

# Stream Daylighting

Wray Creek was “daylighted” from an old wood stave pipe and restored as a natural creek.

*What are Riparian Areas?*



*At this location, Wray Creek was once enclosed in an old wooden culvert dating back to approximately 1968. The pipe was failing and it was decided to “daylight” the creek by removing it from the pipe and restoring habitat.*

*Riparian areas are located next to wetlands, lakes and streams. The distinct vegetation provides food, cover and habitat for fish and wildlife.*

## Wray Creek

In 2009, a new channel and two ponds were excavated and revegetated. The stream was transferred to the new channel in stages and now provides habitat for a variety of aquatic plants and animals. Wray Creek flows into Tod Creek, which is fish-bearing. Restoration of the new stream bank (riparian area) was accomplished in part with native plant cuttings.

The native plant cover, including woody trees and shrubs, helps prevent blackberry and other invasive plants from taking over and creates important habitat. Students of Prospect Lake School planted trees as part of the riparian restoration. The restoration design was developed to minimize the need for future maintenance and to return the site to a natural condition as soon as possible.



Excavating the new stream bed before the stream was transferred.



Riparian vegetation was planted to stabilize banks and provide habitat.



BEFORE the stream was daylighted, it was in a pipe under this field of invasive plants.



AFTER the stream was daylighted, native plants were used to stabilize the soils and create habitat.



The original pipe, next to the new streambed before it was removed.

