

Large Woody Debris Removal

The Conservation District can provide riparian land-owners/managers with cost share and technical assistance with large woody debris removal and streambank stabilization.

For more information about the IWD Program, contact the District's Watershed specialist today!



It took a dedicated group of individuals with drive and a vision to transform this part of PennsWoods into the diverse and complex landscape we know today. Who will be the future visionaries in what may very well be our post crude-oil era? What roll will you have? Will you simply be along for the ride or actively engaged in conservation?

As we enter the second decade of the twenty-fist century, we hope you will join us to conserve our uncommon wealth of natural resources. Our local forests, croplands, wildlife & watersheds are essential to the health and vitality of York County. These resources are key to what makes York County good. Making preservation our priority will make us great.

Whether you farm the land or build homes; teach others or work in the service industry; build motorcycles or create military machinery, your choices and lifestyle will largely determine what energy sources we use, how much green space is left, and what quality of life is available for generations to come.

York County Conservation District

118 Pleasant Acres Road
York, PA 17402
Phone: 717-840-7430
Fax: 717-755-0301
E-mail: yorkccd@yorkccd.org

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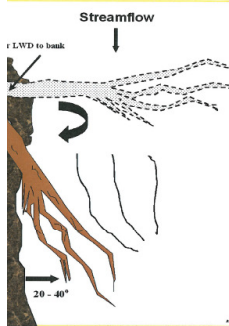


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*Conservation*Education*Stewardship*

Tel: 717-840-7430
www.yorkccd.org

Large Woody Debris



Stream flow with large woody debris

Large Woody Debris (LWD) is a general term referring to all wood naturally occurring or artificially placed in streams, including, branches, stumps, logs and logjams. Almost all LWD in streams is de-

rived from trees located in the riparian corridor. Streams affected by urbanization, agriculture, development, or clear cuts often lack a sufficient quantity of the LWD necessary to maintain an ecologically healthy and stable ecosystem. Streams with adequate LWD tend to have greater habitat diversity, a natural meandering shape and greater resistance against high water events. Therefore, LWD is an essential component of a healthy stream's ecology and is beneficial.

Large Woody Debris Removal

Many riparian owners and land managers traditionally treat woody material in streams as a nuisance and remove the LWD in the streams and along the banks with uncertain consequences. Logjams are obstructions occurring in streams from the accumulation of woody vegetation, with or without debris. They obstruct a stream channel, and create a backwater condition. Logjams may be positive or negative depending on the perspective and the specific site characteristics. Determining a logjam's value requires an understanding of watershed dynamics as well as the social and biological impacts in the watershed. Not all logjams need to be removed. Leaving in LWD should be considered in high quality streams as long as water is not impounded behind the logjam. The York County Conservation District can provide landowners with financial and technical assistance with LWD management and removal.



Large woody debris may need to be removed when it poses an imminent threat to public health, safety and property loss

LWD Removal Cost Share

What is the LWD Removal Program? The Conservation District receives funding annually to remove LWD obstructions posing imminent threats to public health and safety and property loss.

Who's Eligible?

Riparian landowners and local municipal governments are eligible for cost share.

How Does It Work?

The landowner/manager must complete and submit a one page LWD Removal Cost Share application form, with 1-3 cost estimates, to the Conservation District. The Conservation District Board will review the application, decide whether the project is eligible and recommended, and then notify the applicant in writing. Once approved, the applicant must sign a cost share agreement with the District prior to doing the work. Again, once the cost share agreement is executed, then the applicant may proceed with LWD removal. If streambank stabilization is needed, then a permit will be required from PADEP and the cost may also be included in the cost share above.

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