

## Managing Stormwater

### Why manage stormwater?

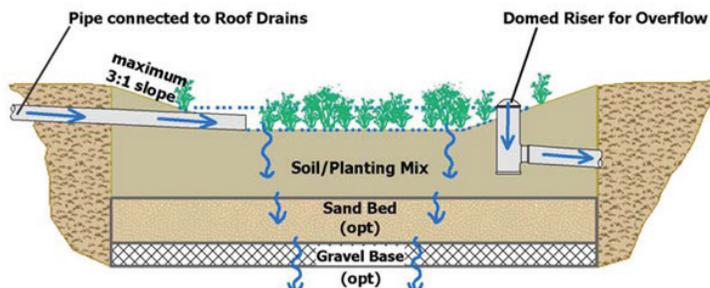
Capturing and allowing rain to infiltrate into the ground where it falls rather than conveying it to a stream, river or pond filters out pollutants like fertilizers, animal waste, sediment, de-icing salt, etc. before it reaches a waterway.

### Strategies for Managing Stormwater on Every Property

- Start at the top
- Slow the water down
- Spread the water out
- Increase infiltration
- Let plants do the heavy lifting
- Use multiple strategies
- Make it beautiful

### Strategies for Managing Stormwater

- Plants!
- Rain barrels
- Rain gardens
- Cisterns
- Stormwater Basins and Bioswales
- De-paving or permeable paving projects



#### Above: What is a Rain Garden?

A shallow surface depression, planted densely with specific native plants, used to filter (quality) and infiltrate (quantity) stormwater

### Resources

#### [Homeowners Guide to Stormwater BMP Maintenance](#)

this publication provides very basic information on the ways to reduce stormwater runoff for residential properties.

#### [EPA Watershed Academy](#)

a free set of webinars, educational modules and publications that provide an introduction to watershed management. Learn about the Clean Water Act, watershed ecology, climate change and more.

#### [Pennsylvania Stormwater Best Management Practices Manual](#)

a manual of principles for managing stormwater and the recommended improvements for a site to help improve water quality.

#### [Chester County Conservation District](#)

Assists builders, contractors, developers, farmers, and local citizens in developing and implementing conservation programs for their properties that conserve soil and water resources.

#### [Chester County Water Resources Authority](#)

Leads county-wide initiatives to improve water quality, reduce flooding, and connect residents to the value of clean water.

#### [Find your Watershed Organization](#)

First, identify the watershed you [live in](#). Then consult [this list](#) to see which organizations help steward your watershed.