## The Watershed Study Process

### STEP 1 — IDENTIFY WATERSHED
A watershed is selected for analysis.

### STEP 2 — DATA COLLECTION
- **Stormwater Practices Opportunities** – areas where stormwater practices can be provided or upgraded are identified. There are three major types of stormwater practices being evaluated:
  - Larger stormwater practices (i.e. Stormwater Ponds)
  - Green Streets Practices – small stormwater practices are installed in the right-of-way to control and filter stormwater pollution during storm events
  - Government Facilities – smaller, site specific stormwater practices are installed to capture stormwater from existing buildings and parking lots on County properties
- **Stream Assessments** – field evaluation of the stream is based on its physical condition, aquatic habitat, and identification of exposed/threaten infrastructure (i.e. sewer line) to determine restoration potential
- **Neighborhood Stormwater Assessment** – neighborhoods with inadequate stormwater control are evaluated for opportunities within the RainScapes Incentive Program
- **Reforestation Opportunities** – areas are identified for potential forest enhancement or expansion

### STEP 3 — DATA ANALYSIS AND PRIORITIZE PROJECTS
Data collected from Step 2 is analyzed and drafts of potential restoration projects are compiled, which are then prioritized based on water quality, aquatic habitat quality, and site condition.

### STEP 4 — DRAFT WATERSHED STUDY
A watershed study is drafted based on the result of the data analysis and project prioritization in Step 3.

### STEP 5 — PUBLIC MEETING
A public meeting will be held to present the draft watershed study to the public for comments

### STEP 6 — FINALIZE AND PUBLISH WATERSHED STUDY
Comments from the public meeting is used to finalize and publish the watershed study.

### STEP 7 — IMPLEMENTATION PLAN
An Implementation Plan is created and is a comprehensive roadmap the County uses for watershed restoration. The plan includes the individual Watershed Studies developed in Steps 1-6 and strategies to reduce stormwater pollution, bacteria, and trash and litter.