

# Nine Mile Run Aquatic Ecosystem Restoration Project

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Friday, January 17th  
12:15\* -1:15 pm, 202 Hammond Building

The *Nine Mile Run Aquatic Ecosystem Restoration Project* is a joint effort by the City of Pittsburgh and the United States Army Corps of Engineers, Pittsburgh District, to restore the aquatic habitat along Nine Mile Run. The project is primarily funded through the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection's Growing Greener program and the by Section 206 of the Water Resources Development Act of 1996. The budget is \$7.7 million. The project's goal is to restore the degraded aquatic ecosystem, which includes aquatic and terrestrial improvements.

Nine Mile Run is one of the only remaining above-ground stream channels within the Pittsburgh City limits. The 1.9 mile long stream flows in the southern portion of the City through Frick Park to its confluence with the Monongahela River.

The 7 square mile  $\pm$  watershed is 43% impervious and extremely urbanized. This produces unnatural hydraulic and hydrologic conditions making stream stabilization challenging.

The upper reach of the stream flows through Frick Park, the largest park in Pittsburgh's park system. This substantial open space provides opportunity to enhance the degraded stream channel, expand jurisdictional wetland areas, and expand the diversity of native vegetation. The lower reach has been severely impacted by the dumping of 17 million cubic yards of slag, a by product steel production.

To date, Nine Mile Run is the largest single funding recipient of Pennsylvania's Department of Environmental Protection's Growing Greener program. There are numerous stakeholders and interests groups in this urban restoration project.

The project design is essentially complete with portions of construction initiated.

More can be read about the project at the following URL's:

<http://www.lrp.usace.army.mil/pm/ninemile/electrnc/index.htm>  
<http://slaggarden.cfa.cmu.edu/>

\* Note that this is a 'brown bag' seminar series. 202 Hammond will be open at 12:00pm and you are encouraged to bring a lunch, show up early, and socialize with your colleagues.