



S T R A U G H A N
E N V I R O N M E N T A L
S E R V I C E S , I N C .

Wetland Mitigation Design West Friendship

Location: Friendship, Maryland

Client: Maryland Department of Transportation, State Highway Administration

Description: Straughan Environmental Services, Inc. (SES) is currently supporting the Maryland State Highway Administration (SHA) in the development of a Phase II Wetland Mitigation Plan for a 10-acre site in Howard County, Maryland along the Middle Patuxent River. Known as the West Friendship site, the proposed mitigation area consists of an abandoned floodplain terrace adjacent to the Middle Patuxent River, approximately ½ mile west of MD Route 32 and one mile south of MD Route 144. Part of an overall restoration program for this watershed, the wetland mitigation/restoration is required to compensate for unavoidable impacts to wetlands and “waters of the U.S.” resulting from the relocation of the US Route 29 at the Maryland Route 216 interchange and improvements to US Route 29 at the Gorman/Hopkins Road Interchange. SES designed the West Friendship mitigation site, which included:

- Identifying mitigation site goals to replace the functions and values of the impacted wetland systems;
- Selecting the mitigation site;
- Preparing a water budget for the site;
- Installing groundwater observation wells and recording observations;
- Determining the appropriate hydrology for the wetland creation area;
- Preparing grading plans, cross-sections, erosion/sediment control plans, specifications, landscaping plans, cost estimates, and designs;
- Developing a five-year monitoring plan;
- Obtaining agency approvals;
- Preparing a Forest Stand Delineation and Forest Conservation Plan for the mitigation site;
- Assisting MAA with bid packages and reviews; and
- Monitoring site construction for conformance with design.