

PROTECTION OF WATER QUALITY IN THE WISSAHICKON CREEK

[Wissahickon Valley Watershed Association](#) (WVWA) is proud to be working with North Penn Water Authority on protecting water quality in the Wissahickon Creek. Through water sampling and restoration projects WVWA protects the Wissahickon Creek through scientific studies and stream monitoring. Our goal is to not only enhance water uses but preserve the Watershed for future generations.

The Wissahickon Creek Watershed, which is home to almost a quarter million people, is directly affected by all of our activities on land. In our upper section of the Creek (including the North Penn area) WVWA is trying to change or influence our land use behaviors to benefit the Wissahickon Creek. In particular, one goal is to increase streamflow and eliminate the stream designation of a “losing stream”, as defined by the United States Geological Survey. What this means is that currently the Wissahickon Creek only flows during and immediately after a storm event in the North Penn area, resulting in poor water quality, and aquatic life. As part of our effort, WVWA has established an education-outreach program to inform the public of environmental concerns, trends in water quality and what we can do as residents of the Watershed. This includes controlling water that runs off our roads and residential properties, reducing fertilizer use, and disposing of pet waste properly. To tackle these problems each individual can reduce water and nutrients leaving their properties through:

- 1) rain gardens and rain barrels;
- 2) planting shrubs and trees which uptake more water;
- 3) reducing fertilizer use,
- 4) picking up after their pets, and
- 5) reducing water use in homes and businesses.

Everyone has a part to play in protecting our Wissahickon Creek!

**WISSAHICKON VALLEY
WATERSHED ASSOCIATION**