

Carbondale Industrial Development Authority

Phone: (570) 282-2882

Project Manager: Nancy Perri

Grant Amount: \$141,500

The Carbondale Yards Plantings and Buffer project advanced the completion of the Carbondale Yards Industrial Park, improved its marketability, and promoted sustainable recreational use along the Lackawanna River. This work is in concert with the environmental issues of brownfield development and has helped protect the river from negative impacts caused by construction of an infrastructure road and light industrial development adjacent to the river.

Tree and shrub plantings, seeding wildflowers, and cleanup contributed to visible site improvements. Restoration efforts included closing of riparian gaps along the river walk, plantings of native species to increase species diversity, and enhancement of the existing edge with native canopy, understory, and shrub species. Soil restoration strategies included amendments, the use of recycled composted oak pallets, liming, and slow release fertilizers.

Significant Revisions to the Scope of Work

A 1000-foot section of proposed roadway was realigned to save 800-lft. of riparian edge. Due to delays in obtaining a special use permit from DEP, field research plots dedicated to the use of cogeneration ash for soil amendment purposes was not implemented.

Project Value and Match

Grant Award	\$141,500
Cash Contributions	\$265,310
In-kind Contributions	<u>\$10,615</u>
Total Project Cost	\$417,425



Project Accomplishments

- Planted 72 canopy trees, 191 evergreen trees, 86 understory trees, 232 shrubs, 124 evergreen saplings, and 57 herbaceous plants.
- Eradicated 2,500-sq.ft. of invasive Japanese knotweed.
- Improved 3,400-l.ft. of river woodland with native plants.
- Enhanced 3.5-acres of culm-based woodland with native plants.
- Realigned roadway to save approx. 800-l.ft. of riparian edge.
- Completed a site inventory of native and nonnative vegetation.
- Provided technical assistance to local engineering firm with little experience in restoration work.
- Developed lists of native deciduous tree, evergreen tree and shrub species adaptable for culm-based restoration projects.
- Developed specific soil amendment protocols for culm-based soils.
- Constructed 3,400-l.ft. of trail along the river.
- Used 600-cubic yards of recycled oak pallet mulch and organic material to amend the culm-based soils.
- Promoted soil amendment research on cogeneration ash and its capillary action ability for culm site restoration.
- Constructed a link between the Heritage Trail and D & H Trail.
- Created recreational opportunities for local residents.
- Worked with 17 volunteers who committed 238 hours of service.
- Improved the working environment for future employees.
- Achieved a 1 to 1.95 cost share ratio on the grant.

Partners' Contributions

- Carbondale Community Dev. Zone – Financial assistance
- Carbondale Enterprise Dev. Corp. – Administrative assistance
- Carbondale Main Street Program – Technical assistance
- Carbondale YMCA – Project support
- Carbondale Technology Transfer Center – Technical assistance
- Chilewski Construction – Site work
- Forest City Biology Club – School presentations about project
- Lackawanna County Recycling Center – Mulch at reduced rate
- Lackawanna Heritage Valley Authority – Technical assistance
- Nat. Institute for Environmental Renewal – Technical assistance
- Synergist Inc. – Environmental cleanup data

