

A Guide to Action for **WATERSHED RESIDENTS**

Recommendations for Non-point Source Pollution Management

January 2015

Complete recommendations
and other fact sheets in this
series are available at
www.battleriverwatershed.ca

Rural Residents

- Limit the use of fertilizers, pesticides and other harmful lawn-care and household products.
- Protect riparian areas (shorelines) and wetlands on your land that are currently in good health and undertake riparian and wetland restoration projects in unhealthy areas.
- Upgrade or replace private sewage systems that are failing, inadequate, approaching end-of-life, or not meeting current standards.

Urban Residents

- Utilize "Low Impact Development" stormwater management techniques on your property (rain barrels, rain gardens, green roofs, permeable pavement, etc.)*
- *See reverse side of fact sheet for more information about these techniques*
- Limit the use of fertilizers, pesticides and other harmful lawn-care and household products.

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Low Impact Development Techniques

Rain Gardens and Bioswales

Rain gardens are areas planted with native, water-loving plants that are located strategically to capture stormwater runoff. They are often located near downspouts or other locations where stormwater pools. Bioswales are long, linear rain gardens that are often used in place of roadside curbs and gutters. The natural vegetation of rain gardens and bioswales helps to purify stormwater and increase infiltration into the ground.



Bioswales and permeable pavement



Permeable Pavement

Permeable pavement reduces the volume of stormwater runoff by allowing rain water and snowmelt to filter into the ground. There are various types of permeable pavement, including pervious concrete and asphalt, permeable pavers, and grass pavers. Impermeable surfaces may also be reduced through limiting street and sidewalk widths and driveway lengths.



Residential rain garden

Rainwater Harvesting

Rain events often occur very quickly and result in high volumes of runoff in urban areas. Through the use of rain barrels or other means of water storage, this water may be used for a number of purposes, including watering gardens, lawns, trees and other plants. Depending on regulations within a particular jurisdiction, this water may also be used for flushing toilets and washing clothes.



Collecting rainwater in a rain barrel

Green Roofs

Green roofs use plants on rooftops to retain and utilize rain and snowfall before it even reaches the ground. Additional benefits of green roofs include providing more green space, creating habitat for birds and insects, and insulate underlying surfaces (which may reduce building heating and cooling costs).



Green roof