

## Stony Brook Millstone Watershed Association New Visitors Center & Trails Enhancement

**Location:** Pennington, New Jersey  
**Client:** Stony Brook Millstone Watershed Association  
**Size:** 5 acres  
**Cost:** \$900,000 in sitework  
**Status:** CD's completed in 2011, Currently in Bidding



Rendering of the Stony Brook-Millstone Watershed Association Visitors Center with forecourt meadows, rain gardens and green roof (image courtesy of FMG architects).

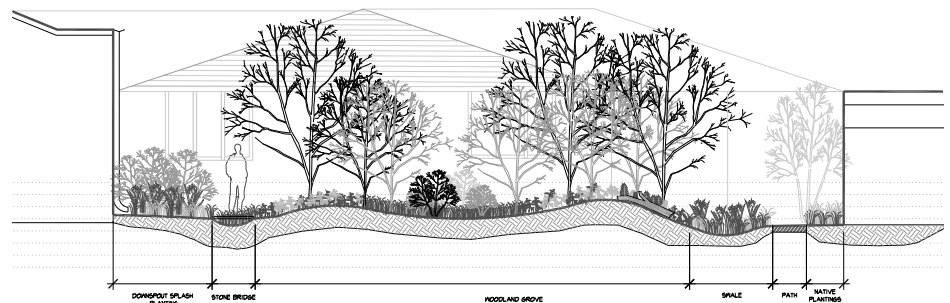


One of the many trails in need of stabilization

The Stony Brook-Millstone Watershed Association (SBMWA) encompasses a 265 square mile region of central NJ. As NJ's oldest environmental organization, SBMWA is dedicated to improving water quality, supporting proactive planning for watershed protection, and demonstrating alternative land stewardship methods. In 2008, SBMWA hired Viridian Landscape Studio in partnership with FMG Architects to design a site & alternative landscape for the new Visitors Center proposed on the 5 acre Buttinger Nature Center site set within its 860-acre preserve. Viridian's goal: introduce visitors to the story of the watershed and Preserve. By transforming lawn to meadow and utilizing raingardens, bio-swales and regionally native vegetation, the restorative landscape celebrates our human relationship to water and the restoration of the Hydrologic Cycle – the marriage of soils, water and vegetation. The design also challenges the notion of traditional landscape by providing alternative approaches to land management easily transferable to both institutional & residential landscapes.



Existing meadow behind visitors center to be maintained and enhanced.



Section through the interior woodland courtyard