

# Project History

Dane County, in partnership with the City of Verona and the Southern Wisconsin Trout Unlimited Chapter, installed in-stream habitat improvements along Badger Mill Creek in 2021 in coordination with the City of Verona's Eastside Interceptor and MMSD's Pump Station 17 Force Main Relief Phase I projects. When MMSD and the City approached the County about the project taking place on County property, the County made the decision to cooperate with the projects by granting easements for the City and MMSD infrastructure at no cost, despite the significant impact the improvements have on lands owned by Dane County, specifically for natural resource protection. The County also chose to invest in the area, with no assistance from MMSD, by installing habitat improvements along the stream corridor at the time of construction.

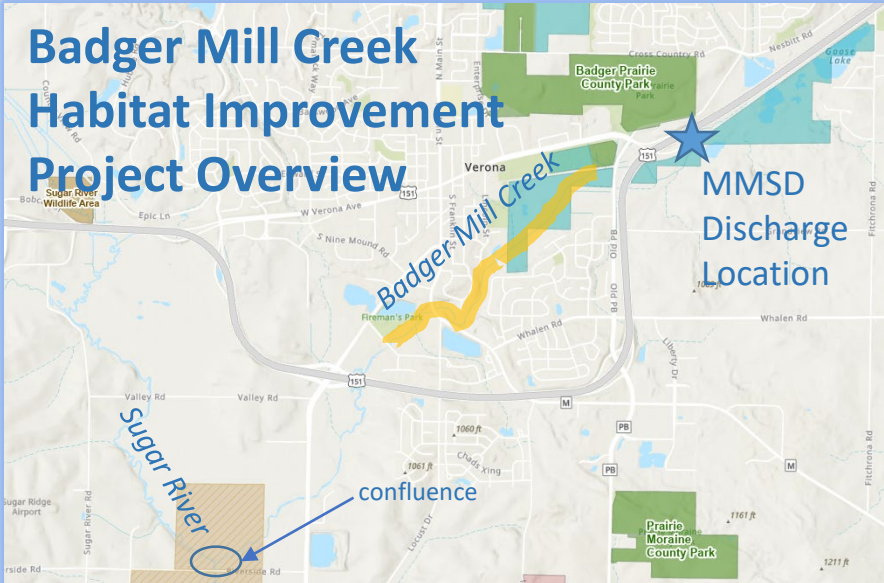
The County made these decisions and investments based on historic partnerships with the District and with the expectation that the District would recognize that the County was subsidizing MMSD projects and would step up as a partner as the project progressed into Phase II. The County entered into Phase II discussions optimistic that MMSD would 1) be the partner to install habitat and recreation improvements identified by the Public during the planning process, 2) consider how the work done in both Phases I and II could generate reduction for phosphorus compliance, and 3) collaborate directly with stakeholders to explore compliance options. The Badger Mill Creek Project PLUS process generated public attention in large part as a result of the partnerships that were developed during Phases I and II of the Pump Station 17 Force Main Relief project.

As the Phase II project progressed, it became clear that MMSD did not understand or appreciate the investments made by Dane County, City of Verona, and Trout Unlimited. MMSD was not willing to engage in discussions about the overlap between the Pump Station 17 Force Main Relief project and the looming Badger Mill Creek Project PLUS compliance decision. Furthermore, MMSD did not want to partner with the County or other stakeholders to mitigate the impacts of Phase II, despite the fact that the County, City, and Trout Unlimited had taken on this responsibility on behalf of MMSD during Phase I.

Following installation of the Phase I habitat improvements, a robust Friends group was formed that has continued to invest time and resources to protect and improve the corridor.



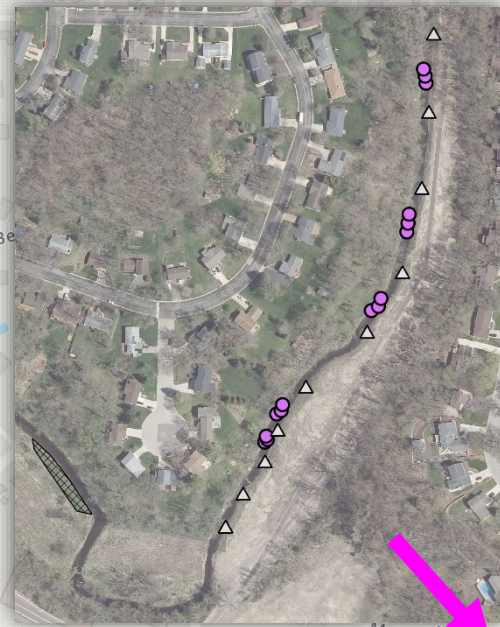
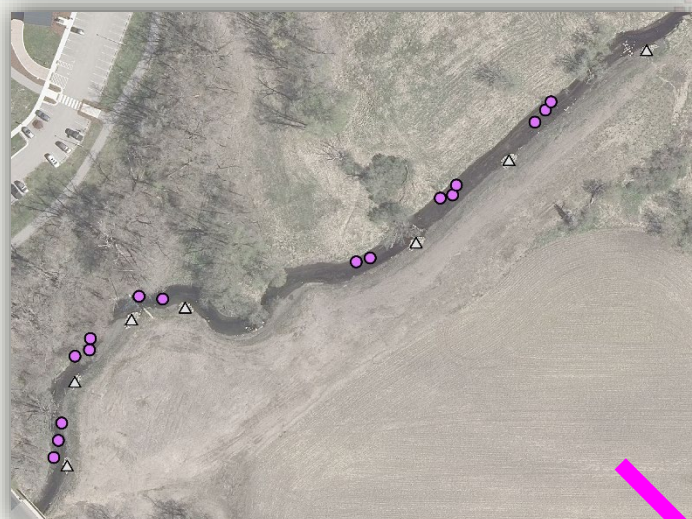
# Badger Mill Creek Habitat Improvement Project Overview



## Habitat Reaches

- Dane County (4,837 ft total length)
- City of Verona (3,609 ft total length)

Total Cost:  
\$365,000



- Rock Deflector (29)
- Boulder (31)
- Root Wad (18)
- Streambank Protection (152 ft)
- Log Deflector/Sill (1,513 ft)
- Floodplain Connection Grading

RE, Garmin,  
ources: Esri,  
astystelsen,  
community





Streambank Protection



Rock Deflectors

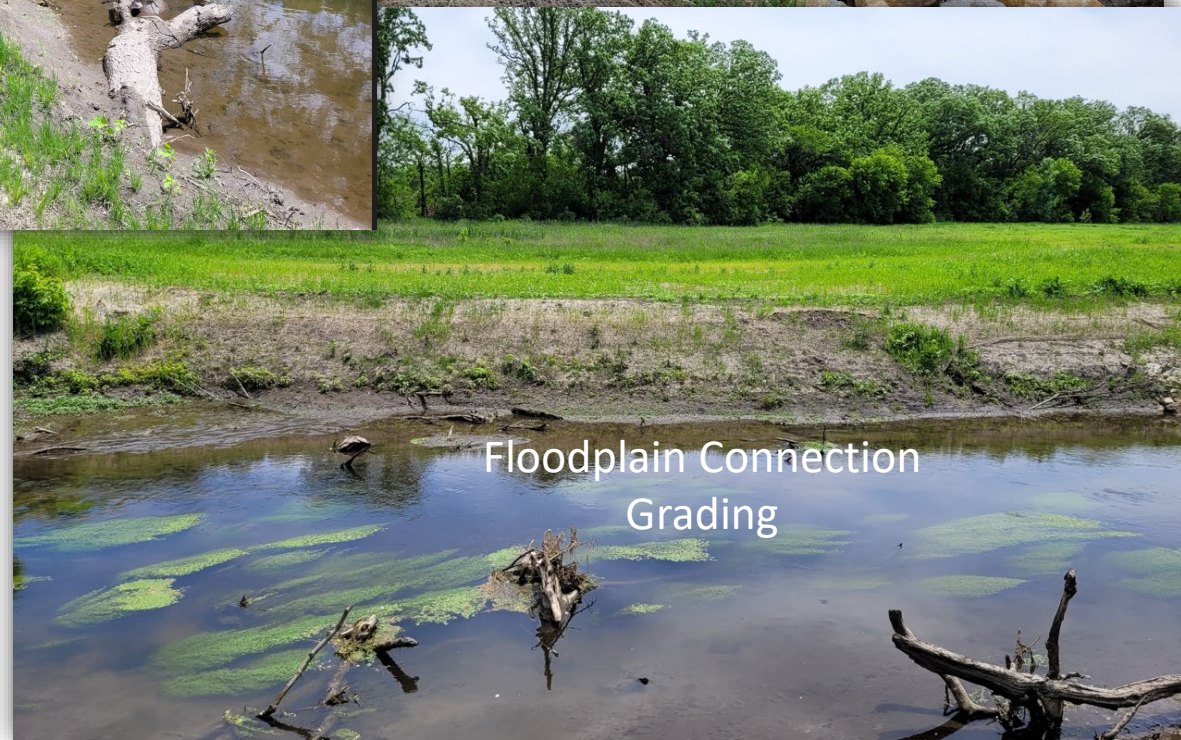


Root Wads



Log Deflector/Sill

*Habitat structures designed for existing water levels*



Floodplain Connection  
Grading