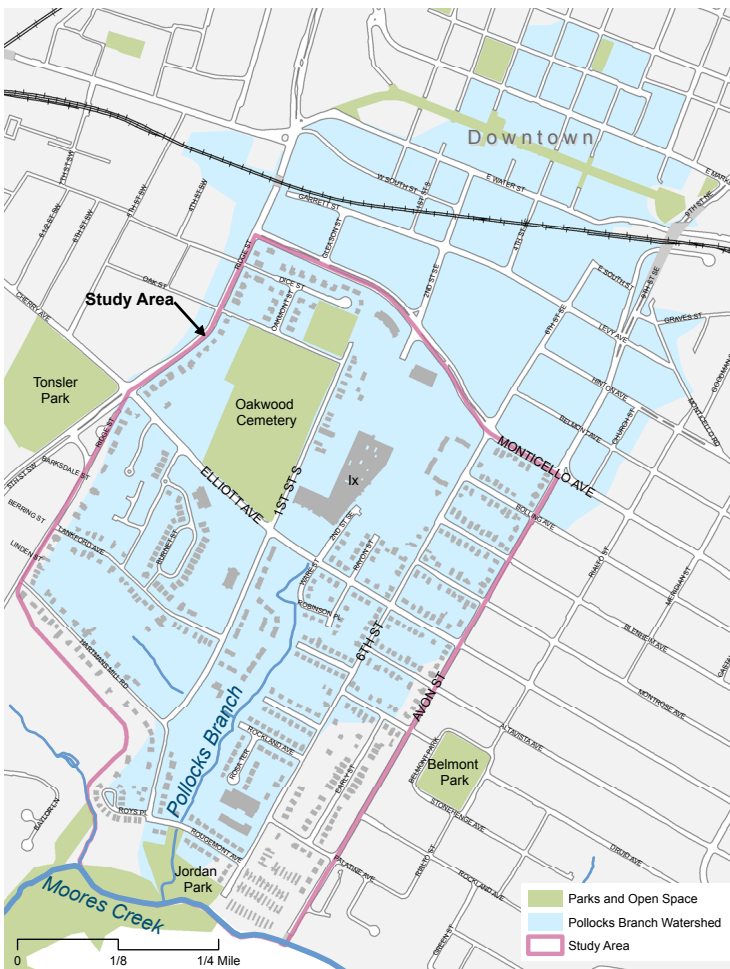DRAFT

Pollocks Branch Walkable Watershed Concept Plan

Rain that falls within Pollocks Branch watershed (shown in blue above) flows to the Pollocks Branch, then to Moores Creek, the Rivanna and James Rivers and ultimately the Chesapeake Bay.

In urban areas, the stormwater drainage system, which includes a series of underground pipes, open stream channels, street gutters and ditches, can carry pollutants from streets, yards and businesses to the creek.

A walkable watershed includes neighborhood amenities that improve stormwater and pedestrian safety simultaneously.

Overview

The City of Charlottesville has collaborated with residents and partner agencies to develop this Pollocks Branch Walkable Watershed Concept Plan. The Walkable Watershed process links the concepts of clean waters and healthy communities to improve creeks and neighborhoods simultaneously.

Building on the design goals from the 2013 Strategic Investment Area Plan (SIA Plan), this concept plan integrates pedestrian, cyclist and watershed improvements into a collective vision to improve both Pollocks Branch and neighborhood quality of life.

Working together, the City, the James River Association, Skeo Solutions, the Center for Watershed Protection, and The Bridge PAI have identified a set of near-term action steps, and are beginning to implement improvements over the course of the next year. The Pollocks Branch Walkable Watershed Concept Plan aims to:

- **Connect the neighborhood** to Pollocks Branch, Moores Creek and the surrounding natural areas/ parks;
- **Provide safe passage and routes** for pedestrians and cyclists;
- **Clean stormwater** runoff using green infrastructure before it enters the creeks;
- **Engage and educate** residents to celebrate Pollocks Branch and promote watershed stewardship.

Please visit: www.walkablewatershed.com or contact Dan Frisbee, City of Charlottesville at (434) 970-3997 or frisbee@charlottesville.org for more information.

Pollocks Branch
Walkable Watershed
healthy waters : healthy communities

Opportunities

On-Street Routes

- **Primary Routes**
- **Missing Sidewalks**

Safe Crossings

○ Improved Intersections with Potential Stormwater Treatment (see SIA Plan)

Greenway System

- **Existing Trails**
- **Potential Greenway Extension**
- ○ Potential Access Points
- ◻ Potential Creek Crossings

Green Infrastructure Projects

- ⬡ Potential Capstone Projects
- ● Potential Planted Buffers
- ◒ Potential WaterWise Murals

Map labels:

MONTICELLO AVE

GLEASON ST

RIDGE ST

DICE ST

OAKMONT ST

1ST ST S

Daughters of Zion Cemetery

Crescent Halls

Oakwood Cemetery

Ix

4TH ST SE

2ND ST SE

HINTON AVE

BELMONT AVE

6th St SE Housing

BOLLING AVE

BLENHEIM AVE

ELLIOTT AVE

Region 10

LANKFORD AVE

BURNET ST

Mt Zion Church

1ST ST S

S. 1st St. Housing

2ND ST SE

RAYON ST

WARE ST

ROBINSON PL

MONTROSE AVE

ELLIOTT AVE

AVON ST

RIALTO ST

HARTMANS MILL RD

DRUID AVE

STONEHENGE AVE

6TH ST SE

ROCKLAND AVE

ROSA TER

Pollocks Branch

EARLY ST

Belmont Park

BELMONT PARK

ALTAVISTA AVE

DRUID AVE

BAYLOR LN

ROYS PL

ROUGEMONT AVE

Jordan Park

PALATINE AVE

ROCKLAND AVE

STONEHENGE AVE

RIALTO ST

Hartman's Mill

Moores Creek

Scale: 0 — 0.125 — 0.25 Miles

Legend (bottom right):
- Existing Trails
- Parks
- Study Area

Improve On-Street Routes

▬ **Primary Routes**
Add pedestrian and cyclist safety amenities along priority routes. Integrate natural drainage strategies to improve stormwater in conjunction with pedestrian amenities where feasible.

▬ **Missing Sidewalks**
Add missing sidewalks along primary routes.

○ **Safe Crossings**
Provide safe crossings at intersections along primary routes. Integrate stormwater treatment where feasible (see SIA Plan).

⤢ **Monticello Ave. Connection**
Create pedestrian connection from South 1st Street to Monticello Avenue.

Examples of natural drainage strategies that support stormwater and walkability: a) curb extension, b) planted swale, c) curb extension with crosswalk, d) corner stormwater bulb-out with sidewalk.

Enhance and Extend Pollocks Branch Greenway

▬ **Existing Trails**
Formalize and clean-up existing section of Pollocks Branch Greenway.

▪▪▪▪ **Greenway Extension**
Extend Pollocks Branch Greenway to Jordan Park, connect to regional trails along Moores Creek. Add creek overlooks at street crossings.

○ ▪ **Access Points and Creek Crossings**
Provide additional access points and creek crossings. Improve connections to on-street route.
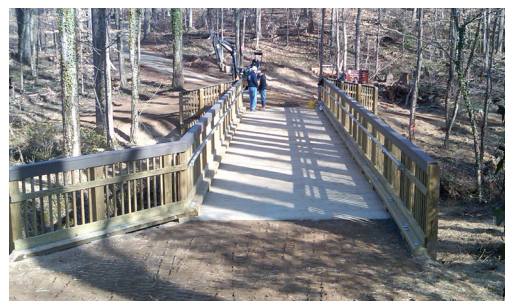
Example of creek crossing.

Improve Water Quality through Green Infrastructure and Art

⬡ **Green Infrastructure Capstone Projects** *(see pg. 4)*
Build one of the following green infrastructure capstone projects with existing grant support:

    A. Crescent Halls Concrete Channel Retrofit

    B. Jordan Park Stormwater Bioretention Garden

● **Planted Buffers**
Consider planting buffers at street ends to slow and clean runoff before entering creek.

⊖ **Waterwise Street Murals**
Host workshops to teach neighborhood children about watershed health and design murals to celebrate the creek.
(Led by The Bridge PAI)

Rain Barrels and Educational Workshops
Install 100 rain barrels in the neighborhood and host residential workshops to promote watershed stewardship.
(Led by the James River Association)

Proposed WaterWise street murals inspired by local youth creek discoveries.

One of the following green infrastructure capstone projects will be selected after soliciting community input and will be constructed in spring 2016. See map on page 2 for project locations.

A. Crescent Halls Concrete Channel Retrofit

Opportunities to:

- Retrofit existing concrete stormwater channel into a planted swale.

- Include benches for residents and plants that attract pollinators and birds.

- Consider adding walking/biking connection to Monticello Avenue.
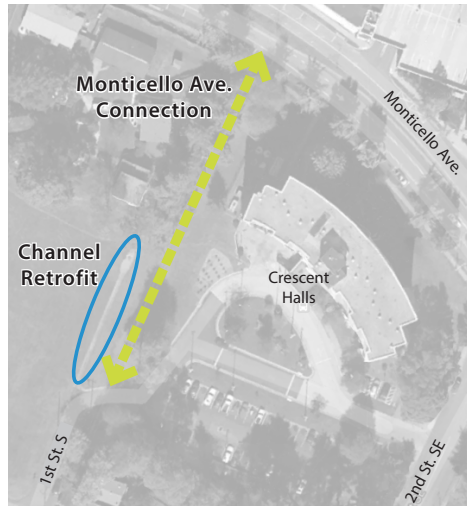
Existing

Proposed

B. Jordan Park Stormwater Bioretention Garden

Opportunities to:

- Install natural drainage feature at entrance of park to slow and clean stormwater from large drainage area before it enters Moores Creek.

- Enhance park entrance by replacing guardrail.

- Consider including educational signage about the stormwater feature and the area's history.

Existing

Proposed

Next Steps

Fall 2015

- Extend greenway trail from Rougemont Avenue to Jordan Park.

- Improve existing trail at Elliott Avenue.

- Select green infrastructure capstone project.

- Plan Pollocks Branch trail and stream cleanup and educational workshop.

- Install rain barrels in Ridge Street community (ongoing).

Spring 2016

- Improve intersection at Monticello Avenue and 6th St.

- Construct green infrastructure capstone project with the help of volunteers.

- Host educational workshop

- Install WaterWise storm drain murals.

For more information, please visit: www.walkablewatershed.com or contact Dan Frisbee, City of Charlottesville at (434) 970-3997 or frisbee@charlottesville.org.