

Ensworth Students Complete Streambank Stabilization Project

By Michael Cain, Harpeth River Watershed Association



In the final phase of a three-part project, Ensworth students worked at Edwin Warner Park to install cedar revetments along a highly eroded streambank on the Little Harpeth River. This event completed the work along a section where a trail had become dangerous to traverse because half of it was lost to erosion. These students built on work by two previous groups from Ensworth and all three groups should be proud of their collective accomplishment



The April 18th work day began as one group rolled cedar trees into coir matting (coconut husk) and making bundles resembling large burritos, while another group drove anchors, used to hold the revetments in place, into the bank. Once enough anchors were in place, a third group placed the revetments and “sewed” them to the bank with 1/8 inch wire.

The Harpeth River Watershed Association, working with volunteers such as these students, has protected many miles of streambanks over the last five years, a feat that would not be possible without enthusiastic volunteers. These revetments are a first-level approach to prevent erosion while HRWA works with local, state and federal officials and builders and developers to find a more permanent solution to this problem that is ultimately caused by poor development practices and increasing amounts of impervious surfaces in the watershed.



This group of Ensworth students can be proud of having done a great job completing this project.

For more information on this or any of the projects and programs that HRWA is involved with, please contact: Harpeth River Watershed Association

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