

Where Stormwater Comes From

Quite a lot happens when it rains. The amount of water falling as rain is reduced as some of it:

- Is intercepted by trees and evaporated back into the atmosphere
- Is taken in by plants to be used in respiration
- Soaks into the soil to become groundwater

Whatever is left becomes stormwater and begins moving through the watershed.

What Increases Stormwater

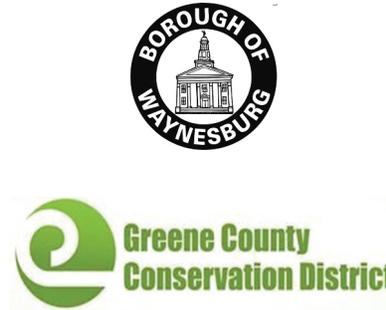
Waynesburg is one of the most developed communities in Greene County. This means fewer trees and plants combined with a lot of surfaces that won't allow water to soak into the ground, such as parking lots, city streets and roofs.

The result is more stormwater moving very quickly through our community.

Funded by:



Partnering organizations:



For more information about stormwater management, please contact either:

Waynesburg Borough
724-627-8111
www.waynesburgboro.com

Greene County's Conservation District
724-852-5278
www.co.greene.pa.us/gccd

We can offer complete, "how-to" instructions or individualized help in planning your project.

Managing Stormwater at Home

Stormwater management isn't just a concern for municipal leaders but for landowners as well.

Unmanaged stormwater:

- Damages foundations, retaining walls and other structures
- Causes sewer backups in basements and crawlspaces
- Contributes to wet, muddy areas that make lawn maintenance difficult
- Increases flood risk and potential for property damage or loss
- Drives streambank erosion, resulting in steep, dangerous banks
- Impairs water quality in streams and drinking water supplies

Where to Start!

Individual landowners have great power to reduce stormwater problems on their property and in our community with simple actions like:

- Adding trees and other plants
- Minimizing impervious surfaces
- Collecting and re-using stormwater
- Isolating sources of pollution

Remember

It is important to start with a clear set of goals. Ask yourself what you want from your property. Once you have defined these goals you can choose what stormwater management practices are compatible with them.



Stormwater Management Practices:

Planting a rain garden requires some planning but can become a beautiful focal point of landscaping. Rain gardens are specialized depressions that are planted with native species, such as wildflowers. These depressions hold stormwater and allow it to soak into the ground over one or two days.

Installing a rain barrel is a simple and easy practice that can be a fun DIY project. Rain barrels reduce and slow stormwater by collecting roof runoff from downspouts. This stored water is free and is great for household chores such as watering gardens and washing windows.

