

**Final Report for Upper Hammer Creek Fencing and Riparian Buffer Grant  
JUNE 30, 2003 ME #: 3591059**

**Grantee: Swatara Creek Watershed Association, Inc.**

**by  
Quittapahilla Watershed Association  
A Subdivision of the Swatara Watershed Association**

During this project, 9916 feet of stream bank on six cattle farms in the Upper Hammer Creek Watershed were fenced and riparian buffers were planted. Additionally, stream bank stabilization was accomplished on one farm and BMP work was done on additional farms

The Susquehannock Flyfishers planted trees and shrubs along the stream, but the extreme drought caused a low survival rate for the newly planted trees and shrubs.

A meeting was set up between the QCWA and the Susquehannock Flyfishers and together we reviewed their goals for the Upper Hammer Creek Watershed. Many successful ideas were brought up during the meeting.

Additional work was done to keep the cattle out of a wetland on the Musser Farm; a crossing was not required. The Susquehannock Flyfishers, on a volunteer basis, completed this additional fencing.

Stabilization work was completed along the stream bank on Walmer Farm.

Since 1999 the Quittapahilla Watershed Association has fenced 61,528 feet of stream bank. In the Quittapahilla Watershed, 41,787 feet in the Quittapahilla Watershed were fenced, 9916 feet along Hammer Creek, and 9825 feet along the Little Swatara.

Along the farms on the Hammer Creek, 9916 feet of riparian buffer were planted that were fenced. Since 1999, the total footage for buffer plantings by the Quittapahilla Watershed Association is 61,528 feet.

Much of the Success was due to partnering with the Susquehannock Flyfishers, the Doc Fritchey Chapter of Trout unlimited and volunteers from the Hammer Creek area. Since our early failures, we contracted for the planting of potted material. This, as well as the rain after planting, has led to a high success rate for the plantings.

We were not able to fence the entire stream bank that we had hoped to, but what we accomplished should have a significant impact on reducing runoff into the stream.