

# Wetland Restoration in Progress



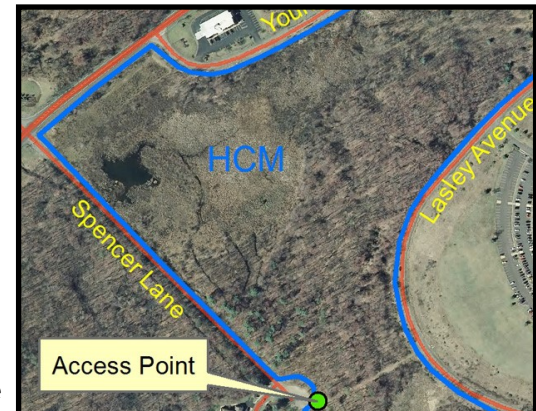
While the Hanover Crossings Marsh may look a bit messy at the moment, the current levels are just another version of a healthy wetland! For years, water levels were unsafe for both the community (due to flooding) and the wild-life and plant-life.

Before local townhouses were constructed, the full-time-flood pond area was a much smaller part-time wetland. While the levels of a wetland should ebb and flow with weather and seasons, the pond area kept getting bigger!

While that was good news for the fish, it also negatively impacted a lot of plants and wildlife. Water had been lapping at the road, which introduced a lot of silt and pollutants that would normally be filtered by the plants along the bank, which in-turn caused some problematic invasive species to flourish.

This also meant that waterfowl, frogs, and small mammals had less grazing room along the side of the marsh and would come face to face with traffic.

NBLT, the Pa Game Commission and the Luzerne County Engineering Department are working together to balance the dynamics of the wetland ecosystem with the safety of the community. The drain beneath Spencer Lane has been relocated lower in the water widening the bank between the road and the water while offering more filtration for silt and pollutants. Those muddy areas are already developing grasses and shrubs that were previously hampered by the water levels!



If you have questions about:

**Road or construction**, please contact **Luzerne County Engineering Department** at 570-825-1600

**Wildlife management** including trap and release programs, please contact the **Pa Game Commission Northeast Region** at 570-675-1143

**Land conservation and stewardship** including conserving your land, please contact **North Branch Land Trust** at 570-310-1789

**Water quality research** on site, please contact **Eastern PA Coalition for Abandoned Mine Reclamation (EPCAMR)** at 570-371-3523 or **Luzerne Conservation District** at 5706747991 x 5