

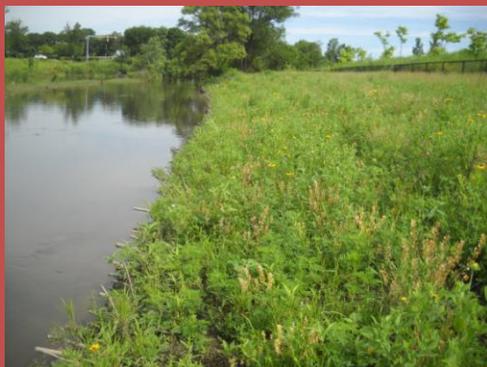
Reach 1 Streambank Stabilization

Reach 1 is a 3,000-foot long portion of the West Fork of the North Branch of the Chicago River (West Fork) located south of Willow Road to a spillway that redirects high flows of the river into the Techny Basin. The Village of Glenview's Reach 1 streambank stabilization project was conducted in a severely eroding area along the northern 555 feet of the east bank of Reach 1 to improve water quality, enhance wildlife habitat and increase biodiversity and public appreciation of this Village-owned property, which is part of the single largest area of naturalized open space in the Village.

The Reach 1 streambank stabilization project:

- Stabilized a total of 555 feet of eroding West Fork streambank (255 linear feet of soil lifts/native vegetation – including three rows of dormant live willow stakes totaling 382 willow stakes - and an additional 300 linear feet of native vegetation only)
- Added a rock vane
- Seeded 0.04 acres of native wetland buffer and 0.74 acres of native prairie buffer along the stream

Reach 1 and the surrounding Techny Basin Complex is well known for its birding opportunities, and it has been documented to support such wildlife as eastern meadowlarks, great blue herons, red-tailed hawks, eastern spiny softshell turtles, chorus frogs, coyotes and the pondhorn and paper pondshell mussels, which, prior to their discovery in the West Fork near Reach 1, were undocumented from the Chicago River system. The area is a popular destination for joggers, cyclists and pedestrians. Volunteers participate in semi-annual river cleanup and brush management work days sponsored by Friends of the Chicago River and the Village of Glenview's Natural Resources Commission.



Top: Visible erosion before stabilization project
Bottom: Reach 1 after a year's growth

Location: West Fork of the North Branch of the Chicago River, south of Willow Road for 555 feet on the east bank

Start of construction: June 2009

Construction complete: July 9, 2009

Benefits:

- Regrading and bank stabilization reduces erosion
- Rock vane redirects current, causing changes in water environments, increasing aeration and aquatic diversity.
- Enhanced riparian and upland habitat

Rock vane: Stream structure used to redirect stream flows away from banks.

Willow stake: The insertion of dormant live willow cuttings into the ground in a manner that allows the cutting (stake) to take root and grow, thus creating a dense root system that stabilizes the soil in which it is planted.



The Village of
Glenview