



The photo above shows one of the completed fish-habitat pools, the low-flow channel and slope landscaping. The photo at the right shows the new Sixth Street Bridge.



Phase III of the Black Ash Creek Flood Control Project continued the channelization of the creek another 2.3 kilometres upstream.

Black Ash Creek Flood Control – Phase III

Town of Collingwood and NCVA

Phase III of the Black Ash Creek Flood Control project continued the realignment and channelization of Black Ash Creek for another 2.3 kilometres upstream, from approximately 1.0 kilometres south of the Mountain Road Bridge to 1.1 kilometres south of the Sixth Street. Construction of a new bridge at Sixth Street was completed under a separate subcontract.

In 1995, the Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority (NCVA) developed the 'Nottawasaga Valley Watershed Management Plan' to deal with water-management issues across the entire watershed. One of the recommendations of the plan was the preparation of sub-watershed studies for the Blue Mountain Watershed, which includes Black Ash Creek.

Since Black Ash Creek is the largest watercourse entering Collingwood harbour, the potential impact on fish habitat from the proposed channelization project was recognized as a significant issue. In response, a 1995 Environmental Study Addendum report revised the approach to the project. The original flood control project was redesigned

as a channel only, below original ground, to incorporate fisheries concerns and devise a plan to effectively manage Black Ash Creek as an 'urban stream' ecosystem.

The designation of Black Ash Creek as an 'urban stream' ecosystem meant a number of restoration guidelines for stream rehabilitation had an impact on the methodology of construction activities. These guidelines included:

- Limitation of in-stream works – no work during annual fish migration
- Protection of fish – supervised live catch and release
- Clearing and grubbing – no burning permitted on site
- Erosion control – minimizing sediment transportation
- Water handling – temporary dams and drainage.

Project Facts

Client: Town of Collingwood

Scope of Work:

- Detailed and hydraulic design
- Tendering
- Contract management
- Field Services
 - Channelization
 - Construction of fish-habitat features
 - Stream diversion and construction of detour and new bridge at Sixth Street
 - Landscaping.

Project Cost: \$2,724,450 (2004)