas, Honey Brook Headwaters (Upper West Branch Brandywine Creek), Sharitz Run, and the west fork of the East Branch White Clay Creek. All streams sections are listed as “impaired” by Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection due to agricultural stressors.</p>



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<p>Improving Water Quality in the Brandywine/Christina Basin (Brandywine-Christina)</p> <p>\$300,000</p>	<p>Brandywine Valley Association, Inc</p>	<p>PA</p>	<p>The Brandywine Valley Association will apply innovative as well as time-tested techniques to restore four “red” streams (impaired) to “blue” (unimpaired) in the Brandywine/Christina Basin. Guided by restoration plans for eight sub watersheds in the Basin that identify projects that could make the largest impact on water quality, BVA will secure landowner support and engages professionals to design the restoration. Restoration will incorporate streambank stabilization, in-stream structures and a planted buffer of native grasses, trees, and shrubs. BVA partners with Stroud Water Research Center, Brandywine Conservancy, and the Chester County Conservation District.</p>
<p>Jenkintown Creek Restoration Projects (Suburban Philadelphia)</p> <p>\$155,000</p>	<p>Tookany/Tacony-Frankford Watershed Partnership</p>	<p>PA</p>	<p>On the 50 acre Abington Friends School campus, the Partnership is proposing to install a rain garden and bioswale to convey, store and infiltrate stormwater from a parking lot and driveway. A stream buffer along 500' of the headwaters of the Jenkintown Creek will be installed. The 130 acre Sisters of Saint Basil the Great is located one mile downstream, and will include bio retention areas to capture runoff from a parking lot that flows to the Creek. The Partnership will also remove a 1500 sq ft concrete pool that is now silted in and overgrown with Phragmites, and restore the area to a natural wetland feature.</p>
<p>Leveraging Agricultural Best Management Practices and Forested Buffers for Middle Schuylkill (Middle Schuylkill)</p> <p>\$300,000</p>	<p>Stroud Water Research Center</p>	<p>PA</p>	<p>This project will provide technical and financial assistance for whole farm conservation using Stroud Water Research Center’s “raise the bar” approach which requires participating farms to have all required plans, fix any barnyard/animal concentration areas posing risks of runoff to streams, and restore wide, forested buffers on all streams. A new partnership model will bring funding to the county conservation district to expand its capacity for delivering technical assistance to farms.</p>



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<p>Berks Conservancy Middle Schuylkill Best Management Practices (Middle Schuylkill)</p> <p>\$300,000</p>	<p>Berks County Conservancy</p>	<p>PA</p>	<p>BCC will install agriculture best management practices to reduce nutrients available to surface, ground, storm, and drinking waters. BMPs will be developed with NRCS in Conservation and Nutrient Plans and include NRCS EQIP practices including manure storage; decommissioning of failed practices; stormwater, barnyard, silo, and milkhouse controls; grazing and streambank fencing; stream crossings; riparian buffers with CREP, and cover crops. Reductions in nutrients can improve wild trout populations as high quality headwaters above projects contain wild breeding trout populations.</p>
<p>East Branch of Indian Creek Stormwater Management Initiative (Suburban Philadelphia)</p> <p>\$179,000</p>	<p>Lower Merion Conservancy</p>	<p>PA</p>	<p>The Lower Marion Conservancy will lead four projects focused on improving water quality, streamside buffers and habitat, stormwater infiltration and community engagement. Activities include conducting stream bank plantings, creating rain gardens along an active pedestrian street, installing residential-scale rainwater management devices at a local library and completing a major streambank stabilization project. The projects are an extension of ongoing efforts and will coordinate and finish all options for improving water quality in the headwaters of this creek.</p>
<p>Pennypack Watershed Stormwater Treatment Wetland (Suburban Philadelphia)</p> <p>\$165,000</p>	<p>Pennypack Ecological Restoration Trust</p>	<p>PA</p>	<p>The Pennypack Ecological Trust will establish a stormwater treatment wetland (STW) in the Pennypack watershed to capture stormwater runoff from an upgradient residential subdivision of approximately 40 acres, and from approximately 20 acres of pasture and woodlands on the College Settlement property. The STW will have the capacity for a 2-inch precipitation event and will remove multiple surface water contaminants (nutrients, inorganic suspended particles, etc.) through a variety of biotic (bacterial reduction/transformation) and abiotic (sedimentation) processes.</p>



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<p>Darby-Cobbs Stormwater Initiative: Getting to the New Normal (Innovation)</p> <p>\$51,290</p>	<p>Pennsylvania Resources Council</p>	<p>PA</p>	<p>PRC and Eastern Delaware County Stormwater Collaborative will partner with member municipalities, community organizations, schools, residents, and businesses to build capacity for stormwater BMPs and green infrastructure in the Darby-Cobbs watershed near Philadelphia in Delaware County, PA. The project will leverage a Pilot Integrated Rain Garden and Green Infrastructure Initiative in Haverford Township as well as additional projects constructed in high-visibility locations to train regional Rain Garden Resource Teams. The project will directly engage more than 1500 watershed stakeholders and reach over 10,000 residents via educational signage and web and social media outreach.</p>
<p>Green Infrastructure Plan for Lower Brodhead Watershed (Innovation)</p> <p>\$62,804</p>	<p>Brodhead Watershed Association</p>	<p>PA</p>	<p>With municipal partners, BWA and the Monroe County Planning Commission and Conservation District will identify sources of fecal coliform and other impacts to Brodhead Creek, and develop a Green Infrastructure Plan to reduce polluted runoff entering the streams, identify green infrastructure opportunities and craft conceptual plans of appropriate projects. The Partners also plan an education campaign to include information on water quality and actions individuals and businesses can take to improve stream health. The Brodhead Creek is known by many as the birthplace of American flyfishing.</p>