

Extreme Stream Makeover

Between 2007 and 2011, the James River Association (JRA) has organized four Extreme Stream Makeover events in different subwatersheds of Virginia's James River basin, with plans for future events in the works. Extreme Stream Makeover, as described by JRA, is "a weeklong restoration project designed to improve the health, sustainability and aesthetic appeal of a selected stream within the James River watershed." Restoration techniques used for Extreme Stream Makeovers usually include stormwater retrofits such as bioretention, rain gardens, and rain barrels, stream buffer tree plantings, trash cleanups, and streambank stabilization. These are truly community-wide restoration projects that involve hundreds of local volunteers from garden clubs, civic organizations, schools, colleges, businesses, government agencies, and more. Past Extreme Stream Makeover events have been held in: Colonial Heights (April 2007), Henrico County (October 2008), Lynchburg (October 2009), and Newport News (April 2011). The next is tentatively planned for the Charlottesville area.

The Center for Watershed Protection has partnered in each past Extreme Stream Makeover, serving in a variety of capacities. We have helped JRA identify stream reaches in need of restoration and stormwater retrofit opportunities, developed design plans and material lists for bioretention and rain gardens, provided oversight and hands-on help during construction of retrofits, and assisted in managing volunteers during the events.

More information about past Extreme Stream Makeover events can be found at: www.jamesriverassociation.org.

James River Watershed

Completed
2007-Present

Client

James River Association
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Contact

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Total Budget

Varies

