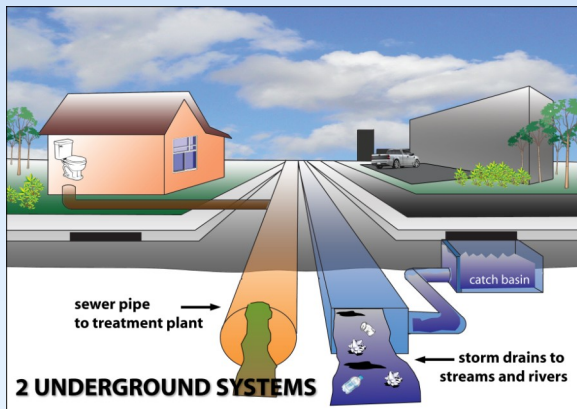


HOW DOES OUR WATER GET POLLUTED?

When water flows over yards, sidewalks, streets, parking lots and other impermeable surfaces, it picks up pollution and carries it into a nearby stormdrain. **Pipes then take the polluted water directly to a local stream.**

With a few simple changes, you can prevent stormwater pollution and ensure future generations have access to clean and safe waters.

- Never dump in storm drains.
- Properly maintain your car.
- Check the weather before applying fertilizers and pesticides.
- Pick up pet waste.
- Plant native grasses, shrubs and trees.
- Maintain your septic system.
- Properly dispose of hazardous waste.



START A STREAMWATCH GROUP IN YOUR COMMUNITY

StreamWatch empowers citizens to protect local streams, rivers and lakes through water quality monitoring. The Piedmont Triad Regional Council (PTRC) will work with volunteers to establish sites and provide free training and equipment necessary to monitor impaired streams.

Your participation helps us more thoroughly understand how to best protect and restore our natural resources. Do your part and start or join a StreamWatch group today!



Davidson County Citizens for Improving Stream Health (DC FISH) is supported by a North Carolina Division of Water Quality (DWQ) 205 (j) grant and the PTRC Stormwater SMART program.



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WANT TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE?



VOLUNTEER MONITORING

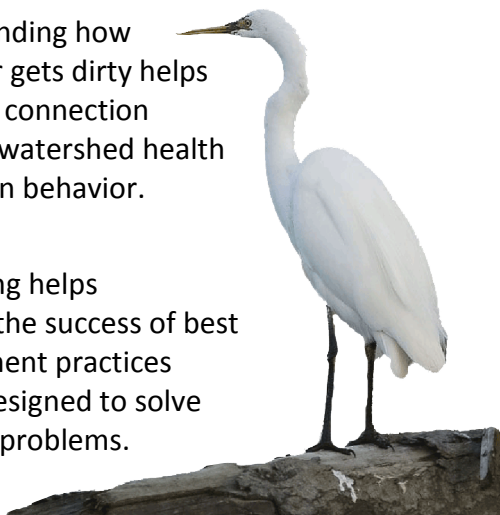
BE THE EYES, EARS AND HANDS FOR YOUR LOCAL STREAM



“WATER IS THE DRIVING FORCE OF ALL NATURE” ~Leonardo da Vinci

WHY IS MONITORING IMPORTANT?

- StreamWatch groups provide citizens with the opportunity to enjoy an afternoon by the water while addressing environmental concerns and community health issues.
- Observations by StreamWatch participants give local governments the ability to quickly identify and address problem areas in the watershed.
- StreamWatch data provides baseline conditions for waters that may otherwise go unmonitored.
- Understanding how our water gets dirty helps make the connection between watershed health and citizen behavior.
- Monitoring helps evaluate the success of best management practices (BMPs) designed to solve pollution problems.



OPPORTUNITIES TO GET INVOLVED

BIOLOGICAL MONITORING

Learn to identify the critters that are essential for a healthy stream. Dip your nets and turn over rocks to see the secret life of the stream.



CHEMICAL MONITORING

Water chemistry plays an important role in the health, abundance and diversity of the aquatic life that can live in a stream. Learn to test for dissolved oxygen, nutrients, pH, bacteria and other parameters.

PHYSICAL MONITORING

Physical monitoring involves recording the characteristics of the stream itself and the area surrounding it. Learn how the physical aspects of a stream affect water quality.

CLEAN IT UP!

Volunteers will have the support to dedicate a day to cleaning up their streams. Not only is litter unsightly, it can leach out toxic chemicals and have a devastating effect on wildlife.

HOW TO GET STARTED

- Decide what your interest and time commitment can be.
- Set up a **free** training session with PTRC for your group (minimum 2 participants).
- Monitor your stream and submit your data.
- Share your experience with people in your community.
- Meet new people and have fun!



See you at the Creek!

