

HOMEOWNERS CAN HELP!



Stormwater management can be implemented at home in many ways which will not only help your property but will contribute to help our community and local watershed as well.

NATURE VS. TOWNS/CITIES

Stormwater runoff is very different in towns and cities verses in nature.

In nature, most precipitation is absorbed by the abundant trees and plants or permeates into the ground, which results in stable stream flows and good water quality.

In towns and cities rain that falls on a roof, driveway, patio or lawn runs off the surface more rapidly, picking up pollutants as it flows down the streets into storm drains leading straight to our local water ways.

PREP AND PLAN

To start, walk your property and look for trouble areas like erosion or low spots that puddle. Take note of how stormwater runoff flows over your property. Then, think of what you want for your property. Check out the following tips to help you decide on a type of stormwater management.

If you would like to enhance your landscaping with flowers and other attractive plants or even attract butterflies consider a rain garden.

If you have outdoor water needs (water for a garden/lawn) consider a rain barrel.

If your driveway needs repaved or you want a patio, consider using pervious pavers instead of traditional pavement.

If you want to some shade on your property, consider planting some trees.

If a stream is running through your property, installing a riparian buffer would be very beneficial to help prevent erosion..

SIMPLE PROJECTS

Let's talk about some of the simple stormwater management projects you can do at home yourself.

Planting trees is a easy way to help soak up more stormwater runoff and shade your property!

Adding a **rain barrel** to a down spout on your home is a great way to collect water for later use like watering your lawn or garden.

MORE PROJECTS

There are so many things you can do to your property to help management stormwater runoff.

A **rain garden** is a depressed garden that uses mulch, soil, and deep-rooted native plants to capture, absorb, and infiltrate stormwater. They are a beautiful way to implement stormwater management to our property.

Riparian Buffers help to prevent erosion and water pollution along streams and bodies of water by planting native trees and shrubs along streams and wetlands to restore the streamside area to forested conditions. These "riparian buffers" filter runoff and have numerous water quality benefits.

Pervious pavers are impervious building materials, such as stone, concrete or brick, laid with space in between to allow for pervious areas (gravel, sand or vegetation) in driveways, parking areas, or walkways. This is a great way to slow down stormwater runoff but can get expensive.

A great way to think about stormwater is with the EPA's mantra:

