



Great Lakes Protection Fund

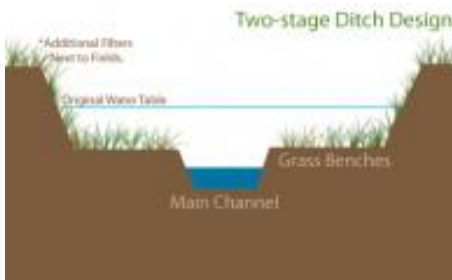
1560 Sherman Avenue, Suite 1370, Evanston, Illinois 60201

Tel 847-425-8150 Fax 847-424-9832 glpf.org

Funded Project

Demonstration of Drainage Channel Restoration to Improve Stream Integrity and Maintain Flow Capacity

Project No.	545
Timeline	1999 – 2004
Award Amount	\$394,000
Team Leader	Larry Brown, The Ohio State University
Project Website	http://www.ag.ohio-state.edu/~streams/



Cross-section of a two-stage ditch.

This team constructed a 3000-foot-long, two-stage agricultural ditch and effectively demonstrated that the new design could improve ecosystem function while performing as well as traditional agricultural drainage channels. The two-stage, low-bench design adds more surface area to drainage channels, which reduces erosion and allows the channels to filter more of the agricultural wastewater that flows past. Team members monitored the prototype they had built in Woods County, Ohio and determined that the design improved water quality, channel stability and local habitat diversity. This 'naturally stable' design gained popularity with The Nature Conservancy and is now being put to use across Indiana.