



Submit your application online at:  
<https://watershedfriendlypa.org>



Master Watershed  
Steward Program



## WORKSHEET 1

### WATERSHED-FRIENDLY PROPERTY URBAN APPLICATION - Small Lot or Apartment

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#### Applicant Information

Applicant's Name \*

Address: \*

Street Address

City

ZIP Code

Pennsylvania

State

County \*

Adams

Phone Number \*

Email Address \*

Your phone number will only be used if it's necessary to contact you regarding your application.

#### Type of Property

What residence best pertains to your living situation? Your response should reflect area other than your residence itself and that you have control over. \*

Other

Other (please specify)

Does your property have a pond/lake or stream/creek/river on or adjacent to it? \*

Yes  No

#### Watersheds

In what MAJOR watershed is your property located? \*

Delaware

(i.e., Erie, Delaware, Genesee, Ohio, Potomac, Susquehanna)

In what LARGE watershed is your property located? \*

(e.g.,Perkiomen Creek, Lehigh River)

If you do not know your LARGE watershed, please visit (<https://mywaterway.epa.gov>) [here](#)

• Under "Let's Get Started," type in the address of the property to be certified and click "Go"

• The next screen will have a map of your watershed on the left and data on the right. At the top of the right-hand section is the property address. Directly underneath the address is the LARGE watershed.

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# WORKSHEET 2

## WATERSHED-FRIENDLY PROPERTY URBAN APPLICATION - Small Lot or Apartment

### Watershed-Friendly Urban Application – Small Lot

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#### Reduce Stormwater Runoff

**Stormwater runoff is when precipitation from rain and snowmelt flows over land or impervious surfaces and does not percolate into the ground.**

Following major rainfall events, flooding and the health of our waterways have become serious concerns for many homes and communities. When rainwater falls on impervious surfaces (i.e., driveways, sidewalks, roofs, and compacted soil), the water cannot be absorbed by the land where it can be stored and/or released slowly to surface water. Water that is stored in the ground as groundwater flows slowly to surface water bodies, such as streams and rivers, which is beneficial to humans and the environment. Instead, impervious surfaces cause water to flow to storm drains on or near your property and then into the nearest stream, causing the stream to flood. Too much rainfall in a short period of time can cause flash floods which often result in hazardous conditions which may disrupt our daily lives. Flood events can also negatively impact the environment. Fast-moving water can change the landscape by eroding stream banks and degrading nearby ecological habitats. Individuals, families, and communities can make a positive contribution in this category by using best practices to maximize the amount of water absorption and slow the flow of stormwater.

**Indicate to what extent you use these best practices for reducing stormwater runoff.**

Note: if a question is not applicable to your property or you do not have control over the property, simply answer "NA"

#### RUN OFF REDUCTION MEASURES:

Property minimizes impervious surfaces (e.g., hardscaping, brick, paved, or concrete surfaces) excluding housing, outbuilding roofs, and zoning-required pavement such as sidewalks.

- Always  Most of the time  Some of the time  Never  Not Applicable

Property has a rain garden, vegetated swale, or bioswale

- Yes  No  Not Applicable

Water discharge from sump pumps and/or rain barrels is released onto permeable surfaces such as flower beds or lawns (as opposed to driveway/storm drains)

- Yes  No  Not Applicable

Rain barrels are drained between rain events

- Always  Most of the time  Some of the time  Never  Not Applicable

Property has permeable areas, including planted areas, permeable sidewalks, gravel pathways, etc.

- Always  Most of the time  Some of the time  Never  Not Applicable

#### Your property has water on it or adjacent to it:

The water edge is covered by no-mow and forested riparian buffer zone\*

- Yes  No  Not Applicable

A variety of native and non-invasive grasses, deep-rooted plants, and trees are planted in the riparian buffer zone along the water.

- Yes  No  Not Applicable

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## WORKSHEET 3

### WATERSHED-FRIENDLY PROPERTY URBAN APPLICATION - Small Lot or Apartment

#### Reducing Water Pollution

Water that runs off your property is part of your watershed. What we do and add to our land can be carried to these local streams with stormwater runoff. When fertilizers, pesticides, and de-icing products are used outdoors (i.e., applied to lawns and yard areas), excess chemicals have the potential to be mobilized by rainfall and become unintentional pollutants in our watersheds. Stormwater runoff may also pick up soil particles, debris, and chemicals from the ground's surface. In some cases, excess nutrients such as nitrates from fertilizers can filter down through the soil to groundwater, thus potentially impacting the quality of the groundwater as well as nearby surface water. Additionally, while water leaving your home goes to a treatment facility, contaminants in wastewater run the risk of overburdening the system. The addition of these chemicals to groundwater and surface water may be potentially harmful to human health and the environment, therefore it is important to protect these water resources. In this category, applicants indicate what they are doing to reduce water pollution and contamination in their homes and their outdoor spaces.

Note: if a question is not applicable to your property or you do not have control over the property, simply answer "NA"

Indicate to what extent you practice the following behaviors for reducing water pollution.

Minimize or eliminate outdoor use of pesticides and herbicides, especially near water outlet areas and storm drains.

- Always  Most of the time  Some of the time  Never

Use non-toxic cleaning products in moderate amounts.

- Always  Most of the time  Some of the time  Never

Maintain good housekeeping practices to eliminate potential physical or chemical hazards entering waterways (e.g. properly dispose of cleaning products, cooking oil, medicines, pesticides, old paint, etc)

- Always  Most of the time  Some of the time  Never

Minimize single-use plastics thereby reducing waste through using reusables such as reusable shopping bags, reusable water bottles, containers and related items.

- Always  Most of the time  Some of the time  Never

Recycle materials when systems are in place for their collection.

- Always  Most of the time  Some of the time  Never

Direct appropriate food and kitchen waste to compost service or on-site compost.

- Always  Most of the time  Some of the time  Never

When present, pick up and properly dispose of, or recycle, any litter on property and adjacent areas including sidewalks and streets.

- Always  Most of the time  Some of the time  Never

Test soil to determine needs before applying any amendments (e.g., fertilizer, lime, etc.).

- Always  Most of the time  Some of the time  Never  Not Applicable

Pick up pet waste immediately and dispose of it properly (e.g., collect in a compostable bag and directed to a municipal/commercial waste management).

- Always  Most of the time  Some of the time  Never  Not Applicable

Minimize/Eliminate use of salt/ice-melt products.

- Always  Most of the time  Some of the time  Never  Not Applicable

Use a commercial car wash.

- Always  Most of the time  Some of the time  Never  NA

Keep property free of hazardous materials (e.g. old cars, old batteries).

- Always  Most of the time  Some of the time  Never  Not Applicable

Keep motor oil or antifreeze from spilling onto the ground or into the storm drain.

- Always  Most of the time  Some of the time  Never  Not Applicable

Compost yard waste or send to a composting service.

- Always  Most of the time  Some of the time  Never  Not Applicable

Keep pets away from bodies of water on or adjacent to your property.

- Always  Most of the time  Some of the time  Never  Not Applicable

Do not use herbicides or pesticides on or near water or riparian area (excluding defined invasive species control programs).

- Always  Most of the time  Some of the time  Never  Not Applicable

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# WORKSHEET 4

## WATERSHED-FRIENDLY PROPERTY URBAN APPLICATION - Small Lot or Apartment

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### Conserving Water

Clean water is essential for every living organism. Whether your water is provided by the local water company or it is pumped from the aquifer under your property, it is not an endless supply. Water shortage concerns are most recognized during drought conditions. Droughts result from the lack of precipitation over extended periods of time. The lack of sufficient rainfall can result in less water reaching the groundwater aquifers, thus lowering the water table and your water supply. Similarly, water levels in surface water bodies such as streams and lakes can also go down, resulting in less habitat for wildlife. During these times, excessive water usage, especially for non-essential use, can further deplete the water resources. Therefore, it is critical to conserve water and allow the natural systems to recharge so that there is always a steady supply. Conserving water should be considered daily, even if there are not drought conditions.

Applicants can make a positive contribution in this category by using best practices to conserve water within their household and on their property.

Indicate to what extent you follow these best practices for conserving water.

Note: if a question is not applicable to your property or you do not have control over the property, simply answer "NA"

#### WATER CONSERVATION PRACTICES:

Reduce water use inside the home by turning off water while soaping hands/brushing teeth, limiting shower time, and other methods.

- Always Most of the time Some of the time Never

Fix plumbing leaks or drain issues immediately.

- Always Most of the time Some of the time Never

When cooking, peel and clean multiple vegetables in a large bowl of water instead of under running water.

- Always Most of the time Some of the time Never

Collect water from everyday use for watering indoor or outdoor plants, cleaning equipment, and other needs.

- Always Most of the time Some of the time Never

Allow lawns and trees to be watered only by rain or captured rainwater.

- Always Most of the time Some of the time Never Not Applicable

Do not pre-rinse dishes before placing in the dishwasher.

- Always Most of the time Some of the time Never Not Applicable

Run the dishwasher only when full.

- Always Most of the time Some of the time Never Not Applicable

Limit exposed soil in flower beds, gardens, and container gardens through dense plantings or maintaining 3-4" of mulch.

- Always Most of the time Some of the time Never Not Applicable

Water vegetables, gardens, container gardens, or newly planted trees in the cooler part of the day.

- Always Most of the time Some of the time Never Not Applicable

Use a broom to clean sidewalks, patios, driveways instead of water from a hose.

- Always Most of the time Some of the time Never Not Applicable

Avoid using a sprinkler for watering.

- Always Most of the time Some of the time Never Not Applicable

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# WORKSHEET 5

## WATERSHED-FRIENDLY PROPERTY URBAN APPLICATION - Small Lot or Apartment

### Supporting Wildlife and Pollinators

As land within a watershed is developed, there becomes less habitat for wildlife, and the balance within ecosystems is disrupted. In an ecosystem, every living organism plays a vital role and interacts with one other as well as with their physical environment. For example, some native birds (i.e., bluebird) eat and feed insects to their young. If a landowner uses non-native plants and insecticides on their property, the likelihood of having a native bird population is lessened. The same is true for many types of wildlife. Some insects (i.e., butterflies) require a specific native host plant to complete their lifecycle. Vegetation (i.e., trees, shrubs, grasses) is also essential to provide shelter and food for wildlife. The importance of pollinators such as bees, butterflies, beetles, and bats, is undeniable. Considering that one-third of the food we eat is dependent on pollinators, it is important to provide a suitable habitat and food supply for them.

Applicants can make a positive contribution in this category by providing/creating habitat on their property to support and benefit wildlife and pollinators.

Indicate to what extent you follow these best practices for supporting wildlife and pollinators.

Note: if a question is not applicable to your property or you do not have control over the property, simply answer "NA"

#### SUPPORT WILDLIFE AND POLLINATORS:

Maintain at least 70% native plantings on property.

- Yes  No  NA

Let leaves sit and vegetation stand through winter months (provides food and shelter).

- Always  Most of the time  Some of the time  Never  Not Applicable

Maintain a brush pile or dead wood away from housing to provides shelter for wildlife.

- Yes  No  Not Applicable

Provide a water source like a bird bath or small fountain if there is no nearby water source.

- Yes  No  Not Applicable

Do not plant non-native invasive plants.

- Always  Most of the time  Some of the time  Never  Not Applicable

Monitor and attempt to control invasive plants using research-based ecologically friendly methods.

- Yes  No  Not Applicable

Maintain and/or increase shaded areas on bodies of water.

- Yes  No  Not Applicable

#### You/your family engage in freshwater sports (e.g., boating, fishing, freshwater swimming, tubing, etc.) –

Follow the clean/drain/dry protocol for gear (e.g., boats, trailers, swimming equipment, etc.) for invasive species before and after use (e.g., insects and vegetation).

- Always  Most of the time  Some of the time  Never  Not Applicable

Individual actions and decisions can affect ourselves, our neighbors, and our communities. When members of the community take positive actions, the benefits are shared by all and may inspire others to also take action in a groundswell of activity and behaviors that benefit the local watershed and indirectly benefit those downstream. Applicants can make a positive contribution in this category by participating in community-based actions to benefit the health of the local community and watershed.

#### Community-based Actions–

Mark storm drains near your home or participate in community drain marking activity.

- Yes  No  Not Applicable

Participate in at least one community tree planting annually.

- Always  Most of the time  Some of the time  Never

Help plan or install a rain garden or native plant garden at a park, library, or other public site at least once a year.

- Always  Most of the time  Some of the time  Never

Help with regular maintenance of a native planting, rain garden, or tree planting in the community or nearby public land.

- Always  Most of the time  Some of the time  Never

Participate in an organized litter pick-up at least once a year.

- Always  Most of the time  Some of the time  Never

Pick up trash in your neighborhood on your own.

- Regularly  Most of the time  Some of the time  Never

Adopt a nearby storm drain to clean or culvert and unblock the grates, and notify the municipality if a problem is observed.

- Always  Most of the time  Some of the time  Never

#### How did you hear about the Watershed-Friendly Property program and application? \*

#### Did you make any changes to your property or behaviors in order to qualify for this certification? \*

- Yes  No

If applicable, please attach 1 to 3 photos of the watershed-friendly features on your property. Please limit uploads to files no greater than 500kb. By submitting a photo(s), you grant Nurture Nature Center and the Penn State Extension Master Watershed Steward Program permission to use or reproduce the photographs in publications intended for educational use and outreach related to the Watershed-Friendly program and other general programming and outreach (including but not limited to printed publications, web pages and web-based publications, outreach materials and displays).

Photo 1

No file selected.  
File

Accepted file types: jpg, jpeg, png, gif.

Description