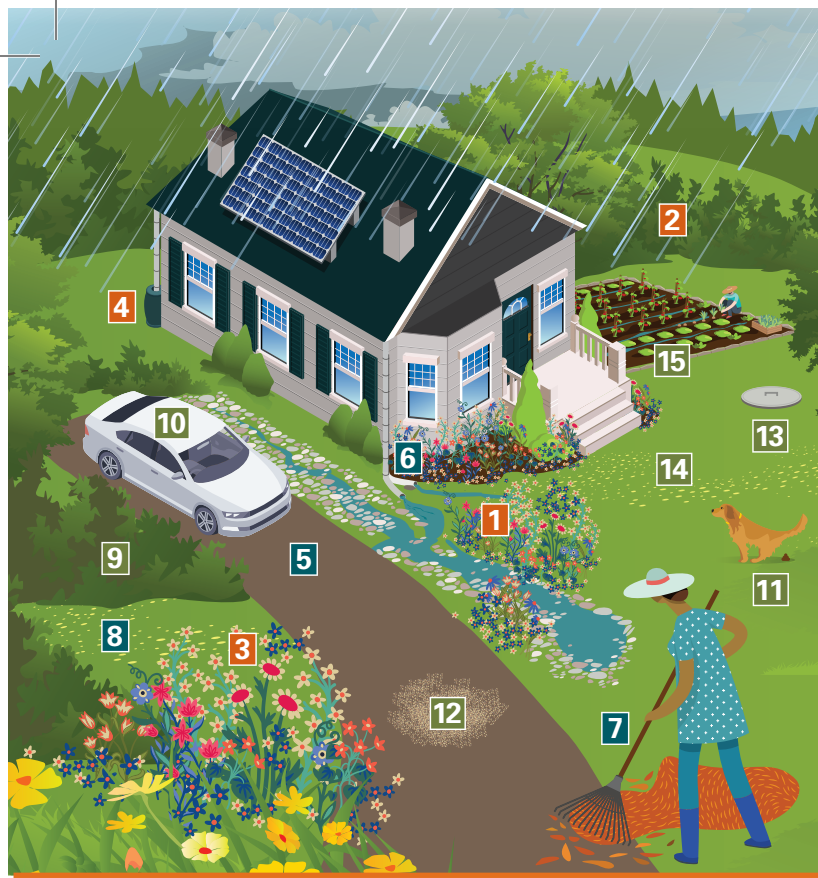




A Homeowner's Checklist for a Watershed-Friendly Home



Much of the work of the Pike County Conservation District, whether educational, technical or administrative, is accomplished through collaborative efforts with state and federal agencies as well as local partners.

The District is fortunate to have a broad base of technical expertise and funding sources from which to draw for conservation programs that benefit Pike County's water resources and reduce non-point source pollution.

For more ways to protect Pike County's natural resources, contact the Conservation District office at 570-226-8220 or one of our conservation partners: <https://pikeconservation.org/about/partners-in-conservation>



Pike County
Conservation District

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Actions you can take to benefit our water resources



Pike County
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Your everyday choices impact local water resources...

Small actions made in your own back yard can contribute to non-point source (NPS) pollution; pollution which originates from many scattered sources across our watersheds. According to the PA Department of Environmental Protection, 75% of PA's total water pollution is from non-point source pollutants.

The action items on this list will not only reduce pollution but also increase the value of your home. This guide will help protect your investment in your property, by reducing flooding, beautifying property, and protecting vital systems, such as septic. If each person does their part, we can protect our water resources for future generations.

The following list is organized into three categories of water resource conservation. **Check off all the actions on this list and your home will truly be watershed friendly!**

Capture and Infiltrate

By capturing runoff on a pervious surface, it has time to infiltrate into the earth, filter out pollutants as it goes, and recharge groundwater.

- ☐ 1 Plant a rain garden.
- ☐ 2 Install a vegetative buffer between your home and the edge of your property.
- ☐ 3 Choose native plants for landscaping to support local pollinators and reduce maintenance.
- ☐ 4 Install a rain barrel on your property.

Minimize Runoff

Reducing the amount of stormwater running off in the watershed, fewer non-point source pollutants can be picked up.

- ☐ 5 Instead of paving your driveway, choose pervious surfaces.
- ☐ 6 Direct your roof runoff downspouts away from your home and driveway, into your lawn or garden beds.
- ☐ 7 Keep fallen leaves out of the ditches and street gutters, to allow for the free flow of stormwater.
- ☐ 8 Limit lawn size and let natural parts of your property remain.

Eliminate Pollutants

Non-point source pollution can be stopped at its source if each homeowner knows what to do.

- ☐ 9 Plant trees, shrubs, and groundcovers (like grass) on your property to prevent soil erosion.
- ☐ 10 Keep your car well maintained. Check for drips, and repair leaks immediately.
- ☐ 11 Clean up pet waste to prevent nutrient and bacteria pollution.
- ☐ 12 Instead of salting icy surfaces outside, use sand or chip the ice off.
- ☐ 13 Properly maintain your septic system. It is recommended that the system be inspected and pumped out at least every three years for the average home.
- ☐ 14 Use lawn and garden chemicals properly.
- ☐ 15 Use water wisely when watering your lawn or garden.

