



Here are some tips on how we all can contribute to the health of our watersheds and streams in our own backyards:

- ✓ **Leave or replant native trees and shrubs along streams and ponds and never mow down to the edge of a stream bank.** Ideally stream buffers should be a minimum of 100 feet wide for effective pollution filtering, flood control, and aquatic habitat.
- ✓ **Keep livestock, pets, and leaf or lawn litter out of streams and wetlands.**
- ✓ **Leave stream banks and channels in their unaltered, natural condition.** Do not remove imbedded logs or overhanging branches.
- ✓ **Reduce the area of water and chemical dependent lawn with wildflower meadows, native trees, shrubs, and groundcovers.** Select drought-tolerant native plants such as butterfly weed, coneflower, and sycamore trees.
- ✓ **Use garden and lawn chemicals sparingly and follow disposal instructions carefully.**
- ✓ **Direct storm water runoff from downspouts into rain barrels, rain gardens, and vegetated swales to facilitate groundwater recharge.**
- ✓ **When clearing land avoid excess rain runoff by using hay bales and silt fencing effectively.** Reestablish vegetation as soon as possible.
- ✓ **Maintain septic tanks with regular pumping and keep toxic chemicals out.**
- ✓ **Consider using porous surfacing when redoing drives and walkways or installing new ones.** Not only do they assist in groundwater recharge but they hold up better in the long run.

Useful web sites for more information are:
www.wateruseitwisely.com
www.dep.state.pa.us

WHAT ELSE SHOULD YOU KNOW?

The Pennsbury Land Trust holds easements on over 177 acres including three historic sites.

A streamside restoration plan has been initiated to promote healthy stream quality.

A botanical study was conducted for a biodiversity inventory used in protecting the natural habitats of plants and wildlife.

***PENNSBURY LAND TRUST:**
People working together to save land.*

YOUR SUPPORT CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE!

PENNSBURY LAND TRUST

PRESERVATION
CONSERVATION
STEWARDSHIP



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OUR MISSION

The Pennsbury Land Trust is a non-profit organization, qualified under 501(c) (3).

Our mission is to serve the needs of Pennsbury Township in the preservation, conservation and stewardship of open space including important agriculturally productive lands and natural areas.

It is our role to:

- ✓ Assist township officials in decisions regarding open space planning and acquisition.
- ✓ Provide assistance to landowners who wish to pursue conservation objectives in their long and short term plans for their properties.
- ✓ Serve as a liaison with other conservation and historic preservation organizations.
- ✓ Purchase development rights and accept lands and conservation easements from donors, including developers.
- ✓ Work with township staff to manage and improve existing open space and trails.

SPECIAL EVENTS PROMOTE CONSERVATION AWARENESS AND FOSTER COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

Every year the Land Trust sponsors public events to increase awareness about the work that needs to be done to preserve our open space and historic heritage, now and for future generations.

The goal of the Land Trust is to create events that are unique and foster community spirit and celebration of the place we are so fortunate to call home. Recent events have included:

- ✓ A Behind-the-Movie look at the set of *"The Village"* with an appearance by Sigourney Weaver on location, on land under permanent protection.
- ✓ *"An Evening with the Artists"* featuring many of the well known Brandywine artists who have contributed to the ambience of the Brandywine Valley.
- ✓ An outdoor presentation of the *Wizard of OZ* and community festival especially crafted for young families and held on parkland under PLT protection.

THE CHALLENGE

Our unique environment of woodlands, rolling meadows, scenic streams, fertile farmland, and areas of historical significance is at risk.

Ever increasing development threatens our quality of life. We must work together to safeguard our natural, historical and cultural resources.

**Help us meet the challenge.
Become a member.**

WHAT YOU SHOULD KNOW ABOUT THE WATERSHED WE LIVE IN

Ninety-six percent of Pennsbury is located within the Main Stem of the Brandywine Creek watershed. A small area in the southwest corner of the township drains west and is located in the Red Clay Creek watershed.

The five named streams in Pennsbury that flow east to the Brandywine are: Pocopson Creek, Bennett's Run, Ring Run, Craig's Mill Run, and Cossart Creek. The Brandywine Watershed supplies much of the drinking water for Chester and New Castle Counties, so how we manage this valuable natural resource directly affects our health and property values.

In Chester County 21% of the streams are impaired. The quality of Pennsbury's streams tends to be compromised due to nutrient runoff from agriculture or lawn fertilizer, siltation that smothers habitat, and chemical pollution. With a projected population increase of 27% in the watershed within the next 20 years, contamination and over-withdrawal of water can only increase.

