



Cove Spring Stream and Wetland Restoration
Frankfort, KY
September, 2012 - January, 2013

Because of its convenient location in downtown Frankfort, Cove Spring Park is not only an oasis for wildlife, but also the public. Numerous people visit the park daily to enjoy its natural beauty and unique environments. The park offers the unique ability to educate a wide audience about the measures taken to help protect the park's greatest assets, its environmental and historical features.

Over time, the landscape and waterways in the park had been altered several times by both nature and man. Cove Spring Run and Penitentiary Branch had cut tall, steep and dangerous banks through the park. This site was identified as an ideal location for a KDFWR mitigation and protection project.

EcoGro was hired to rehabilitate over 7,200 feet of creek and more than 14 acres of wetland in Cove Spring Park. Rock structures were installed to stabilize the stream and create a series of riffles and pools. Banks were re-graded to eliminate eroding slopes and allow floodplain access.



Before: steep, eroded banks in the park.



During: construction of rock structures.



After: lower banks along Penitentiary Branch support wildlife habitat, reduce erosion and improve water quality.



After: pools and riffles in the upper reach.

Project Partners: Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources, City of Frankfort, Biohabitats, Eco-Tech Consultants, KDOW, KYTC, EPA, USFWS, USACE, Ridgewater.

Key Features:

- Natural channel design
- Stream and wetland restoration
- Native plants

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