

Restoration of McIlvaine Run as a Trout Hatchery



Before the lower reach of McIlvaine Run was relocated, the water ran through a polluted and vegetation-filled ditch immediately adjacent to Whiteford Road near its intersection with the Lincoln Highway, both heavily traveled roads near the southeastern Pennsylvania community of Exton.

Photos courtesy of [Landstudies, Inc.](#)



The project relocated the lower reach of McIlvaine Run through an open meadow, in a series of gentle meanders with pools and riffles, and the floodplain was planted with a variety of native trees and shrubs.



Macroinvertebrates are plentiful in the newly constructed channel.



Dr. Robert Bachman (right) shows workers from LandStudies, Inc. and Trout Unlimited how to replace the sorted gravels into the nests, or redds.



A completed redd (nest) for brown trout eggs.



Eggs and water are poured into a funnel and flushed through the hose. As the eggs are delicately flushed into the redd, the hose is gradually withdrawn. To ensure that all the eggs have been flushed, the hose is cleared by gently blowing into it until bubbles surface from the redd.



Close up view of brown trout eggs. The eggs were supplied by the PA Fish & Boat Commission.