# Capital Project D-1158 Windy Knolls Wetland Mitigation Bank and TMDL Stream Restoration Project

Howard County Department of Public Works
Utility Design Division & Storm Water Management Division

Community Meeting
October 24, 2019





# Agenda

- Project Team
- Project Background
- Design
- Construction
- Questions/Discussion



## **Project Team**





- Howard County DPW
  - ► Kin Siew, Utility Design Division
  - Mark Richmond & Michele Monde, Storm Water Management Division
- Century Engineering, Inc./Straughan Environmental, Inc. Joint Venture
  - Eleanor Wilson, Century
  - Ward Oberholtzer, Century
  - Joe Arrowsmith, Straughan

# **Project Background**

Project Purpose

Project History

## Project Purpose

- Windy Knolls site is located in a <u>priority watershed for</u> <u>restoration</u>.
  - County partnership to complete the Windy Knolls restoration for two shared goals.
    - Stream Restoration Nutrient reduction credit for the County(SWM Division)
    - Future Wetland Mitigation site for Capital Improvement projects (Utility Design Division)

## Project History

- County anticipated up to 3 AC of offsite wetland mitigation for Capital Project S-6280 Hammond, Patuxent & Dorsey sewer interceptor improvement projects
  - Mitigation site search within Patuxent watershed completed in 2014
  - Gained agency site approval Presented preferred site and concept design to USACE/MDE and visited the site (Dec. 2014)
  - Began site studies in 2015
    - Geotechnical investigation
    - Groundwater monitoring
    - Natural Resource inventories
    - Stream assessments, etc.
  - Avoidance and minimization on sewer projects = no wetland mitigation requirement
- With design underway, County continued pursuit of the site restoration for TMDL and County Wetland Bank goals.

## Project History (cont'd)

- With studies completed and design underway, County continued pursuit of the site restoration for TMDL and County Wetland Bank goals.
  - Capital Project S-6280 Studies /Design/ Wetland Bank Establishment Phase
  - ■Capital Project D-1158 Construction Phase

# **Site Conditions**

Site Location

Site History

Natural Resources

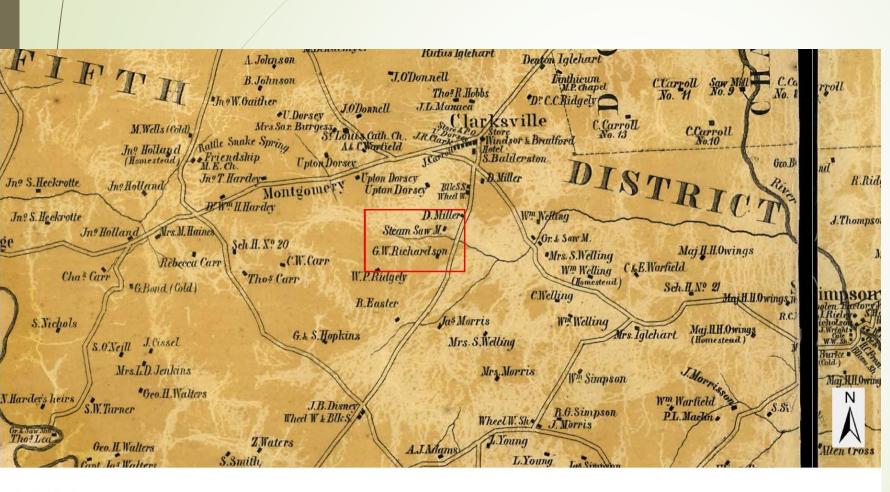
### Site Conditions

- Windy Knolls as preferred site:
  - Comprehensive Ecological Restoration Site wetland/stream/forest
    - Restoring historic filled wetland/floodplain complex
    - Limited tree clearing needed. Mostly existing meadow habitat.
  - 5 AC of potential wetland creation/restoration
  - Priority County Restoration Area & Tier II Waterway
  - Contiguous to Forest Conservation/Floodplain Easements
  - Already in preservation
  - Primarily County owned property
  - Reduce sediment in stream (TMDL credit for stream if not needed for mitigation)





### Site History



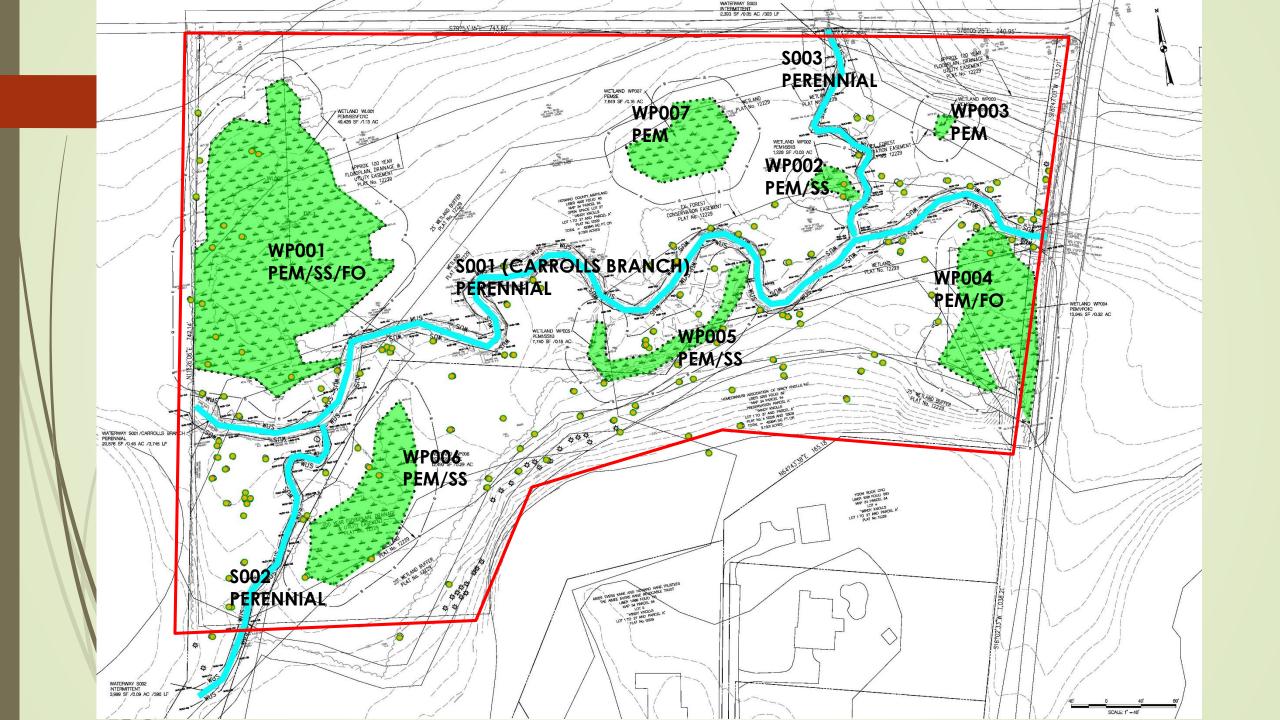
- Mill dam at MD 108
- Sedimentation of historic floodplain

Date: 1850

Source: Simon J. Martenet, loc.gov

Scale: NTS

— General Study Area Location



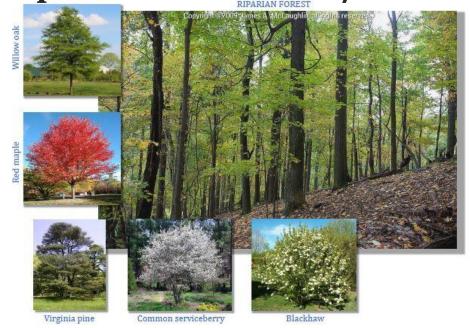




# Design Overview



Proposed Habitats/Landscape





- 1,123 Trees Planted
- 1,080 Shrubs Planted
- 24 Woody Species Proposed
- 2.66 AC of Upland Forest Restored
- 5.13 AC of Floodplain/Wetland Restored
- 4 Habitat Types
- Pollinator Species/Habitat





# Permitting

## **Project Permits**

### Maryland Historical Trust

- No resources of concern identified as being affected by the project
- Maryland Department of Natural Resources & U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
  - Rare, Threatened & Endangered Species Review No species/habitats of concern identified as being affected by the project
  - Howard Co. Soil Conservation District Erosion & Sediment Control
  - Maryland State Highway Administration
    - Roadside Tree Permit
    - Access Permit
  - Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE)
    - National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit
  - MDE & U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
    - Nontidal Wetlands and Waterways Permit
    - ■Interagency Review Team Wetland Bank Review and Approval
  - ALL permits approved except pending Wetland Bank Approval.

## Construction

Estimated Timeline

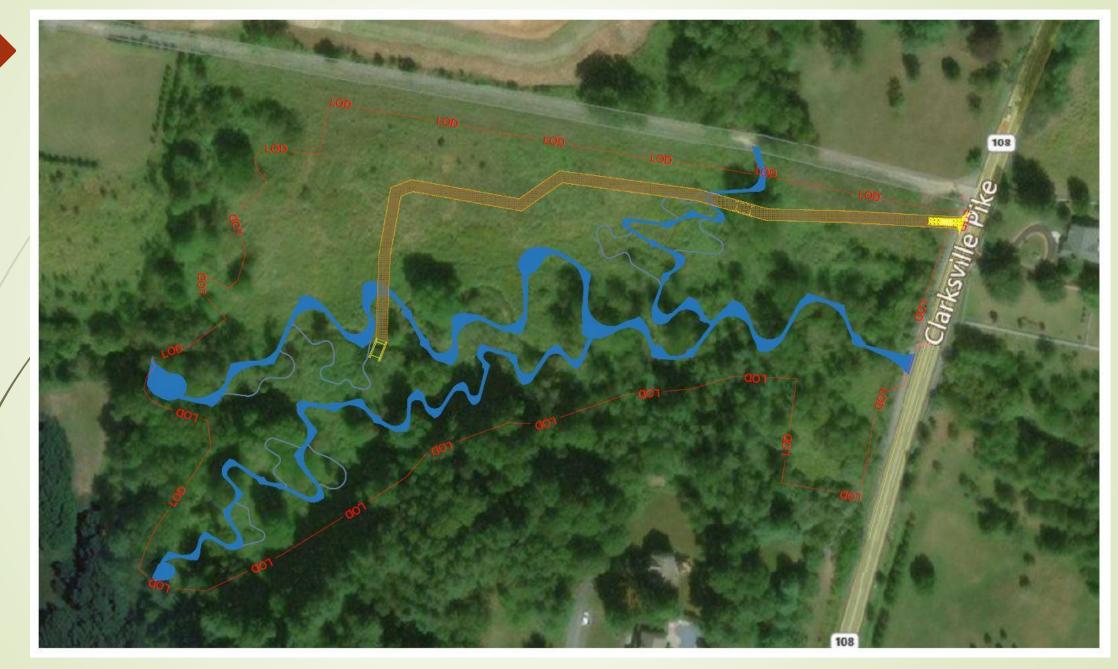
Site Access & Limit of Disturbance

**Example Projects** 

## **Project Timeline**

- Project approvals and final plans January 2020
- Begin construction Spring/Summer 2020
- ■Construction duration 8 to 12 months
  - ■Construction access off of MD 108
- Post construction monitoring for 5 to 7 years
  - Groundwater
  - Vegetation
  - Stream stability

## Site Access & Limit of Disturbance



## Example Floodplain Restoration Projects



# **Questions & Discussion**