

Clean Water Montgomery

The Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) is the lead agency in Montgomery County dedicated to improving stream health and water quality.



What You Can Do

RAINSCAPES is a program that helps County residents and businesses reduce stormwater pollution on their property through better landscaping techniques, such as rain gardens and porous pavement.

TREE MONTGOMERY increases Montgomery County's tree canopy and works to improve the long-term care of these trees, particularly in areas with fewer shade trees. Through this program, County residents can apply to have free native shade trees planted on their property.

COMMUNITY GRANTS provide funding for non-profits to design and implement stormwater reduction and educational projects.

HEALTHY LAWNS PROGRAM educates residents and businesses on the Healthy Lawn Act, State Fertilizer Law and County Pesticide law. It provides resources for eco-friendly and organic lawn care practices.

EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS engage residents and businesses in innovative ways. For example, the Storm Drain Art Contest raises awareness about stormwater issues through community art. Other programs focus on litter reduction, pet waste disposal, and the proper use of winter salt.



What DEP Does

WATERSHED PLANNING assures that the County meets regulatory stormwater management requirements, including watershed implementation plans and State and Federal reporting standards.

STORMWATER MANAGEMENT PROJECTS This in-depth program oversees the construction, inspection, maintenance and improvement of over 17,000 stormwater management facilities in the County.

GREENSTREETS are networks of stormwater management projects installed strategically throughout entire neighborhoods to improve water quality and reduce pollution.

STREAM RESTORATION uses in-stream techniques to improve water quality and protect properties and public infrastructure by reducing stream erosion and improving aquatic ecosystems.

STREAM HEALTH MONITORING is the data driven cornerstone of the entire watershed restoration program. Using biological and chemical testing, it monitors County water quality, stream critters and habitat to analyze long-term watershed health.

DID YOU KNOW?

Montgomery County's storm drains empty into local creeks that flow to the Chesapeake Bay!

Most of Montgomery County's tap water comes from the Potomac and Patuxent Rivers!

Learn more at [MontgomeryCountyMD.gov/water](https://montgomerycountymd.gov/water)