

# Embracing Marsh Creek

On this site, Marsh Creek once meandered freely under a mature forest of oak, sycamore, and cottonwood. Early accounts describe a rich wildlife haven, but as land use changed, periodic flooding created problems for farmers and homeowners. After large floods in 1955 and 1958, trees were removed to construct the straightened flood control channel you see today.

Now the Friends of Marsh Creek Watershed are working to create a new future for the creek, where creekside development could incorporate and embrace the creek. Parkland and open space along the channel would provide a buffer against flooding, and a restored, tree lined creek could provide recreation, wildlife habitat, beauty, flood control, and even increased property values.

The Palmilla development at this site incorporates these ideas. Indeed, some of the homes will proudly face the creek to take in its beauty. Cooperation between community members, local government and the developer has led to an enlightened, hopeful and promising foundation for future development in this watershed.

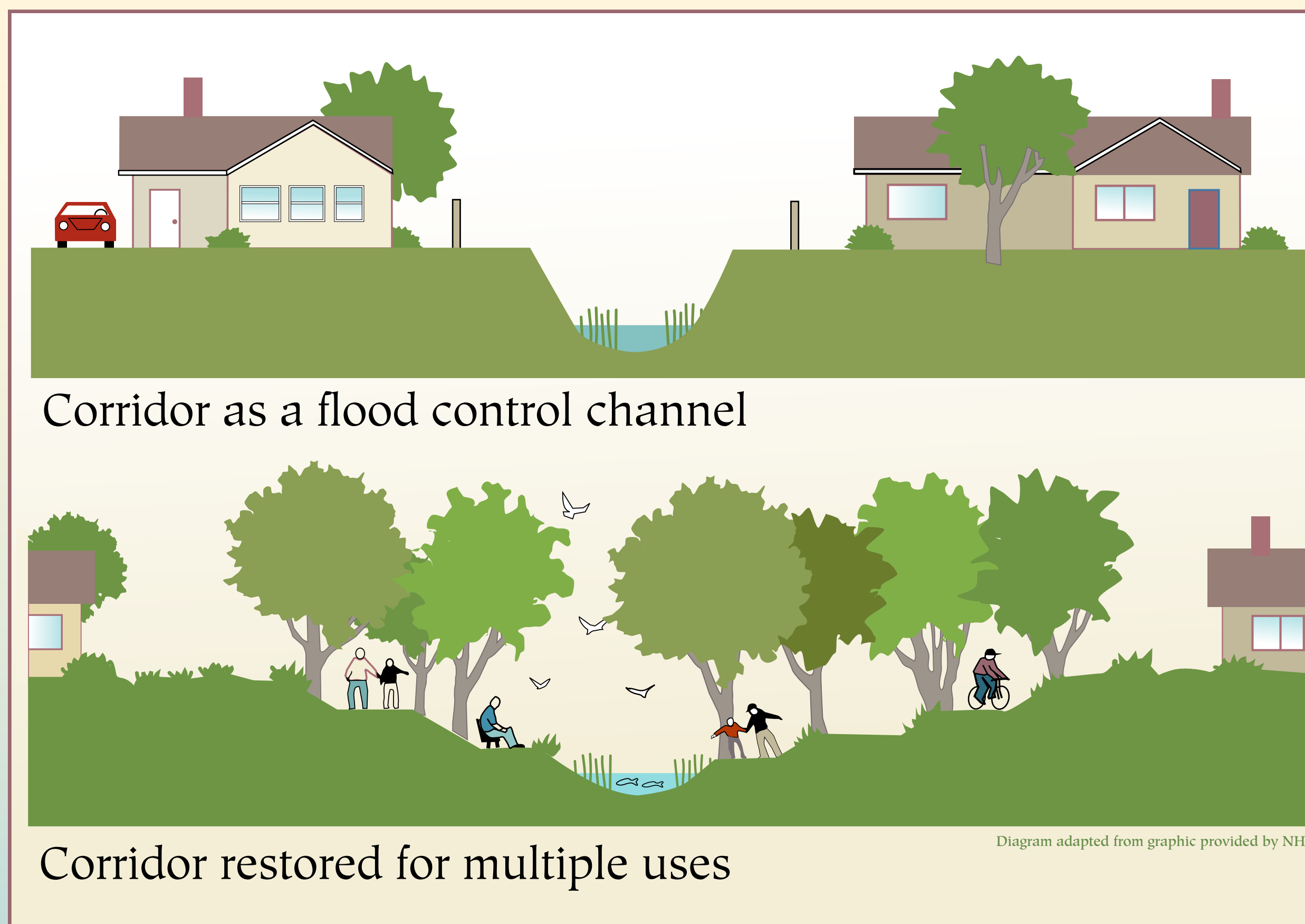


Illustration by Doyle Wegner

