

# Forrest Woods Nature Preserve Stream & Wetland Restoration

The mission of Black Swamp Conservancy is to protect and preserve natural and agricultural lands in northwest Ohio for the benefit of future generations.





# WHERE WE WORK







#### Black Swamp Conservancy in Paulding County





# FORREST WOODS NATURE PRESERVE

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- Home to more than 30 rare and endangered species
- One of the only remaining mature growth tracts of swamp woods in Western Ohio
- Filters water flowing from the Marie DeLarme watershed into the Maumee River (Lake Erie's largest tributary)
- Location of the Preserve is at the confluence of the Marie DeLarme watershed and the Maumee River



#### Forrest Woods Nature Preserve







0	1.5	3	4.5	6
S.				Miles

# FORREST WOODS NATURE PRESERVE









# FORREST WOODS NATURE PRESERVE





#### **Forrest Woods Restoration**











### **Pre-Construction**



### **Post Construction**



# **Post Construction**

- Restored over 45 acres of wetlands, 30 acres of floodplain, & 3,500 linear feet of streams.
- Installed 19 in stream habitat structures
- Salvaged & installed standing dead material from recent storm damage
- Planted with native upland and wetland species and native tree species



## Reforestation



#### **Pre-Reforestation**



#### **Post Reforestation**



#### Accompanying Research

Kent State University

Nutrient removal study

Black Swamp Conservancy

Water Quality Monitoring Program





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# **Scientific Assessment of Restored Ecosystems**

- Restoration + Science at the Forrest Woods Nature Preserve Restoration Project
- Better understanding of biogeochemical processes:
  - A) more comprehensive evaluation, and ultimately improvement, of restoration strategies aimed at nutrient reduction
  - B) realistic restoration goals with specific consideration of the time lags that may limit rapid nutrient improvement on this historically disturbed land.





# KSU Monitoring Objectives (2016-2017)

- Pre-restoration (Sept 2016):
  - Baseline soil sampling at wetland site (completed)
  - Nutrient analysis of material used in stream restoration site (ongoing)
- Post-restoration (2017):
  - Approx. monthly surface water quality monitoring
  - Hydrologic assessment (water level and flow monitoring)
  - Post-restoration soil nutrient analysis
- Future:
  - Leverage preliminary data for future support of in-depth, direct measures of nutrient removal functions (e.g., P sorption, denitrification)





# **Black Swamp Conservancy Monitoring**

- 10 year water quality monitoring program:
  - Temperature, DO, Turbidity, flow rate, Nitrate, Ammonium, Phosphorous



# **Black Swamp Conservancy Monitoring**

 Complimentary to Ohio EPA monitoring occurring near the preserve.

 Demonstrate the importance of restoring wetlands near confluences of tributaries and the Maumee River.

