

PROJECT TYPE

Badger Mill Creek Stream Habitat Restoration Repairs and Low Flow Channel

START Winter 2024/2025

COMPLETION 2026 - 2031

LOCATION

Badger Mill Creek in the Ice Age Trail Junction Natural Resource Area

DESCRIPTION

The purpose of this project is to repair the stream corridor to reflect post-discontinuance site conditions.

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 to mitigate the impact of the City of Verona's Eastside Interceptor and MMSD's Pump Station 17 Force Main Relief Phase I projects.

The restoration project occurred along 5,000 feet of stream and included many instream improvements to enhance wildlife habitat and reconnection of the stream to the floodplain. These improvements were designed with the assumption that flow rates from the effluent return would continue. Without flow from the effluent return, these restoration practices will be much less effective or non-functional. The Dane County investment in the restoration work was approximately \$400,000.

The restoration planning and design was done in coordination with the City and MMSD and bid with phase I of the East Side Interceptor Gravity Sewer Project/Pumping Station 17 Force Main Relief project. This project runs through County parkland and heavily disrupted the Badger Mill Creek Corridor and left abandoned sewer lines in ground while adding new sewer lines.

To rectify the situation, this project would fund the repair of Badger Mill Creek and surrounding lands when the effluent discharge ends.

A new restoration plan and funding for implementation of the plan is necessary to ensure the long-term health and resiliency of Badger Mill Creek and surrounding lands. This plan would be designed to the site conditions that result from discontinuance of the effluence discharge.

PARTICIPATING STAKEHOLDERS

Lead Organization: Dane County Land & Water Resources Department and City of Verona

Supporting Organizations: Upper Sugar River Watershed Association, Trout Unlimited, CARPC, Town of Verona, City of Fitchburg, Friends of Badger Mill Creek, City of Madison, and MMSD

FUNDING

Estimated Project Cost: \$50,000 design
 \$375,000 construction and native vegetation
 establishment