



empowering businesses for water sustainability

A robust economy needs water as much as people, fish, and plants do. As essential players in water sustainability, businesses have immense power to affect change, but they can't do it alone.

Transformative impact on the freshwater systems that support water quality and availability is realized through partnership, innovation, and rigorous science. We're here to help. Stroud Water Research Center is a trusted partner that helps businesses achieve water sustainability goals.

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Stroud Water Research Center has a unique ability to be a good reference for both the investment community and corporations, as well as those of us who are thinking about the future of this planet.”

– Charles Porter Schutt III, Head of Brown Advisory Delaware Office and Former Stroud Center Board Chairman



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a difference
today!

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STROUD
WATER RESEARCH CENTER

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STROUD
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Partnerships for
Water Sustainability

science
today
**for water
tomorrow.**



Research

a force for good

FRESHWATER RESEARCH HELPS
A CERTIFIED B CORP MEET ITS
ESG COMMITMENTS



Scientific data sets the stage for future research on whether farming practices that support fresh water in a temperate U.S. region can provide similar benefits in other places.

Photo: Silk Grass Farms

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“The Stroud Center’s work – to ensure that our operations support rather than diminish the health and well-being of our watersheds – directly impacts our financial prosperity and helps us fulfill our mission.”

– Mandy Cabot and Peter Kjellerup,
Co-Founders,
Silk Grass Farms
and Dansko

Founded in 2019 as the first certified B Corporation in Belize, Silk Grass Farms is on a mission as a force for good. The 9,000-acre agribusiness focuses on sustainable business practices that are restorative and beneficial for the Belizean people, economy, and natural ecosystems.



To help meet its ESG investments – short for environmental, social, and governance – Silk Grass Farms asked Stroud Water Research Center to evaluate the impact of the farm’s operations on local water quality.

Stroud Center scientists examined water quality across dozens of sites. Based on preliminary data, they found Silk Grass Farms is effectively managing nutrients and supporting aquatic wildlife, identifying more than 200 macroinvertebrate species and more than 30 fish species.

The Stroud Center will soon provide Silk Grass Farms with a detailed report of any detected environmental impacts and, if appropriate, recommend improvements such as watershed restoration practices. The scientific data sets the stage for future research on the long-term environmental sustainability of the farm, and whether farming practices that support fresh water in a temperate U.S. region can provide similar benefits in other places.



Above: A Stroud Center scientist takes microbial samples from streams at Silk Grass Farms.

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Our long, successful partnership is proof that supporting and partnering with the Stroud Center is a sound investment.”

– Al Harvey,
Vice President of Sales,
The LaMotte Company

The LaMotte Company and Stroud Water Research Center have collaborated for over 30 years to enhance environmental education and promote water sustainability. The partnership has transformed how students and educators engage with freshwater ecosystems through environmental education. LaMotte has benefited by expanding its product offerings and gaining credibility in the field, while the Stroud Center has successfully delivered hands-on stream studies to thousands of students worldwide.



Leaf packs attract aquatic species that are indicators of stream health.

A key product of this collaboration is the Leaf Pack Stream Ecology Kit. Inspired by a Stroud Center research tool, the kit allows students to study stream health through macroinvertebrate collection and identification. The partnership has proven mutually beneficial, with LaMotte providing a distribution network and packaging know-how, and the Stroud Center contributing scientific and educational expertise, product ideas, and market connections.

As corporate focus on water sustainability intensifies, the partnership exemplifies how businesses and nonprofits can work together to achieve economic and public good.

Education

dual impact

LAMOTTE AND STROUD
CENTER PARTNERSHIP DRIVES
WATER SUSTAINABILITY WHILE
TURNING A PROFIT



Susan Brown, a seventh-grade science teacher in Flagstaff, Arizona, has used the kits with her students for about 10 years. Brown estimates she has introduced the leaf pack experiment to up to 4,000 people.

Photo: Susan Brown



Watershed Restoration

boosting the bottom line while building a better future



THE ECONOMIC CASE FOR
WATERSHED RESTORATION

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With its reputation and track record, the Stroud Center is a valuable and trusted partner.”

– Will Hewes,
Water Sustainability
Lead for Amazon

Amazon Web Services and Stroud Water Research Center are partnering to return more than 67 million gallons of clean water to underground aquifers annually – water needed for communities, ecosystems, and businesses to thrive. The effort is part of AWS’s commitment to be water-positive by 2030 and return more water to communities and the environment than it uses in its data center operations.

Using a science-based approach that prioritizes the health of freshwater ecosystems, the Stroud Center is working with farmers and agricultural landowners in northern Virginia to improve cropland management and plant streamside forests. These measures will increase infiltration and groundwater recharge and reduce stormwater runoff, flooding, water inefficiency, and water pollution from sediment and nutrients.

The Stroud Center’s approach is the culmination of more than 50 years of unbiased, long-term research on what works, what doesn’t, and what outcomes to expect. Such insights are possible because of the unique feedback loop between the Stroud Center’s research and watershed restoration projects.



Corporations that partner with the Stroud Center on watershed restoration projects can make a real impact with the data to back it up. The AWS project uses Model My Watershed, part of the Stroud Center’s WikiWatershed Toolkit, to estimate environmental benefits.

40%



Businesses surveyed by DNV report that their investments in sustainability measures have led to **revenue growth**.



Photo: Octoraro Native Plant Nursery