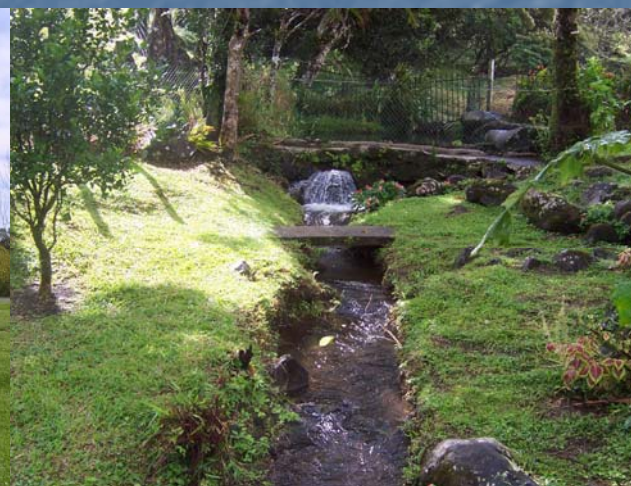


Stormwater Management at Your Property

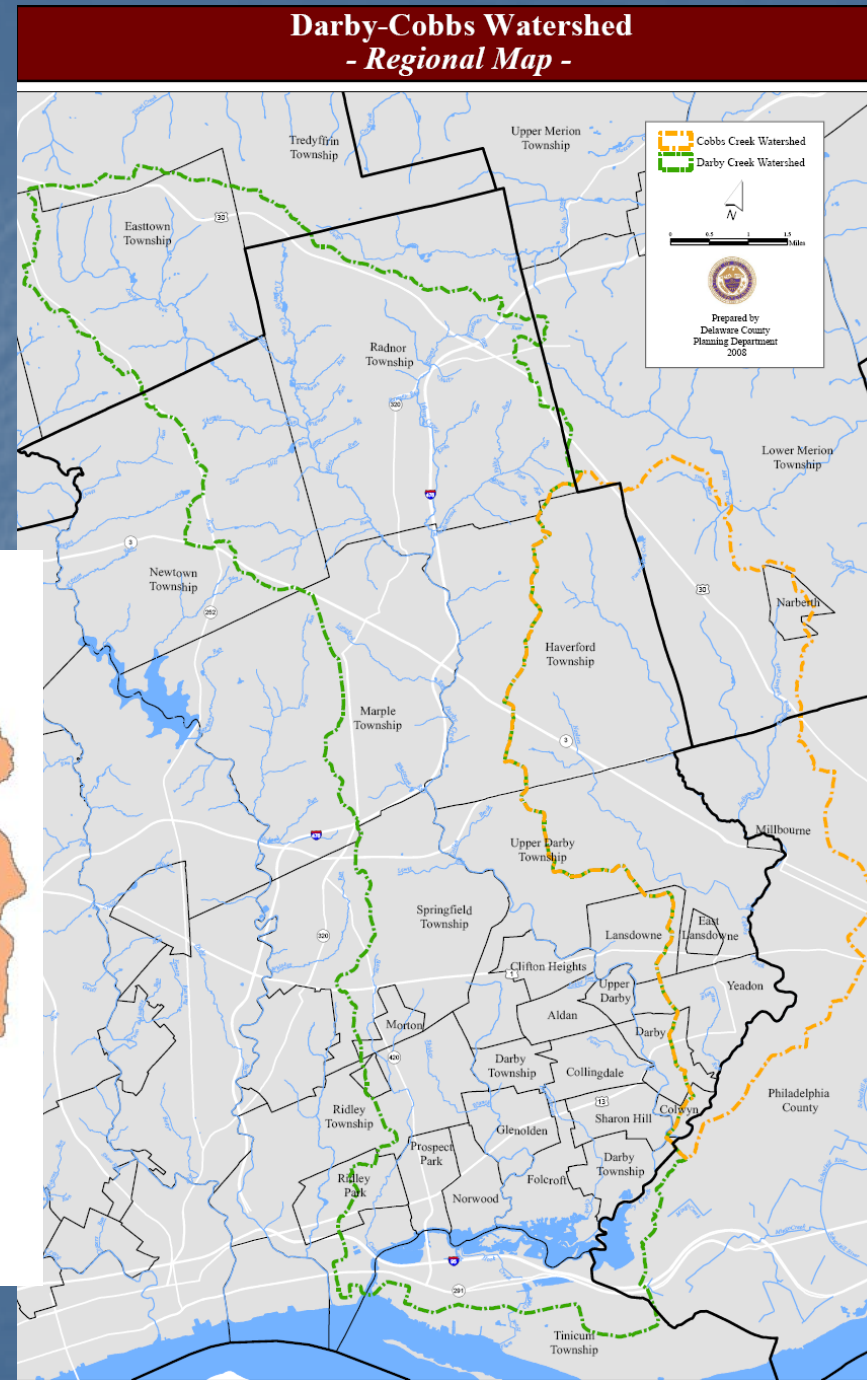
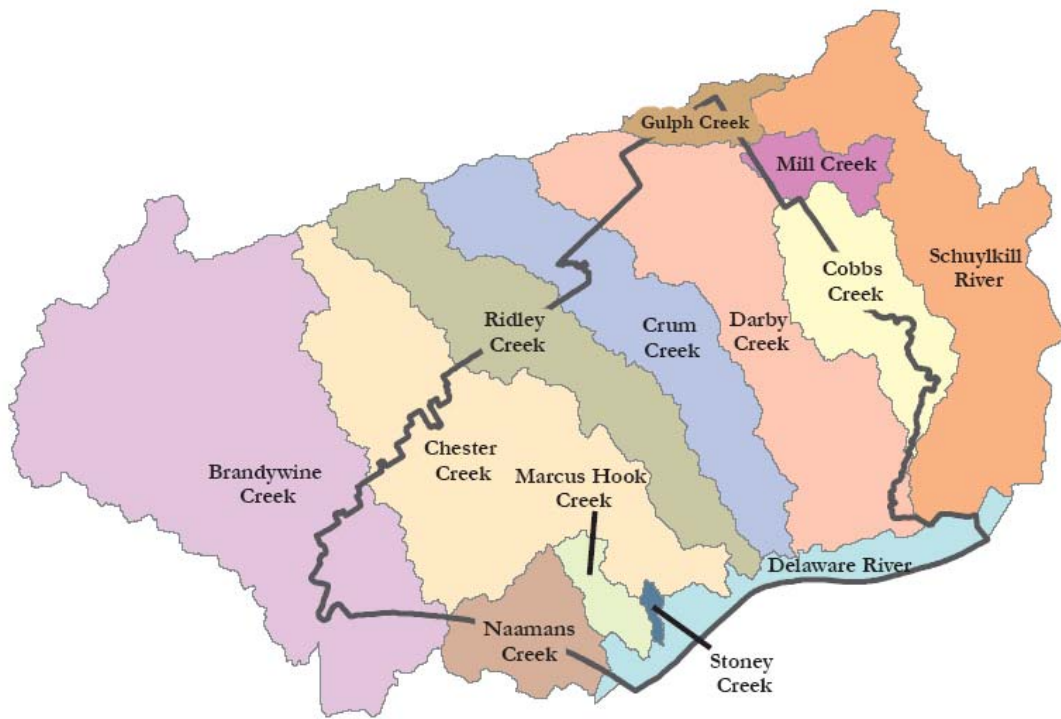


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"Your yard is starting to mess with my livingroom."

What is your watershed address?



The Current Scene



Your actions on land (in and around your property) have a DIRECT effect on the health of your local waterways



The American Ideal?



Simple steps by homeowners CAN improve water quality

- Re-establish and improve riparian buffers
- Stop all dumping in stormsewers – only rainwater in the stormdrains
- Encourage homeowners to do small things around their homes to reduce stormwater runoff, including:
 - Rainbarrels
 - Raingardens
 - Reducing fertilizer and pesticide use



Lawn Care

Modern lawn care practices use too much fertilizer and too many toxic chemicals. Much of these work their way into our waterways through stormwater runoff, negatively affecting water quality, and aquatic organisms.

- Mow High – requires less water, shades out weeds.
- Leave the grass clippings on the lawn, they will breakdown and fertilize lawn.
- Test your soil before you apply fertilizer.
- Use organic fertilizers and only what you need.
- Water longer and less often. First thing in the morning is best.
- Aerate early in spring and the fall. Reduces compaction, allows more air flow around roots and better water penetration.
- Do **NOT** put your leaves in a stream!!!



Go Native!!

- Consider replacing some lawn area with native flowers, shrubs and trees.
 - Drought tolerant, adapted to this area, climate and conditions. Therefore, require less watering, fertilizers and pesticides
 - Provide better habitat and serve as a food source (berries and seeds) for insects, birds and other wildlife.
- Local Sources : Redbud Native Plant Nursery, Middletown PA; Yellow Springs Farm, Chester Springs, PA
- <http://www.dcnr.state.pa.us/forestry/wildplant/native.aspx>



Aster (Eurybia) divaricatus
White Wood Aster



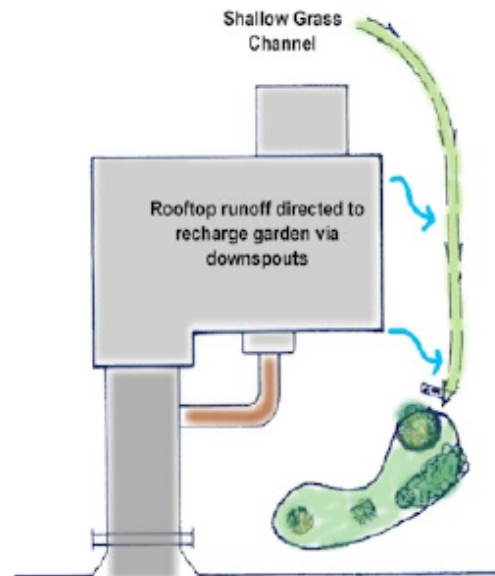
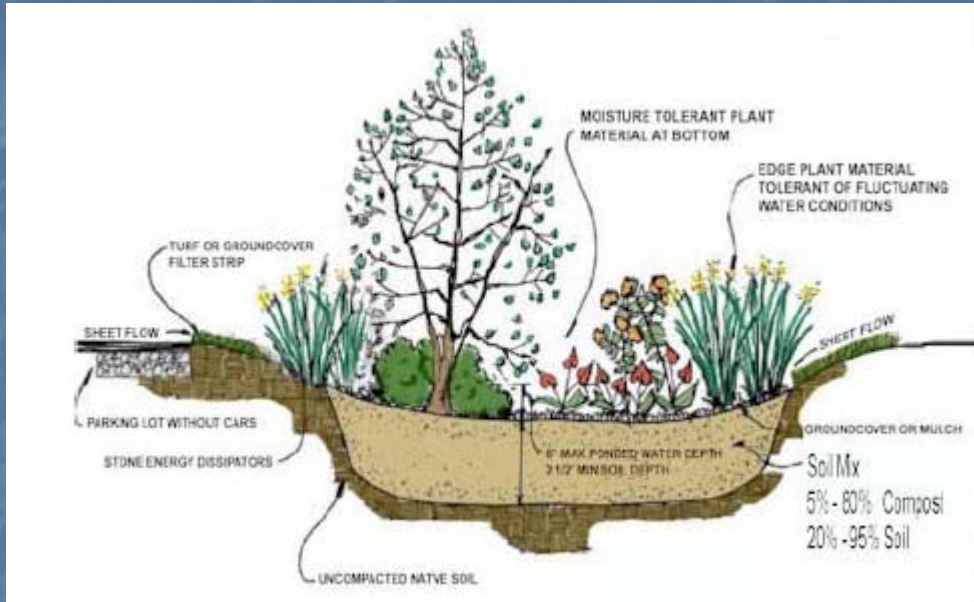
Monarda didyma
Bee Balm



Rudbeckia hirta
Black Eyed Susan

Capture that water before it becomes runoff!

Rain Gardens



http://www.water.rutgers.edu/Fact_Sheets/fs513.pdf

http://www.npsnj.org/rain_garden_home.htm

Rain Barrels = FREE WATER for your garden!



If rainbarrel has an open top, make sure there is a fine mesh screening covering the opening to prevent mosquitoes.

Sources for Rainbarrels

Midwest Sales: <http://www.midwestinternetsales.com/rainbarrels.htm>

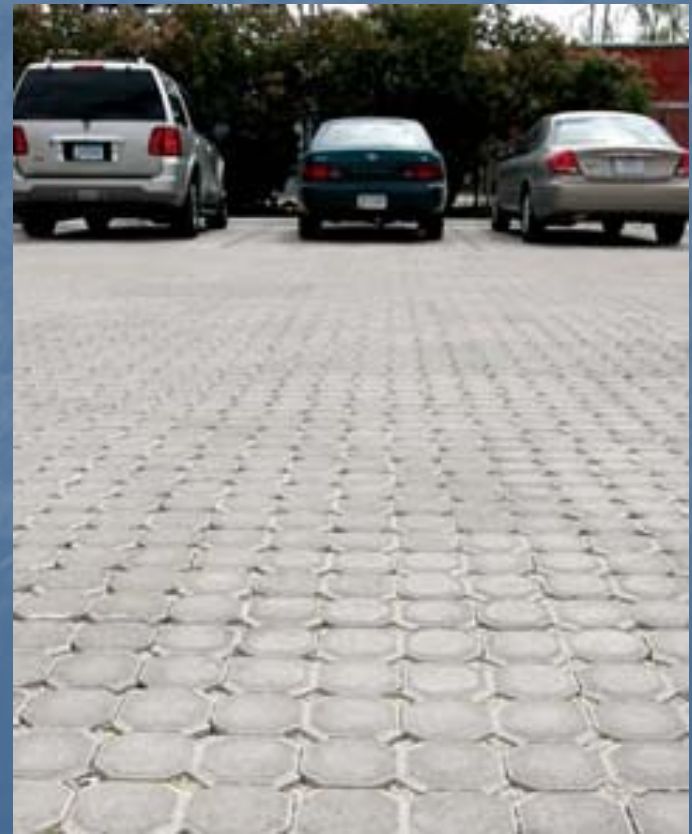
Spruce Creek

<http://www.sprucecreekrainsaver.com/>

Or

If you are handy, you can make your own!

Build your paved surfaces smarter – Let the water through!



Let nature do the work of stabilizing your streambanks and filtering pollutants!

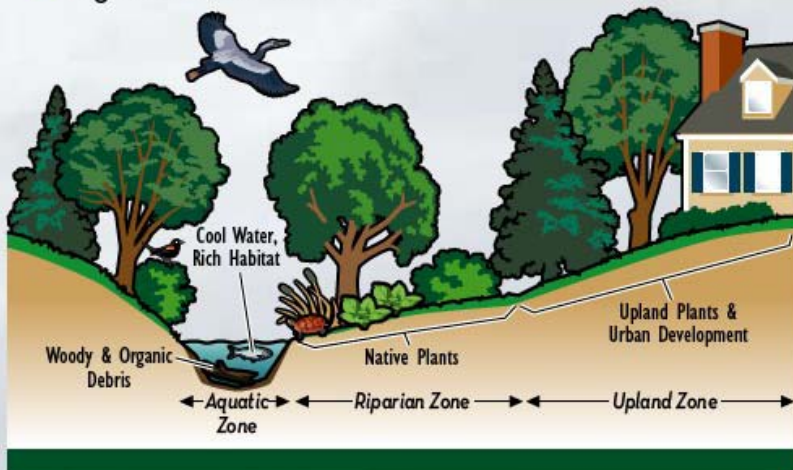
- Buffers stabilize streambanks and filter overland runoff of pollutants. They also shade a stream allowing cold water fish species to thrive.
- Can start with a no-mow zone (be careful to manage for invasives)
- Use Native shrubs and trees
- The wider the better.



Healthy Versus Unhealthy Stream Habitat

A Healthy Riparian (Stream) Habitat

- Good shade, cool water
- Abundant woody and organic debris in stream
- Abundant vegetation and roots to protect and stabilize banks
- Gravelly, narrow, deep channel
- Good fish and wildlife habitat
- Good water quality
- High forage production
- High water table and increased storage capacity
- High late summer stream flows



Philadelphia Water Department

An Unhealthy Riparian (Stream) Habitat

- Little shade, warm water
- Lack of woody and organic debris in stream
- Little vegetation and roots to protect and stabilize banks
- Silty, wide, shallow channel
- Poor fish and wildlife habitat
- Poor water quality
- Low forage production
- Low water table and decreased storage capacity
- Reduced late summer stream flows

