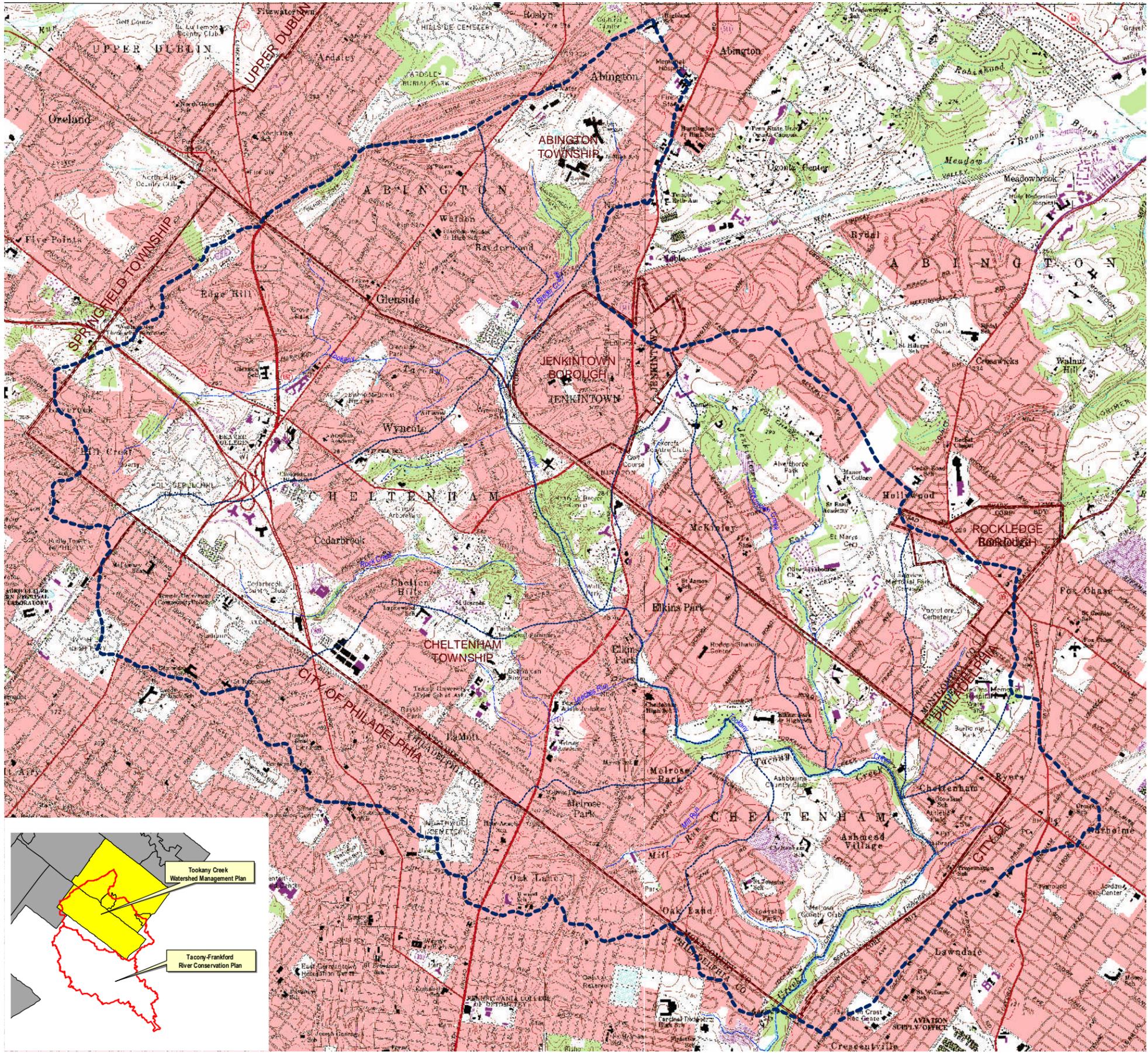


Tookany Creek Watershed Management Plan

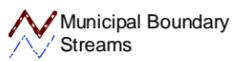
Topography



Legend



Key



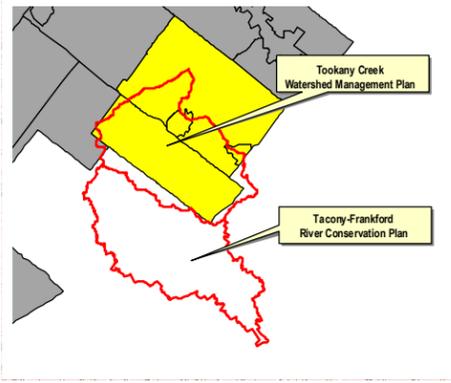
Data Source

PA DEP, PennDOT, USGS (Frankford PA-NJ & Germantown, PA 7.5 degree quadrangles 1983)



1500 0 1500 3000 Feet

April 2003



Prepared For:



Township of Abington, Township of Cheltenham, Borough of Jenkintown, Borough of Rockledge.

Prepared By:

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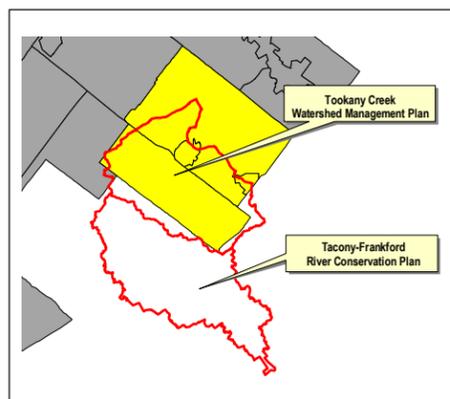
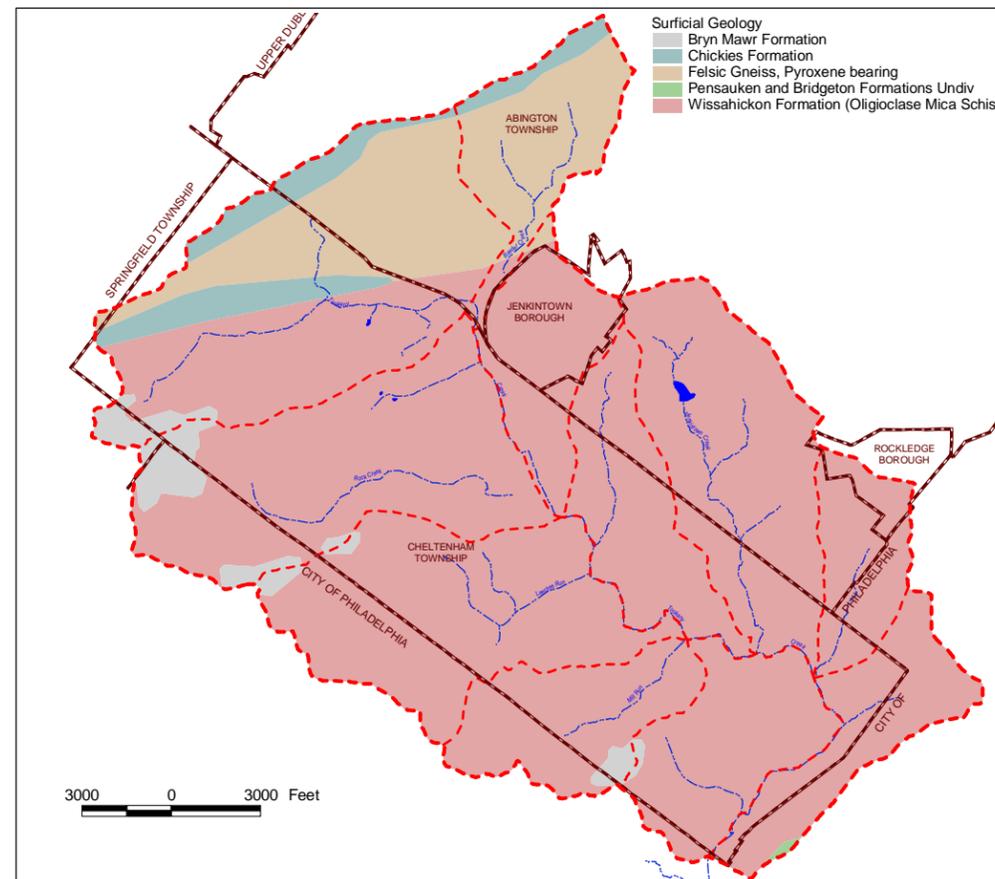
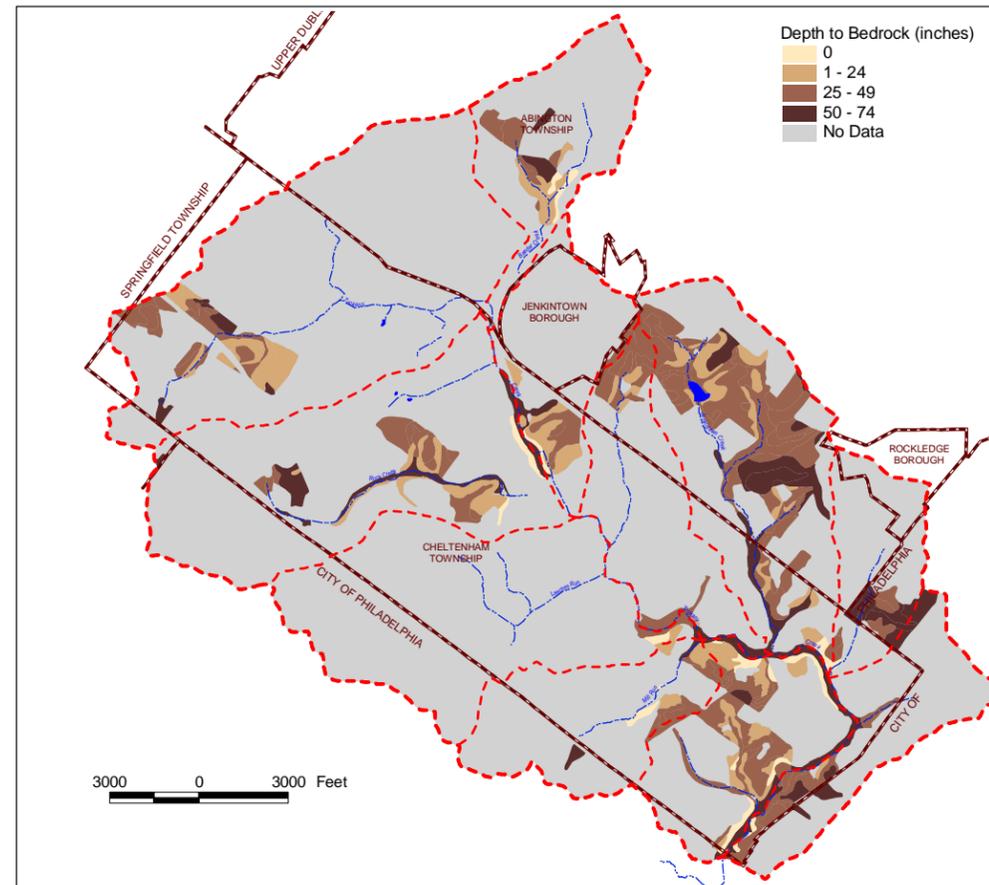
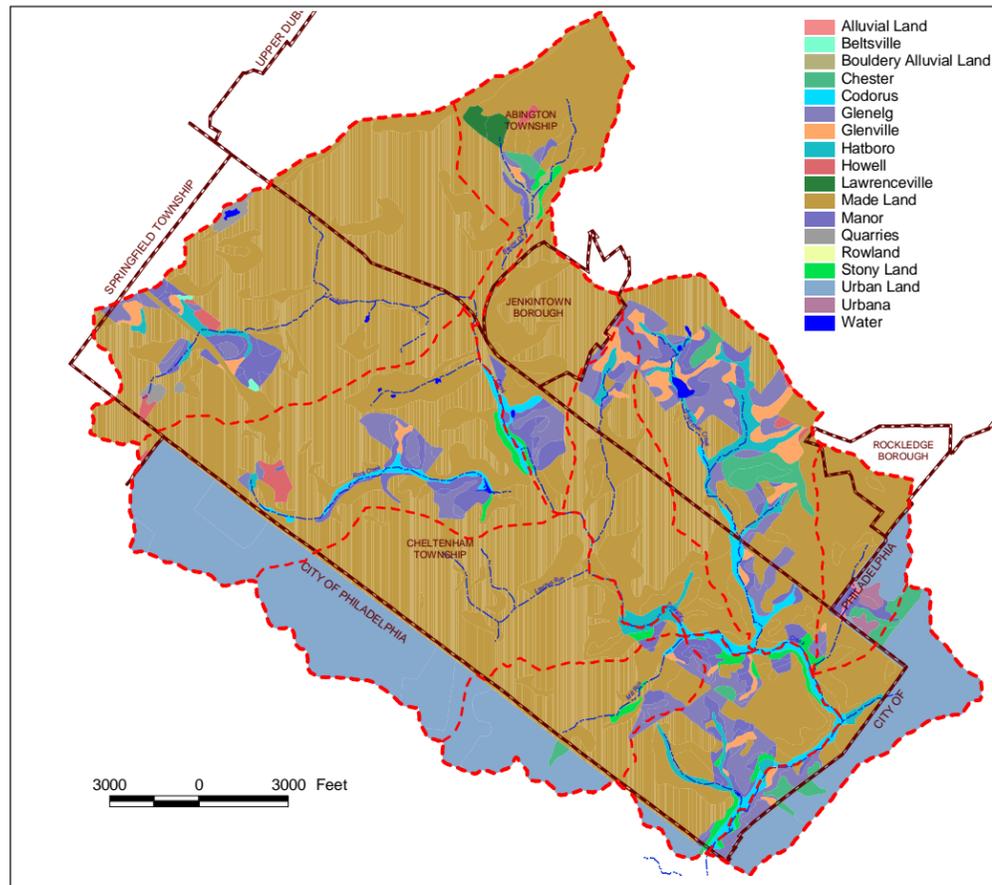


Funded in part by a grant from the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (DCNR) and Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (DEP).



Tookany Creek Watershed Management Plan

Soils & Geology



- Key**
- Tookany Creek Watershed
 - Sub-Watershed Boundary
 - Municipal Boundary
 - Streams

Data Source
PA DEP, PennDOT, Penn State University, USDA-NRCS



April 2003

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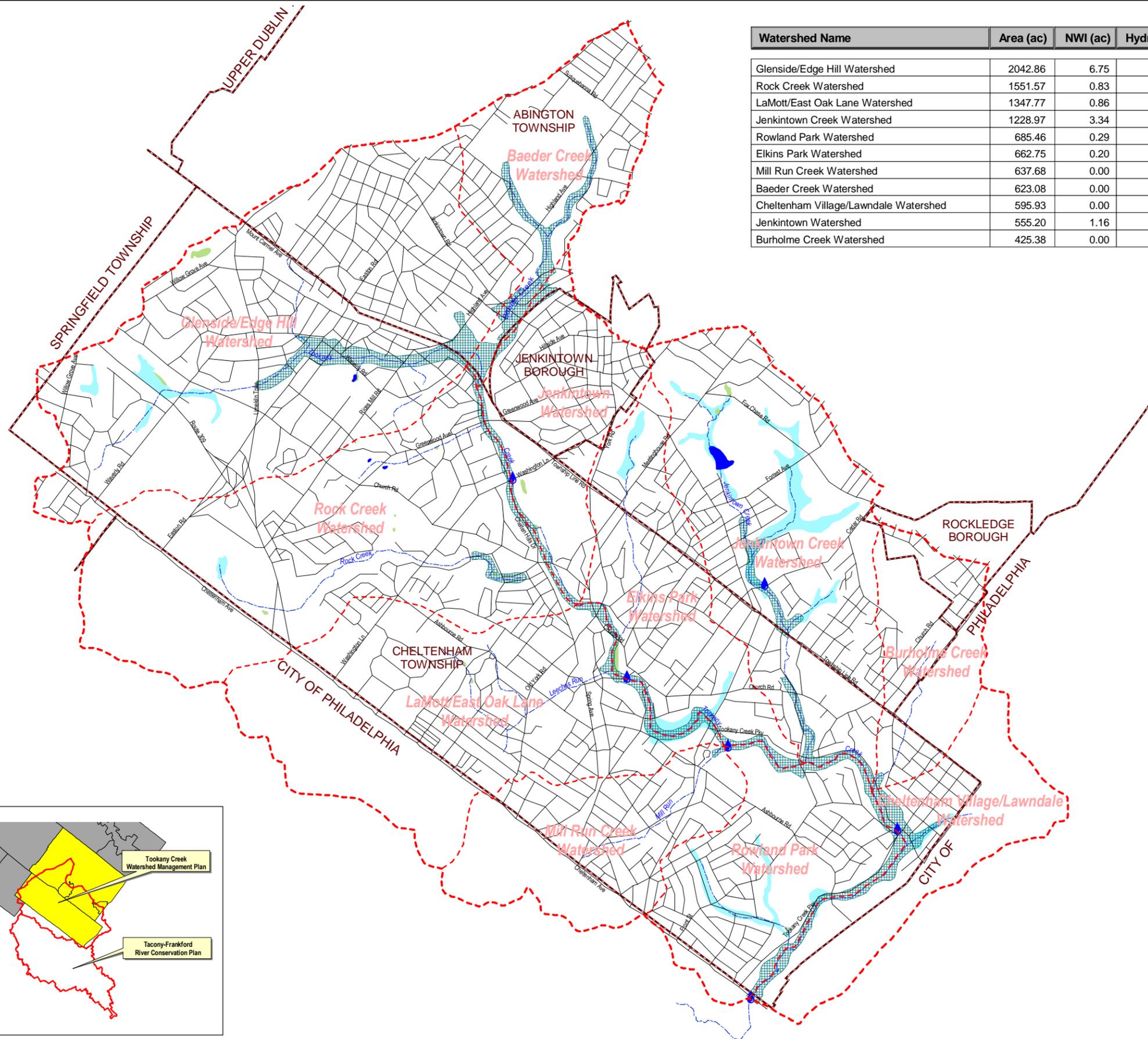
Funded in part by a grant from the
Pennsylvania Department of Conservation
and Natural Resources (DCNR) and
Pennsylvania Department of Environmental
Protection (DEP).



Tookany Creek Watershed Management Plan

Water Resources

Watershed Name	Area (ac)	NWI (ac)	Hydric (ac)	Flood plain (ac)
Glenside/Edge Hill Watershed	2042.86	6.75	23.90	75.76
Rock Creek Watershed	1551.57	0.83	3.07	28.56
LaMott/East Oak Lane Watershed	1347.77	0.86	10.55	27.00
Jenkintown Creek Watershed	1228.97	3.34	78.79	44.66
Rowland Park Watershed	685.46	0.29	27.07	44.78
Elkins Park Watershed	662.75	0.20	28.45	30.96
Mill Run Creek Watershed	637.68	0.00	0.00	1.37
Baeder Creek Watershed	623.08	0.00	0.00	70.48
Cheltenham Village/Lawndale Watershed	595.93	0.00	9.48	44.13
Jenkintown Watershed	555.20	1.16	0.00	24.95
Burholme Creek Watershed	425.38	0.00	0.00	2.42



Legend

- Water Sampling Station (Philadelphia Water Department)
- 100 Year Flood Area
- Hydric Soil
- National Wetland Inventory (NWI)

Key

- Tookany Creek Watershed
- Sub-Watershed Boundary
- Municipal Boundary
- Streams

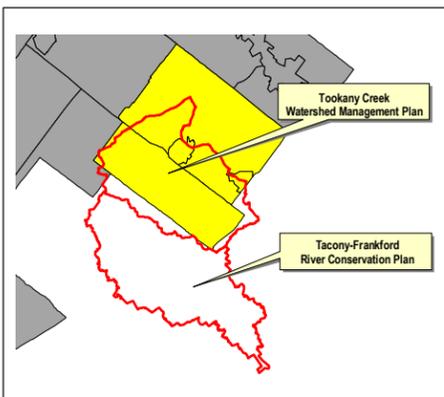
Data Source

PA DEP, PennDOT, USFWS, Philadelphia Water Department



1500 0 1500 3000 Feet

April 2003



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Prepared By:

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Tookany Creek Watershed Management Plan Riparian Buffer Assessment

Legend

- Forest Buffer* Status
 Both Sides Lacking
 One Side Lacking

* Tree covered ground along streams at least 50 feet wide with 50% canopy closure.

Key

-  Tookany Creek Watershed
 Sub-Watershed Boundary
 Municipal Boundary

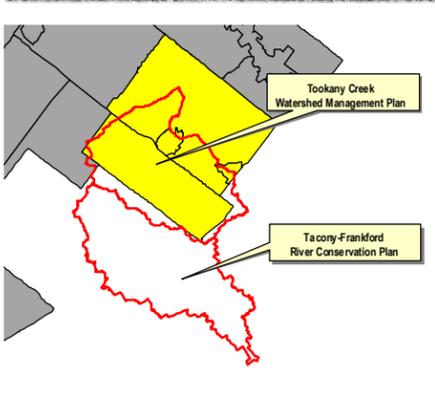
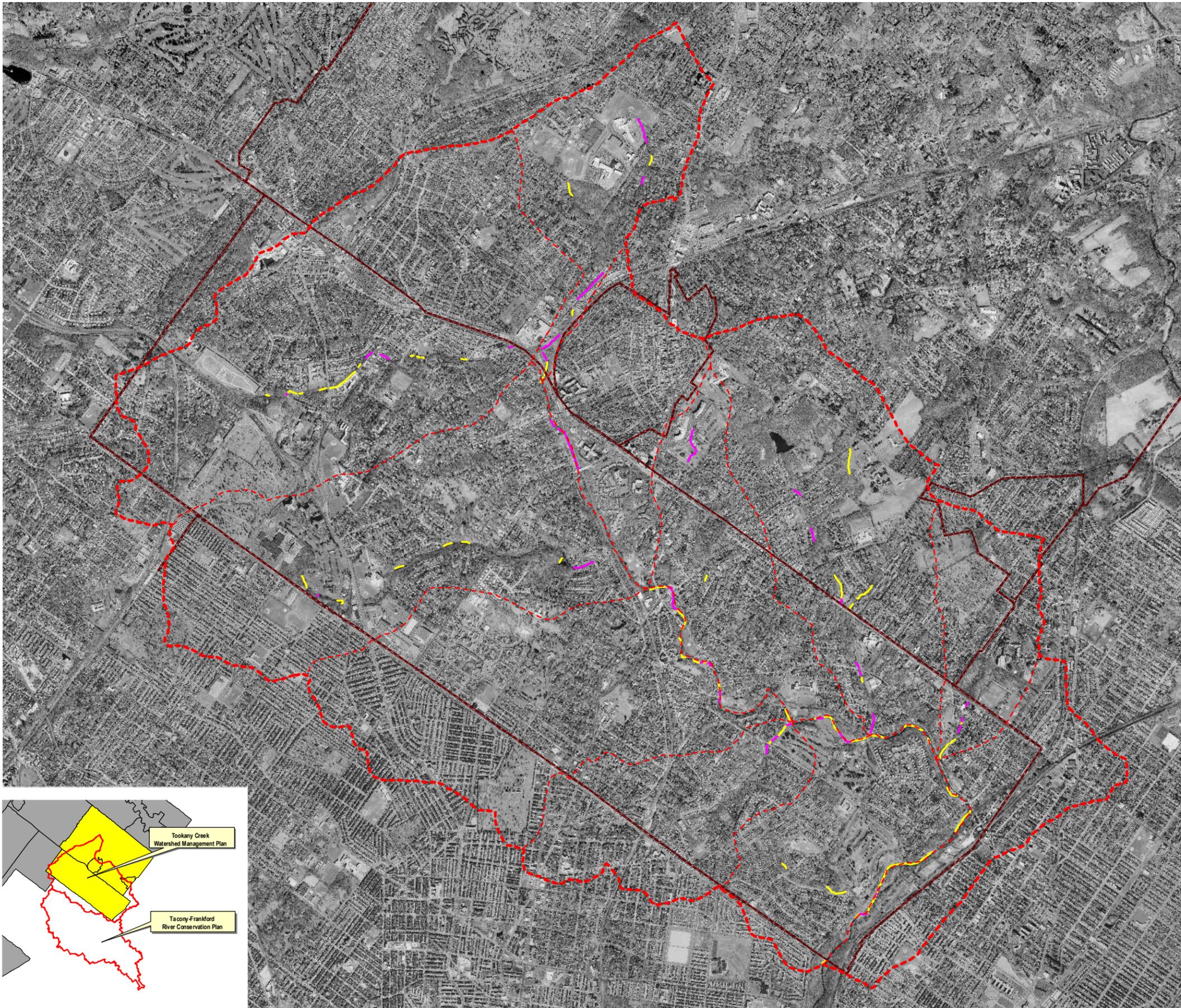
Data Source

DVRPC (2000 aerials), PA DEP, PennDOT, Heritage Conservancy, USGS



1500 0 1500 3000 Feet

April 2003



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Tookany Creek Watershed Management Plan

Parks, Recreation & Open Space

Legend

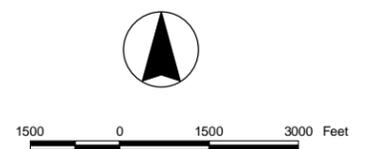
- Fire
- Hospital
- Library
- Police
- Post Office
- Township Building
- Park/Open Space
- School
- Golf Course
- Cemetery
- Faimount Park

Key

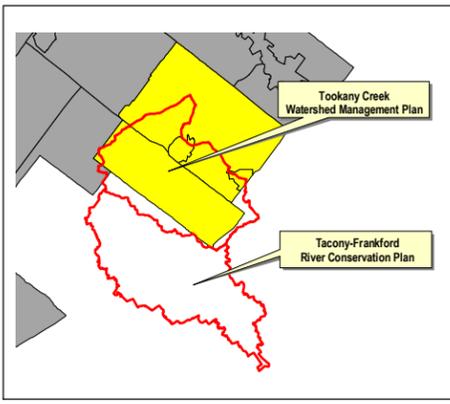
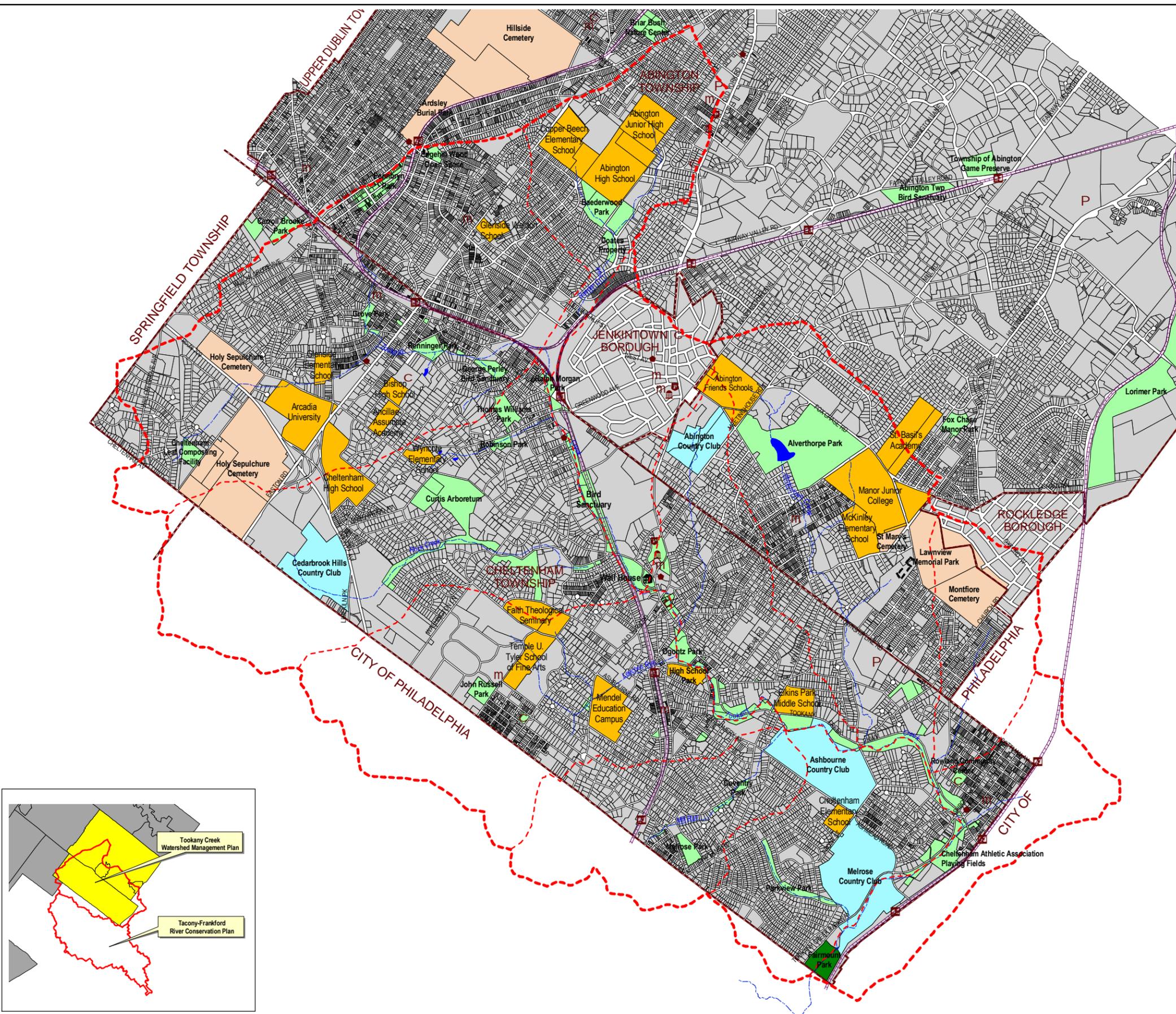
- Tookany Creek Watershed
- Sub-Watershed Boundary
- Municipal Boundary
- Streams
- Rail Line

Data Source

PA DEP, PennDOT, BLR Data, ADC-Greater Philadelphia Map Book



April 2003



Prepared For:



Township of Abington, Township of Cheltenham, Borough of Jenkintown, Borough of Rockledge.

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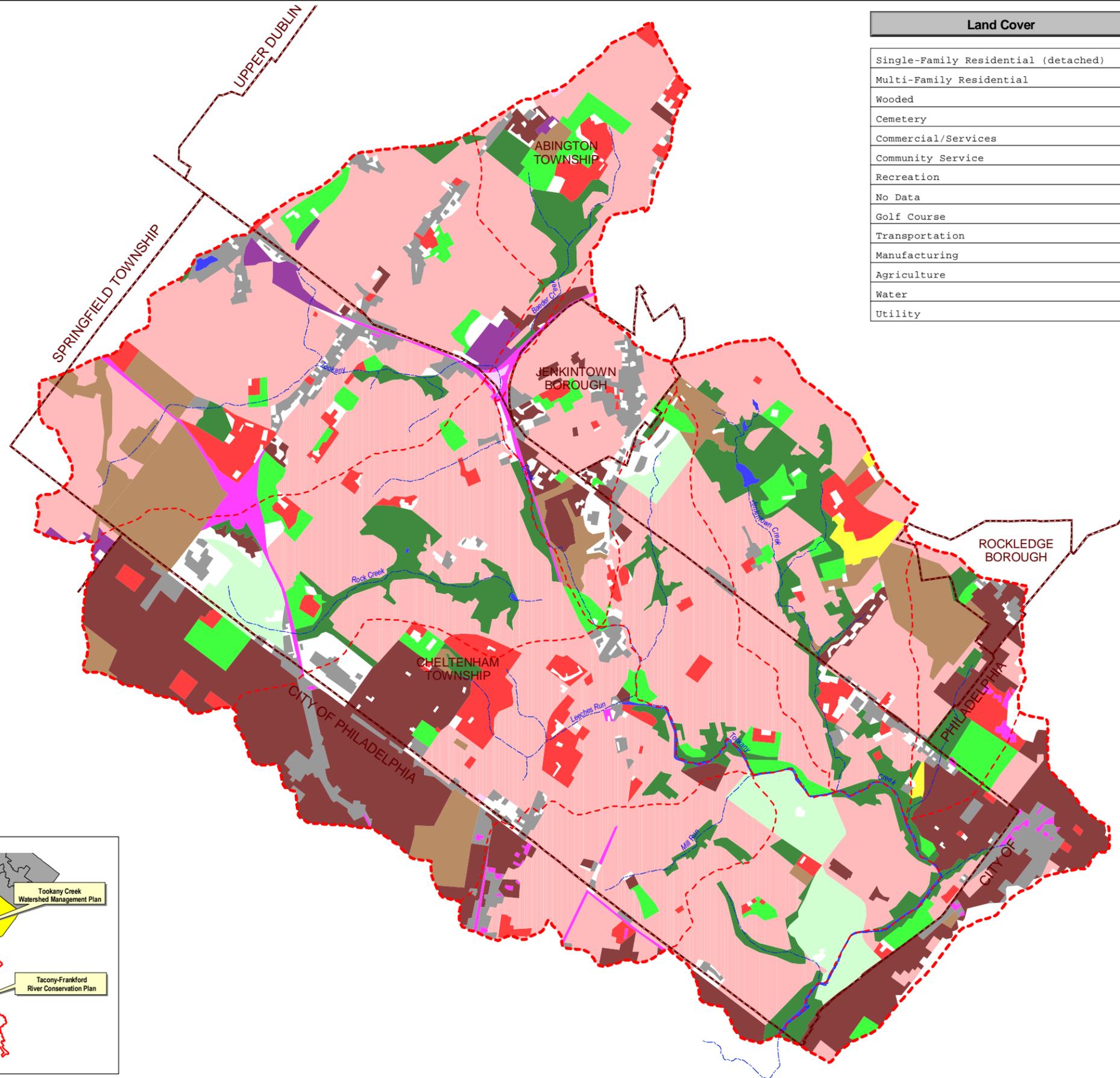
Funded in part by a grant from the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (DCNR) and Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (DEP).



Tookany Creek Watershed Management Plan

Land Cover

Land Cover	Acres
Single-Family Residential (detached)	5063.1
Multi-Family Residential	1366.4
Wooded	797.1
Cemetery	633.0
Commercial/Services	514.2
Community Service	478.7
Recreation	449.1
No Data	385.7
Golf Course	334.8
Transportation	131.7
Manufacturing	73.4
Agriculture	36.1
Water	34.8
Utility	7.4



Legend

- Water
- Agriculture
- Cemetery
- Commercial/Services
- Community Service
- Golf Course
- Manufacturing
- Recreation
- Multi-Family Residential
- Single-Family Residential (detached)
- Transportation
- Utility
- Wooded
- No Data

Key

- Tookany Creek Watershed
- Sub-Watershed Boundary
- Municipal Boundary
- ~ Streams

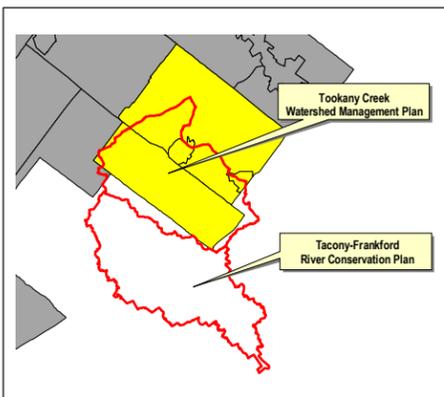
Data Source

Philadelphia Water Department, PA DEP, PennDOT, USGS



1500 0 1500 3000 Feet

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1. Dislodged/eroded drainage pipe behind Oak Summit Apartments (right bank)
Action/BMP: Repair stormwater pipe



2. Unknown drainage pipe from Oak Summit Apts, possible drainage from indoor pool.
Action/BMP: Follow-up with the apartment management.



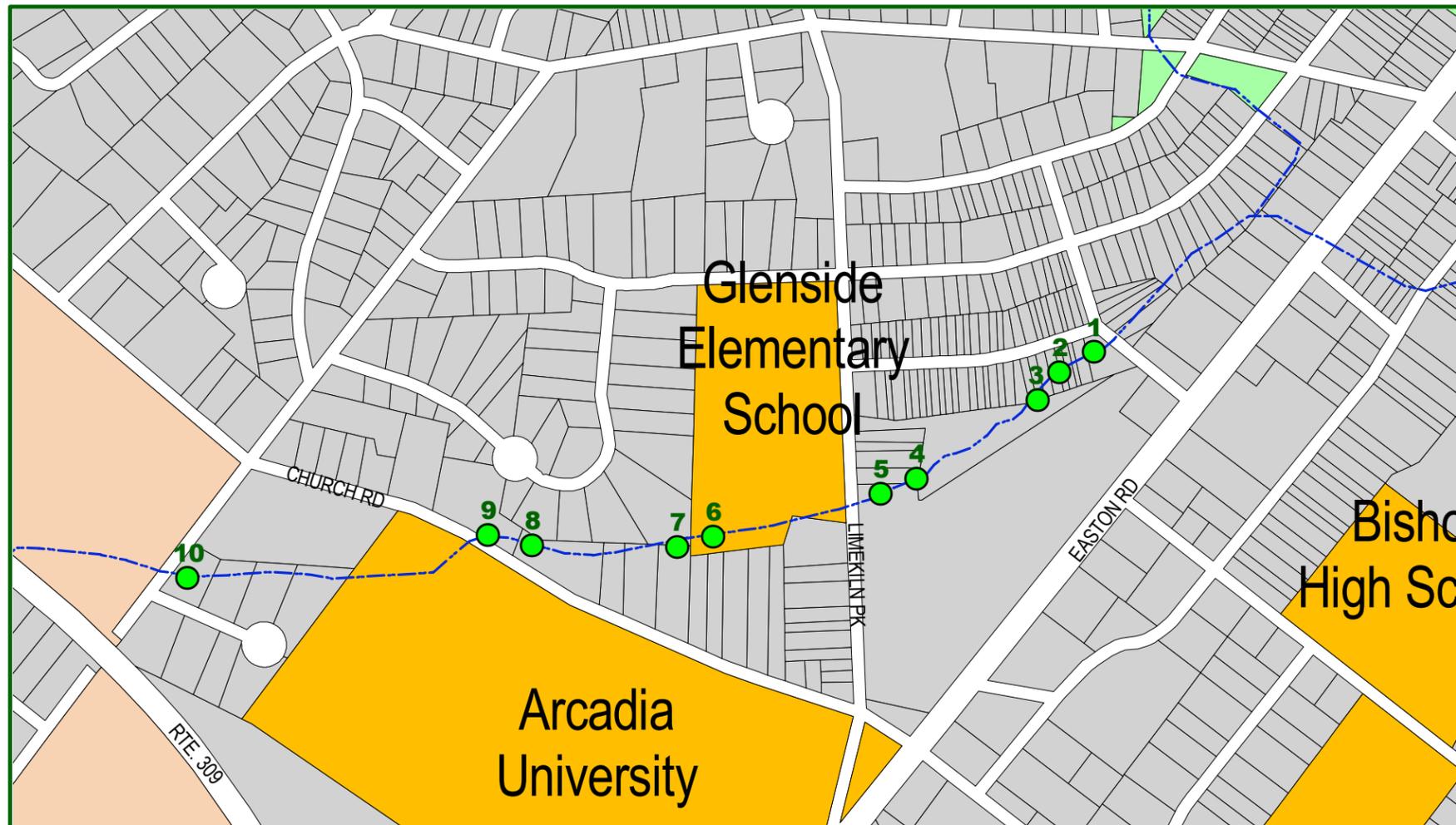
3. Spread of knotweed along left bank
Action/BMP: Develop eradication program for knotweed



4. Vertical creek bank behind Oak Summit Apts., scouring of bank and undercutting
Action/BMP: Develop a plan for biotechnical streambank restoration



5. Broken concrete bulkhead
Action/BMP: Have the township engineer assess the problem and develop solution.



Visual Streambank Assessment

TOOKANY CREEK WATERSHED MANAGEMENT PLAN

Township of Cheltenham

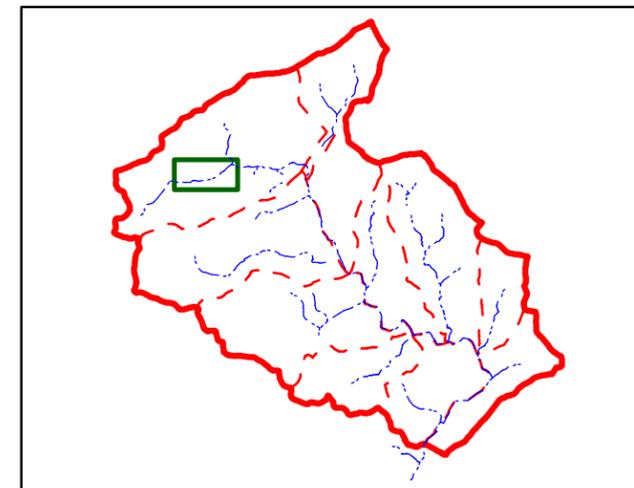
Holy Sepulchre Cemetery to Abington Township Border

Assessed by the Tookany Creek Watershed Steering Committee Members

● Visual Assessment Point



500 0 500 Feet



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6. Broken/breached concrete collar of sanitary sewer
Action/BMP: Have the township engineer assess the problem and develop solution



7. Erosion of streambank
Action/BMP: Develop a plan for biotechnical streambank restoration



8. Discolored water & storm drain from General Patterson Drive
Action/BMP: Follow up on the source of the discharge.



9. Stream bank erosion
Action/BMP: Develop a plan for biotechnical streambank restoration



10. Discolored water in deep pool behind Kaname Gardens adjacent to Waverly Road
Action/BMP: Follow up with the nursery owner



1. The Tookany Creek as it enters Ralph Morgan Park carrying stormwater from Abington Township and Jenkintown Borough. Photo 1 shows the high water surging through the channelized banks during Tropical Storm Alison in summer 2001. Photo 2 shows the same area one month after. The storm resulted in undercutting of the banks, washout of soil behind retaining walls. Much of the banks in the park are mowed to the edge.
Action/BMP : Restore creek banks where there is severe undercutting. Stop mowing to the creek banks and begin to replant the riparian buffer.



2. No riparian buffer, therefore extensive undercutting with tree root exposure, bank slump. NPS pollution and sediment flows over the mowed lawn from the Jenkintown train station parking lot directly into the creek causing bank erosion.
Action/BMP : Restore creek banks with severe undercutting. Stop mowing to the creek banks and begin to replant the riparian buffer. Install an infiltration trench on the edge of the parking lot to capture the excessive NPS pollution and stormwater.



3. Invasive species such as knotweed and Japanese Honeysuckle dominate the landscape at Greenwood Avenue and the creek banks.
Action/BMP : Develop an invasive species eradication program in the Tookany Creek watershed.



4. Tree roots are exposed along the steep banks behind the Wyncote Post Office due to severe runoff from surrounding parking lots of the train station and post office.
Action/BMP : Consider an infiltration system at the end of the Jenkintown train station parking lot and post office.



5. Township-owned portion of the Edward Hicks Parry Bird Sanctuary
Action/BMP : Alter management practices to reduce large area of mowing and increase on-site infiltration to reduce volume of stormwater flowing into the creek.



6. Dumping along the Creek bank destroys the potential for a riparian buffer to flourish, and it is unattractive.
Action/BMP : Determine who is routinely dumping.



7. SEPTA leave its debris behind after track repairs.
Action/BMP : Township will work with SEPTA to clean it up.



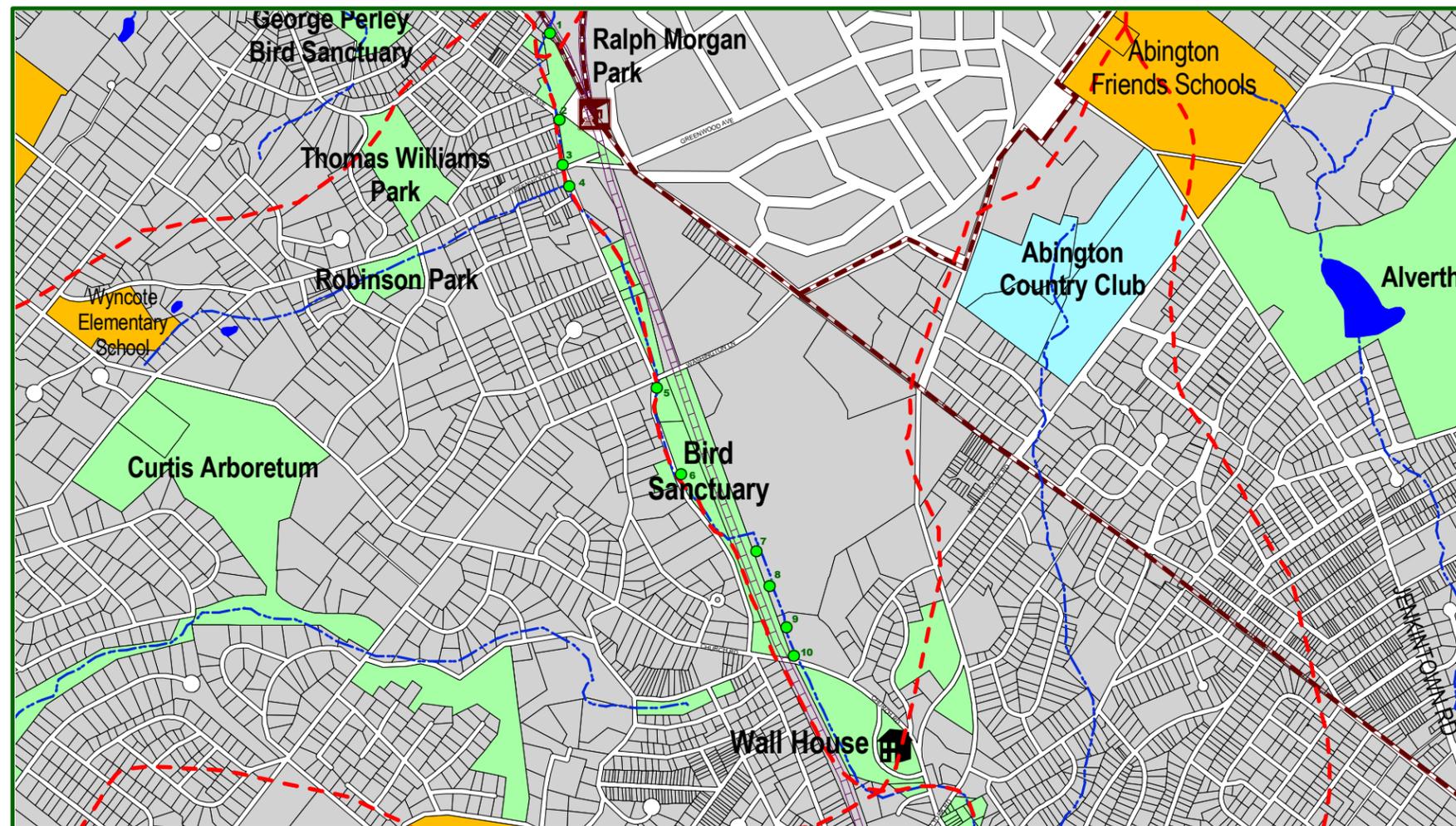
8. Exposed manhole from Tookany Creek bed down cutting and erosion.
Action/BMP : Develop a program to inspect, repair and maintain manholes that are exposed.



9. Dumped construction material along the banks, and invasive ivy prevent the riparian buffer from flourishing.
Action/BMP : Determine who is routinely dumping to clean up, and replant the riparian buffer.



10. Typical invasive species of knotweed along the creek banks between SEPTA rail lines and Church Road.
Action/BMP : Develop invasive species eradication program.



Visual Streambank Assessment

TOOKANY CREEK WATERSHED MANAGEMENT PLAN

Township of Cheltenham

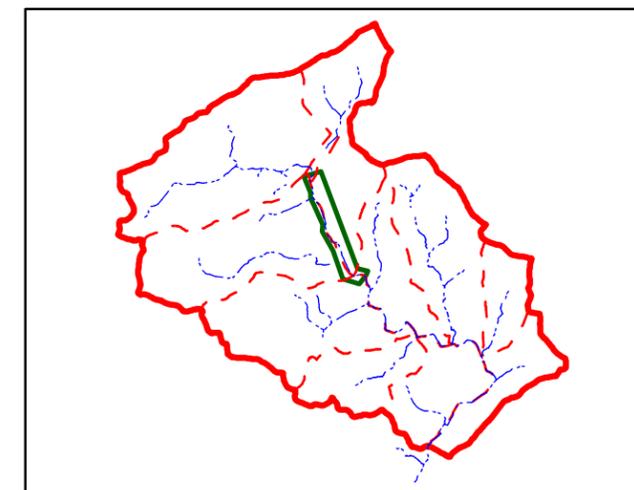
Main Stem Tookany Creek - Ralph Morgan Park to Church & Old York Roads

Assessed by the Tookany Creek Watershed Steering Committee Members

● Visual Assessment Point



500 0 500 Feet



Prepared By:



85 Old Dublin Pike
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NAM Planning & Design LLC



Funded in part by a grant from the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (DCNR) & the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (PA DEP).



1. Pedestrian bridge at Jenkintown Creek shortly after Tropical Storm Allison (5/01). The surrounding area under the trees is routinely mowed to the bank.
Action/BMP : This area is currently undergoing biotechnical streambank restoration.



2. Typical mowed lawn up to the wall which prevents NPS pollution from being filtered by the riparian buffer and stabilizing the eroding channel bed
Action/BMP : Replant the understory of shrubs and herbaceous layer along walled areas of the Tookany Creek.



3. The stone walls constructed during the 1930's, are an attractive feature of the Tookany Creek Parkway. However, many areas have collapsed and are missing as the Tookany Creek has expanded its creek bed to accommodate the increasing volume of stormwater from the impervious surfaces in the upstream communities.
Action/BMP : Conduct a complete study of the hydrology of the Tookany Creek using the Rosgen model to develop a long-term plan for the restoration.



4. The steep wooded slopes of the west bank of the Tookany Creek along the Parkway are becoming undercut as a result of the upstream volumes of stormwater. The mature trees can hold the bank with their roots, but if the volume of water continues, the roots will be undermined and the trees will fall.
Action/BMP : Conduct a complete study of the hydrology of the Tookany Creek using the Rosgen model to develop a long-term plan for the restoration. Use biotechnical streambank restoration to fortify the roots and stabilize the banks.



5. Newly eroded banks as a result of Tropical Storm Allison.
Action/BMP : This area is undergoing biotechnical streambank restoration. Continue to monitor for knotweed re-infestation.



Visual Streambank Assessment

TOOKANY CREEK WATERSHED MANAGEMENT PLAN

Township of Cheltenham

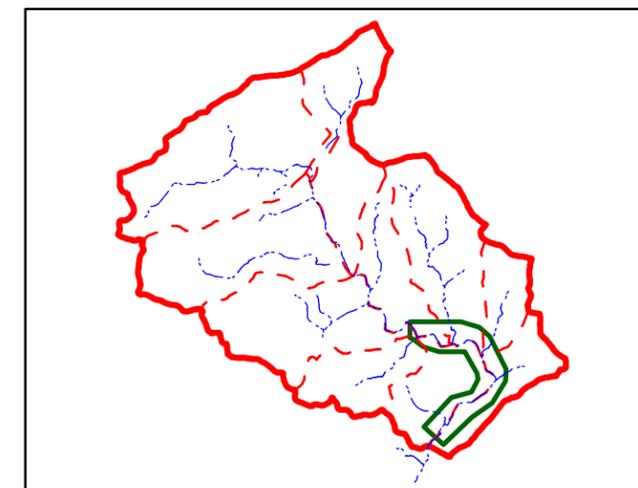
Main Stem of Tookany Creek - New Second Street to Cheltenham Avenue

Assessed by the Tookany Creek Watershed Steering Committee Members

● Visual Assessment Point



800 0 800 Feet



Prepared By:



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NAM Planning
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DCNR 
 Funded in part by a grant from the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (DCNR) & the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (PA DEP).



6. Japanese knotweed, an invasive, non-native plant, is the most common plant species along Tookany, replacing the native vegetation. It is very difficult to permanently get rid of.
Action/BMP : Develop an invasive species program to remove the knotweed and replace with native vegetation



7. This intersection continually floods during storm events. This picture shows the severe damage to the road after Tropical Storm Allison in 2001.
Action/BMP : Conduct a complete study of the hydrology of the Tookany Creek using the Rosgen model to develop a long-term plan for the restoration.



8 & 9. After Tropical Storm Allison, the severe flooding washed much debris on the banks and structures. The riparian buffer consists only of large trees with the ground layer mowed to the banks.
Action/BMP : Township should revise the mowing practices to less area and frequency. Plant the understory with native shrubs and herbaceous layer.



10. The area adjacent to the Tookany Parkway and the creek is mowed to the banks, preventing any filtering of the NPS pollution.
Action/BMP : The golf course and the township should revise the mowing practices to less area and frequency. Plant the understory with native shrubs and herbaceous layer to fortify the riparian buffer.



11. Melrose Golf Course maintains the grass to the creek bed, preventing any riparian filtration of NPS pollution.
Action/BMP : Encourage participation in the Audubon certification program for golf courses. Possibly reduce the greens directly next to the Tookany Creek and replant with native vegetation to filter NPS pollution and stabilize the banks.



1. The culvert outlet at Tyson and Mount Carmel Avenues is small (approx. 2' by 3') and is blocked by cement slabs.
Action/BMP : Have Cheltenham Township remove concrete and conduct routine monitorings in the future.



2. The water flow is about 5" to 6" deep and 2' to 3' wide. The creek bed is mostly sediment, gravel and large stones. There are also large patches of algae and an orange jell-like substance that may be iron oxidizing and leaching out of the soil at the beginning of the reach.
Action/BMP : Follow-up on the origin of the algae.



3. The Tyson Avenue stretch of this reach is severely littered with trash, tires, old fencing, etc.
Action/BMP : Enlist neighbors and businesses to conduct routine cleanup and educate to keep items out of the riparian areas to prevent being carried away in storm events.



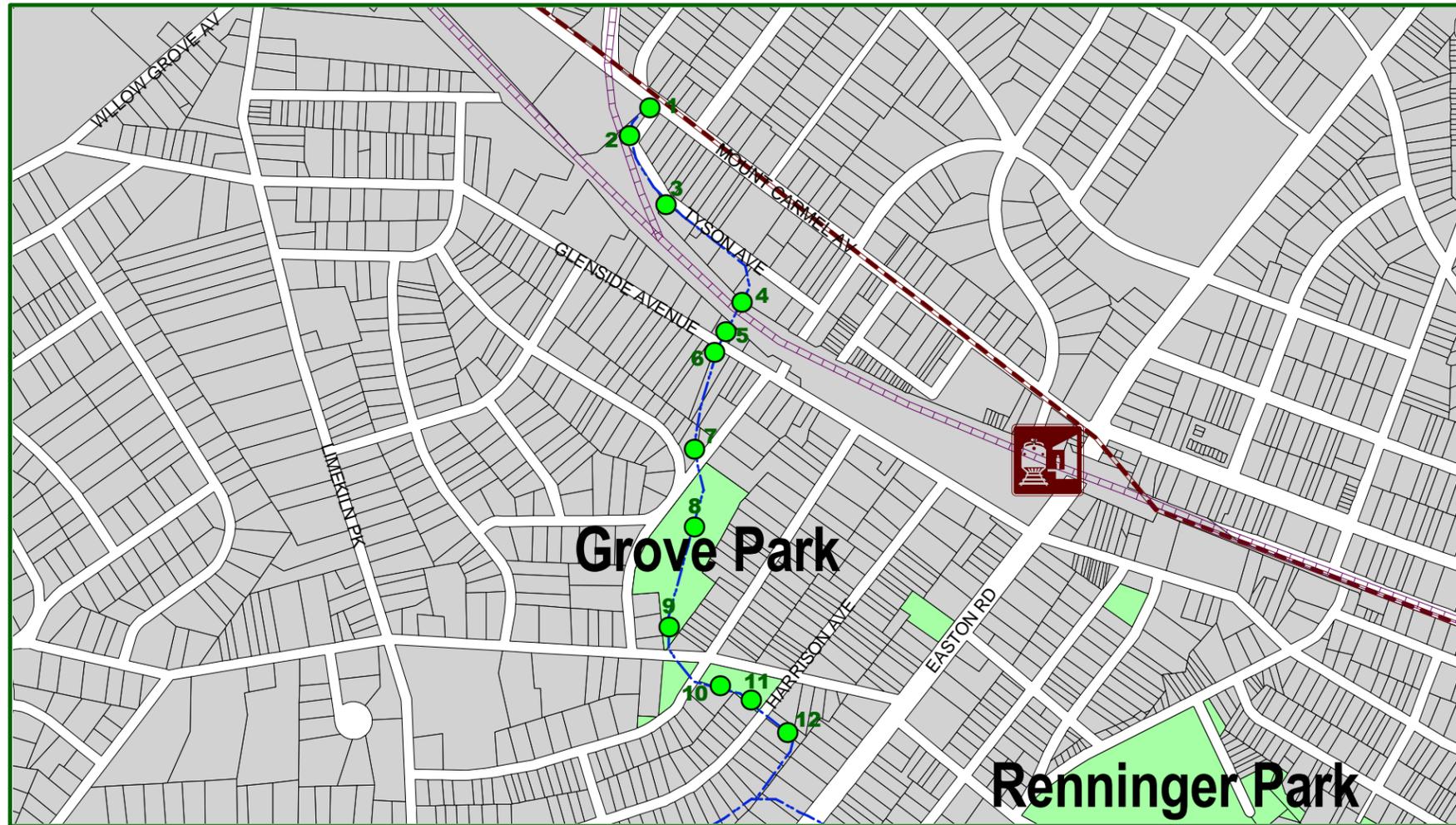
4. The right bank of this stretch abuts the railroad track and is about 5' high. There is evidence of recent removal and cutting back of trees and shrubs on the SEPTA track side. The left bank is one foot high and has some large trees, but the ground is compacted because of neighbors parking vehicles right up to the creek.
Action/BMP : Partner with SEPTA to plant native vegetation in keeping with their track maintenance requirements. Educate neighbors about the importance of vegetated creek banks and their care and usage.



5. The businesses on Glenside Avenue have their stormwater downspouts draining directly into the creek via PVC piping along the right bank.
Action/BMP : Encourage businesses to use rain barrels to slow volume of water entering the Tookany Creek, and also to reuse on-site.



6. The left bank is steep, trash littered, and overgrown in dried stalks of Japanese Knotweed.
Action/BMP : Conduct routine neighborhood litter removal and remove knotweed as part of watershed wide invasive plant removal. Consider streambank restoration, to regrade slope and replant with native plants in tandem with Knotweed removal.



Visual Streambank Assessment

TOOKANY CREEK WATERSHED MANAGEMENT PLAN

Township of Cheltenham

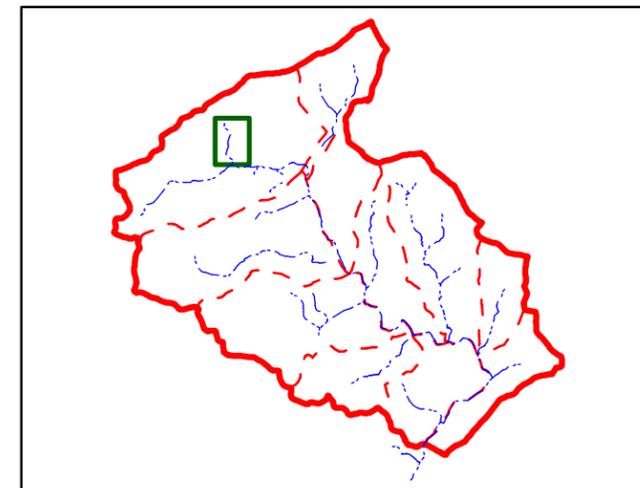
Unnamed Tributary of Tookany Creek - Grove Park

Assessed by the Tookany Creek Watershed Steering Committee Members

● Visual Assessment Point



600 0 600 Feet



Prepared By:



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 Doylestown, Pa 18901
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Funded in part by a grant from the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (DCNR) & the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (PA DEP).



7. The creek makes a 90 degree turn under Glenside Avenue, becomes channeled and flows between and behind homes, before discharging into Grove Park. Culvert headwall shows finely skilled stonework of local masons that can be seen throughout the area.
Action/BMP : None necessary.

8. The unnamed creek meanders through Grove Park. It shows evidence of severe flooding with undercut banks. Grove Park is well manicured and there is no buffer zone on either bank with the banks mowed right up to the edges. There has been some attempt to plant small trees in the park.
Action/BMP : Have Cheltenham Township alter the management of open space and parks especially along the riparian areas of the Tookany Creek.



9. The creek is channelized removing the native wetland vegetation and the natural curving flow pattern which slows down the velocity during stormwater surges. Small sporadic areas of trees exist with the invasive English Ivy as the ground cover.
Action/BMP : Educate residents along the creek about the importance of a natural stream flow pattern by removing channelization, re-grade creek banks and replant riparian buffer.



10. This small stretch of land is open space owned by the Township and has some old growth large trees. The left bank is mowed to the edge and the right bank is steep and has a dirt walking path along it which the neighbors use to walk dogs and to explore the creek.
Action/BMP :



11. The unknown tributary flows under Harrison Ave. becomes channelized again, flows beside and behind homes where it makes a 90 degree turn then meets the main stem of the Tookany behind the old Boston Market on Easton Road.
Action/BMP : Consider biotechnical streambank stabilization, regrading banks and replanting with native vegetation.



12. The area where this branch crosses Harrison Ave is the sight of flooding during recent heavy storm events. This unnamed branch is a contributing factor to flooding down stream and must be considered in plans for flood management from a whole watershed perspective.
Action/BMP : Study Grove Park for possible stormwater retention.

1. Small wetland area on Abington High School property. Storm drain with rip rap.



2. Baeder Creek piped under a garage and then under Abington Rd. /Ghost Rd. No water before pipe, on other side of road, water begins to flow. Three storm drains come together under road. For a long stretch, the stream is walled on one side (wood and stone). Other side 50% slope. Lots of brush thrown near stream bed from adjacent properties.

Action/BMP: Homeowner Education program; form local resident creek group to conduct routine clean-ups.



3. Wall on one side continues no slope, straight down on the other side. Small Foot Bridge crosses stream. Two mallard ducks on the stream.

Action/BMP: Stop mowing to the creek banks; Employ Biotechnical streambank techniques to restore bank to a more natural 3:1 slope and replant with native vegetation.



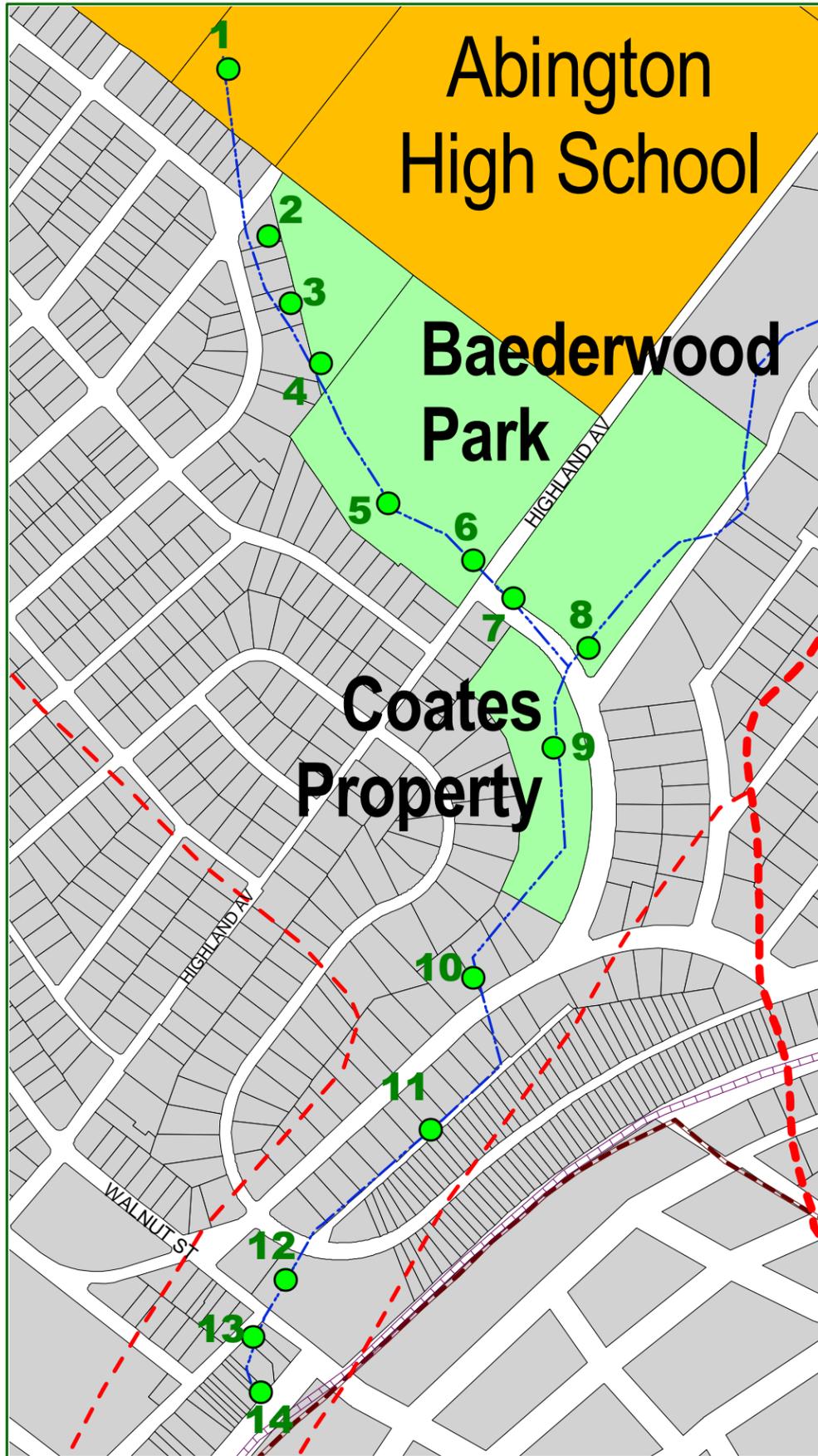
4. Baederwood Park near the creek with foot bridge. Stream widens to 15ft. Small wetland area as indicated by obligate plant species of skunk cabbage. Water clear. Slope 20% on one side, other side wetlands then gradual slope. Under cutting around foot bridge.

Action/BMP: Employ biotechnical streambank techniques to restore bank. After bridge, stream widens considerably in a spot. Bank really cut on side of playground. Action/BMP: Employ biotechnical streambank techniques to restore and stabilize bank.



5. Attractive stone wall across the creek, 20 ft high 3ft. gap cut into it - possibly used to slow down water flow. Several mature beech trees, maples, tulip, and oak. A great deal of in-channel erosion.

Action/BMP: Employ Biotechnical streambank techniques to restore bank to repair channel erosion and bring the banks to more natural 3:1 slope and replant with native vegetation



6. Creek flows under Highland Ave. Sewer line in creek bed, undercut. Lots of Knotweed.

Action/BMP: Have Abington Township engineer evaluate sewer line stability and consider biotechnical streambank techniques to repair bank and remove the knotweed with native plants simultaneously.



4.5 foot diameter pipe carrying water under the road. Erosion, breakage of road falling down into stream.

Action/BMP: Have Abington township engineer assess the source of the road problem and make repairs using biotechnical streambank techniques to stabilize bank. Install water bars in combination with native shrubs to prevent sediment and other NPS pollution from flowing into the creek.

7. Another sewer line/manhole cover along the creek. Knotweed, tulip and beech trees are the dominant vegetation. Very wide undefined edge of creek.

Action/BMP: Remove knotweed and replace with native plants.

8. Sand bar formed with creek split for a very short distance with vegetation of knotweed, tulip trees.

Action/BMP: Remove knotweed and replace with native plants.

9. Undercutting on one side of stream. Wide stream bed 20-30 feet wide. Water not wide, then a deep pool of 3ft. Some erosion under trees. Lots of multiflora rose.

Action/BMP: Stop mowing to the creek banks; Employ Biotechnical streambank techniques to restore bank to a more natural 3:1 slope and replant with native vegetation. Remove invasive multiflora rose and replant with natives.

10. Creek flows a great distance under Baeder Road and several properties. Flows out of tunnel (about 6ft diameter) behind properties along Baeder Road.



11. After flowing under Baeder Road, the stream is walled in on both sides. Walls vary in height from 6 to 12 feet in spots. The vertical wall is 6x6 lumber most of the way. Along part of the creek, the wall is cement.

Action/BMP: Consider removing the walls and employ biotechnical streambank techniques to restore riparian buffer and its essential functions, and allow the bank to become a more natural 3:1 slope and replant with native vegetation.



12. The stream travels under the Madison Apartments parking lot and then under Jenkintown Rd.

Action/BMP: Stop mowing to the creek banks; Employ Biotechnical streambank techniques to restore bank to a more natural 3:1 slope and replant with native vegetation.



13. On the other side of Jenkintown Road, the creek re-appears in a residential neighborhood. Gabion baskets make up the vertical walls on both sides. Native veg, such as willows and viburnum growing in stream bed.

Action/BMP: Encourage homeowners to stop mowing to creek banks. Consider removal of the gabion baskets to restore riparian buffer function, improve appearance and improve wildlife habitat potential. Employ biotechnical streambank techniques to restore bank to a more natural 3:1 slope and replant with native vegetation.

14. The rest of the way was inaccessible due to thickets of invasive species.

Action/BMP: Possible removal of obstructing invasive species and develop greenway to connect to the main Tookany Creek in Cheltenham Township

Visual Streambank Assessment

TOOKANY CREEK WATERSHED MANAGEMENT PLAN

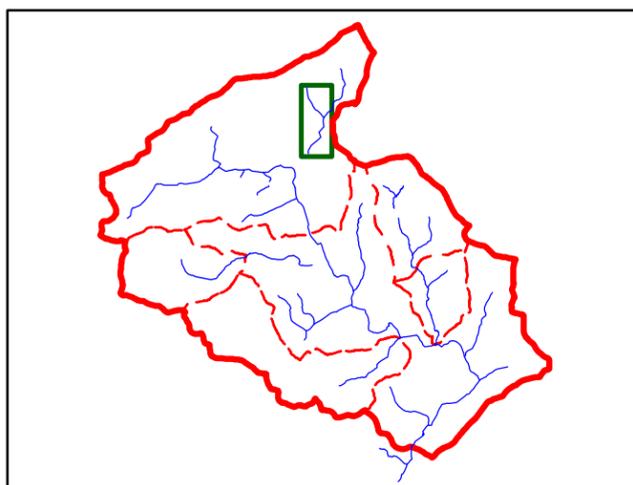
Baeder Creek

Assessed by the Abington Township Steering Committee Members

● Visual Assessment Point



500 0 500 Feet



Prepared By:



85 Old Dublin Pike
Doylestown, Pa 18901
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www.heritageconservancy.org

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& Design LLC



Funded in part by a grant from the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (DCNR) & the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (PA DEP).



1. The headwaters of Rock Creek come primarily from an outfall that empties behind the Pathmark Supermarket upstream of the Cedarbrook Country Club.
Action/BMP : Encourage shopping center management to consider several bioswales in the massive parking lot's impervious surface to treat NPS pollution and detain stormwater before discharge into Rock Creek.



2. As the stream exits the golf course it enters a pipe 100 feet from Limekiln Pike. Coming out on the south side of Ogontz Ave., the creek has a much greater volume and is severely polluted.
Action/BMP : Continue to monitor the water quality. Encourage Golf course to participate in the Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary Program (ACSP).



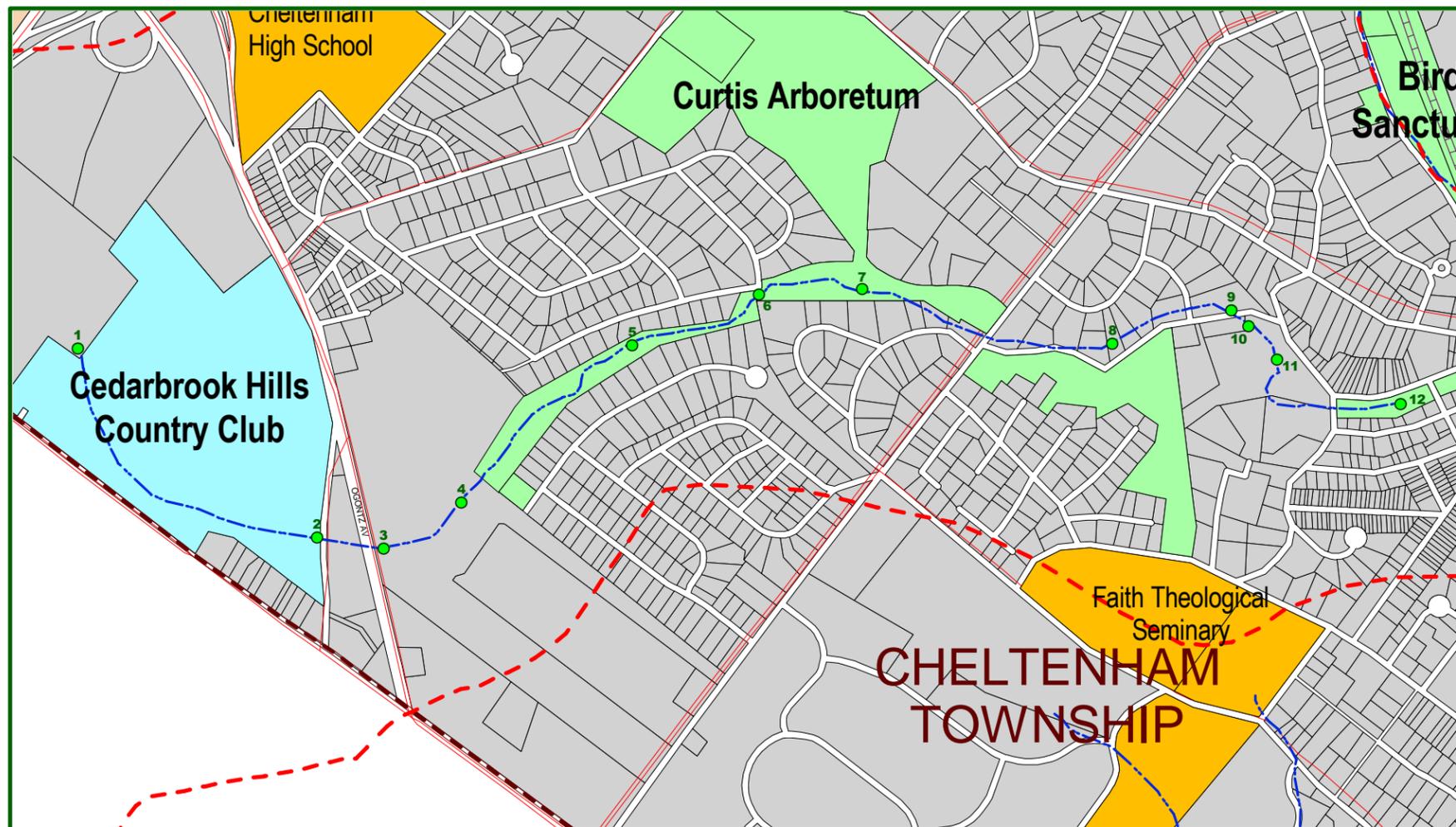
3. Philadelphia Water Department (PWD) storm sewer, discharges into the Mill Creek under Greenwood Street. The PWD acknowledges the existence of a combined sewer overflow into the storm sewer. Odors exist from sewage and the sanitary sewage is apparent to the naked eye.
Action/BMP : Continued PWD and township monitoring.

4. From Ogontz Avenue to the footbridge at the foot of Wistar Drive, the creek is very polluted. The creek has steep banks on both sides with extensive erosion. The east side is bounded by the Cheltenham Square Mall parking lot (the runoff of which contributes to the flooding of the stream) while Cedarbrook Middle School borders the creek on the west side. This entire reach of the stream has been used as an informal dump. A sanitary sewer pipe is buried under or alongside the creek.
Action/BMP : Involve Cheltenham Square Mall and the Middle School in routine cleanups. Restore the riparian buffers that have eroded along the Mill Creek banks. Have Cedarbrook Middle School adopt the creek as a school project to monitor water quality and biological indicators.



5. The half-mile stretch of Rock Creek from the Wistar Drive footbridge to the Curtis Arboretum is owned and managed by Cheltenham Township and has the potential to be a wonderful beautiful wooded stream.
Action/BMP : Develop routine community clean-up days. Consider a greenway or trail along Rock Creek, with Curtis Arboretum as a hub.

6. A side stream entering from Cedarbrook Middle School contains rust colored material (land use history of former landfill). Some of the houses on the western side of the creek have lawns mowed right up to the stream bank. Some residents have dumped leaves and other yard cuttings down the stream bank. In this reach small fish, frogs, and ducks swimming and feeding were observed.
Action/BMP : Investigate and monitor rust colored discharge. Develop homeowner education program geared towards residents and the management of their land, especially in altering mowing close to the creek.



Visual Streambank Assessment

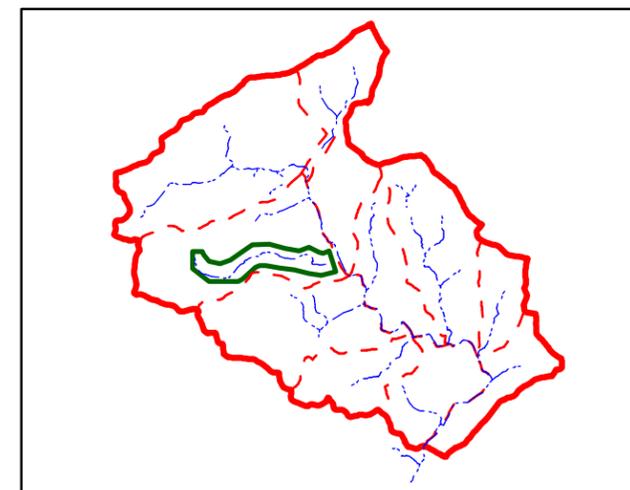
TOOKANY CREEK WATERSHED MANAGEMENT PLAN
 Township of Cheltenham
 Rock Creek Watershed

Assessed by the Tookany Creek Watershed Steering Committee Members

● Visual Assessment Point



500 0 500 Feet



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DCNR **DEP**
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7. From Lorimer Drive to Washington Lane, for 1/3 mile the creek forms the southern border of Curtis Arboretum. The flowing stream regenerates itself. A spring feeds two ornamental ponds in the Curtis Arboretum before emptying into the creek.
Action/BMP : Stop mowing around the spring areas to allow for native vegetation to persist in the riparian buffer to filter the runoff from the surrounding areas.



8. For the next half mile from Washington Lane to the Rock Lane bridge, the stream flows through a wooded valley with the lightly traveled Rock Lane close on its southern bank.
Action/BMP : No action necessary; continue to maintain the land uses surrounding this area.



9. Small fish (up to 6") frequent the pool under the Rock Lane Bridge. The channel is more stable and naturalized due to the vegetated stream banks.
Action/BMP : No action necessary; continue to maintain the land uses surrounding this area.



10. Downstream of the Rock Lane Bridge, a stone wall tries to contain Rock Creek for the 200 yards that it flows through Camp Anglewood. During Hurricane Allison, the creek overflowed its banks and was about 2 feet above Rock Lane. A spring-fed side stream feeds a pond in Camp Anglewood before emptying into Rock Creek.
Action/BMP : Remove channel wall and restore natural riparian buffer. Decrease mowing along the banks.



11. For the next 200 yards the stream is contained in a straight-sided concrete channel. Most of the land uses are residential and have mowed lawn up to the creek bank.
Action/BMP : Consider removing the straight channel and restore the natural sinuosity and riparian buffer for improvement in water quality and bank stability.



12. The houses on the north side of the creek were demolished and Rock Creek channelized in the 1950's due of flooding. The township mows most of the property to the creek banks.
Action/BMP : The township should develop a master plan for the ongoing management of this significant open space to treat NPS pollution and stormwater before it runs off into Rock Creek.



13. At Widener Road, Rock Creek is piped for the next 200 yards until it discharges into the Tookany Creek just below the Church Lane Bridge. Some of the land owners mow to the creek banks.
Action/BMP : Consider day-lighting Rock Creek to restore the riparian buffer and the biological activity along this reach to improve the water quality. Develop landowner education program for land stewardship, especially mowing practices.



1. This is the typical situation along Mill Run where the residential areas abut the creek bank. The lawn is mowed to the edge, thus eliminating the riparian buffer that stabilizes the bank and filters NPS pollution. In addition, the increased volume of stormwater has created a larger channel in the Mill Run. Over time, the banks have slumped to accommodate the larger volume of water. The shed appears to be losing the ground under it as the banks deteriorate.
Action/BMP : Employ biotechnical streambank restoration to repair the channel and replant the riparian buffer to hold the bank and filter NPS pollution. Encourage residents to stop mowing to the banks and possibly less of their creek-side lawns.



2 & 3. Stormwater has eroded away the top layer of soil under the wooded area near Lenape Street. This is further compounded by the slumping of the banks due to excessive volume of upstream stormwater.
Action/BMP : Determine main area of excessive volume and velocity of stormwater and slow it down at its source through on-site infiltration. Develop infiltration trenches or swales parallel to the creek to intercept the stormwater.



Visual Streambank Assessment

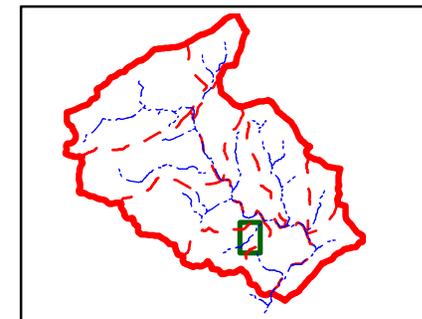
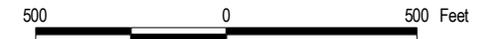
TOOKANY CREEK WATERSHED MANAGEMENT PLAN

Township of Cheltenham

Mill Run

Assessed by the Tookany Creek Watershed Steering Committee Members

● Visual Assessment Point



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ABINGTON TOWNSHIP

A1. Long shallow pond behind Alverthorpe Manor. Dense multiflora rose and significant tree fall throughout the area. On the south shore, the homeowner has mowed to within 10 feet of the south shore. This concrete dam at the southeast corner of pond is fairly new. Some trash including beer cans and rock piles was spotted by the dam.
Action/BMP: Conduct routine trash pick up; consider removal of the dam at some future point for improved water quality and aquatic habitat.



A2. The westernmost prong of the Jenkintown Creek begins at the Abington Friends School complex where the land uses are mostly parking and athletic fields. There is a very small riparian buffer between the parking lot at Abington Friends School and the headwaters of the Jenkintown Creek.

Action/BMP: Stop or reduce mowing between the parking lot and the riparian buffer to filter a known source of NPS pollution from entering the creek.

A3. Across Meetinghouse Road this reach traverses the Alverthorpe Manor property which is home to the Arts Center. This section of the creek is wooded and well buffered. The creek continues to flow through woodlands to Alverthorpe Park.



A4. In Alverthorpe Park, there is a break in the fence with a well-worn path into the park. The creek flows under the park bicycle trail and empties into Alverthorpe pond.
Action/BMP: None.



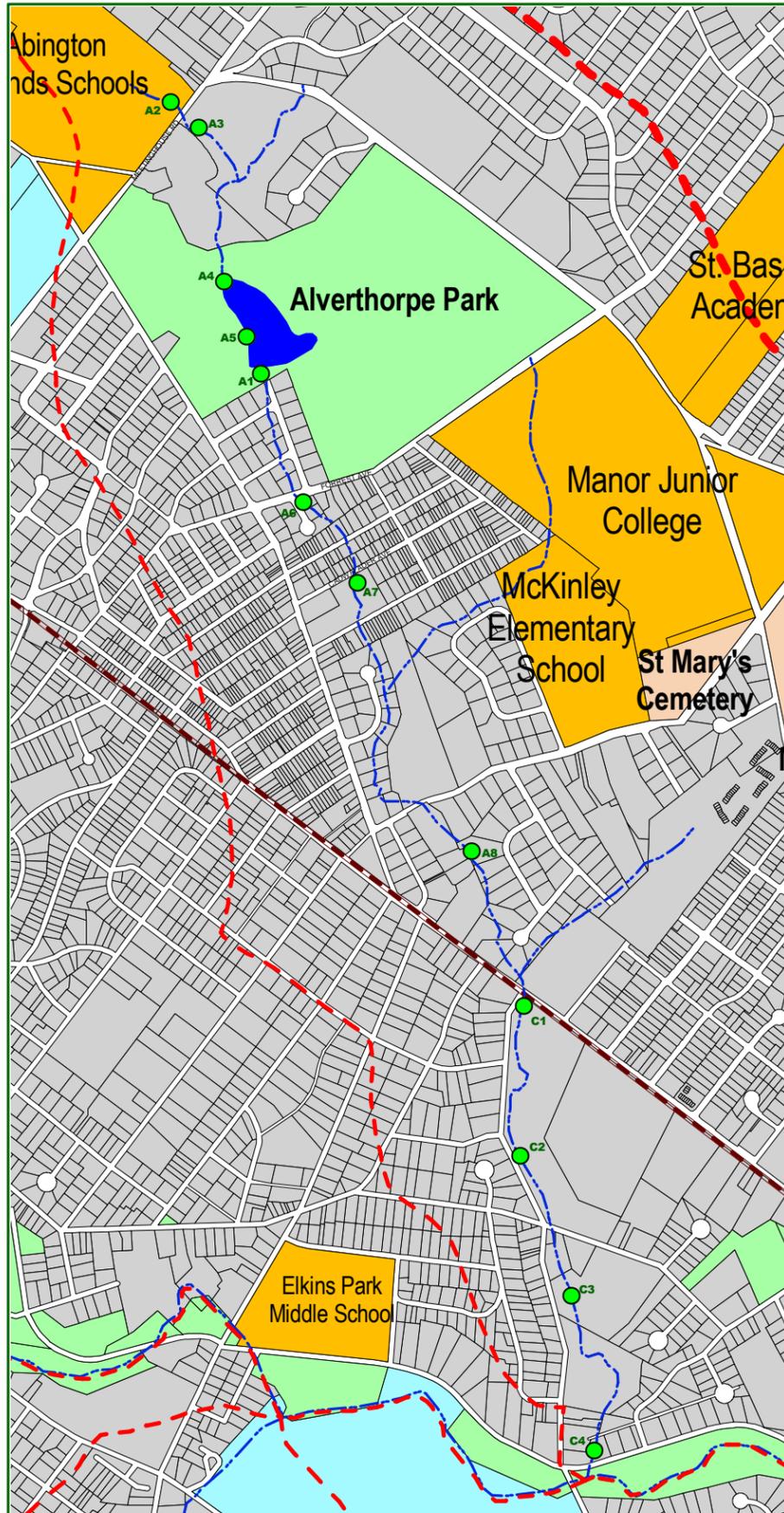
A5. The pond area has a geese problem that is feeding the algae, as evidenced by the large amounts of droppings, which cause NPS pollution in the pond. A chip and putt golf course is located close to the pond which may be contributing to the nutrient loading in the pond.
Action/BMP: Investigate and discourage the habitat that is inviting the geese to the pond area. Alter land management practices in the park to restore pond shoreline including the BMP's for the chip and putt course.

A6. Jenkintown Creek turns south to parallel Forrest Ave. and widens to about 8 feet. The creek exits from the culvert under Forrest Avenue. Residential properties are on both sides of creek. The creek is almost entirely channelized along this residential area with either vertical concrete walls or a concrete channel bed.
Action/BMP: Consider restoring the natural riparian buffer and channel back along the residential areas.



A7. As the creek exits from the culvert under Cadwalader Rd. (east side) the creek widens to about 15 feet and turns to the left. There is some evidence of erosion on the south bank at the turn. This point corresponds to the northwest corner of Ethel M. Jordan Memorial Park (behind McKinley Firehouse). The park lawn in the background is mowed almost to the creek banks.
Action/BMP: Leave more of a riparian buffer on the park side of the creek by mowing less.

A8. The remaining 4,000-foot stretch to Township Line Road involves the creek meandering between residential properties. A thin line of trees and plants border the creek in much of this area.
Action/BMP: Consider restoring the natural riparian buffer and channel back along the residential areas.



CHELTENHAM TOWNSHIP

C1. The Jenkintown Creek crosses into Cheltenham Township at Church Road where it flows about a half-mile before it joins the main branch of the Tookany Creek at Jenkintown Road along the Tookany Creek Parkway.

C2. After leaving Abington Township, the Jenkintown Creek had about 90 percent tree cover. The creek bottom is rocky and silty with concrete blocks strewn on the banks with some noticeable farther downstream.

Action/BMP: Pick up debris and litter on a regular basis to preserve this more pristine section of the creek. Work with upstream landowners to use on-site infiltration BMPs.



C3. The VFW picnic grove is in jeopardy of being lost due to eroding stream banks. It appears that the stream is increasing its channel size to accommodate the larger volume of flows from upstream.

Action/BMP: Mow less of the area for more on-site infiltration. Work with upstream landowners to also use on-site infiltration BMPs.

C4. The channeled walls of the creek got steeper toward Tookany Creek. The tree cover decreased to about 3 percent as the Jenkintown Creek entered the residential areas. Dumped green waste such as these leaves were found to cover the riparian buffer area in the residential areas thus decreasing the potential for filtering of NPS pollution.

Action/BMP: Residential education about composting and the importance of promoting a healthy riparian buffer.

Visual Streambank Assessment

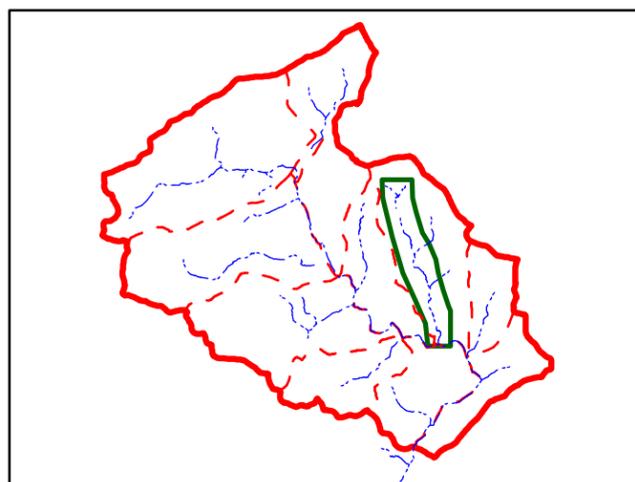
TOOKANY CREEK WATERSHED MANAGEMENT PLAN

Jenkintown Creek

● Visual Assessment Point



1200 0 1200 Feet



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