

City of Belhaven

Enhancing Flood Resilience in Belhaven, NC



PROJECT TITLE

Wynne's Gut Constructed Wetland
and Greenway

PROJECT PARTNERS

Mid-East Commission
RK&K
Backwater Environmental
NC Division of Coastal Management

FUNDING SOURCE

Resilient Coastal Communities
Program (RCCP)

TOTAL COST

\$263,200

Community Context

The Town of Belhaven, a low-lying coastal community at just 2 feet above sea level, faces chronic nuisance flooding made worse by rising sea levels and heavy rains. **Wynne's Gut—an urban waterway at the head of town—is a key source of overland flooding.** In response, the Town prioritized a hybrid solution that combines nature-based and engineered approaches.

Implementation Timeline

Phases 1-2



2021-2022

RESILIENCE PLANNING AND
PROJECT IDENTIFICATION

Phase 3



2023-2024

ENGINEERING AND DESIGN
LED BY RK&K

Phase 4



2024-2025

CONSTRUCTION BEGAN SEPT 2024



FINAL PLANTING AND GREENWAY
FEATURES INSTALLED MAY 2025



RESULTS



North Carolina
Coastal Resiliency



Project Components

- Constructed Wetland at a town-owned park to increase floodplain storage and treat stormwater
- Grading Improvements to increase capacity and reconnect floodplain areas
- Native Plantings including wax myrtle, salt meadow cordgrass and spreading rush
- Future Greenway Access and recreation space integrated into floodplain

Belhaven Before/After Improvements

