

### Why Should You Be River Friendly?

A watershed is an area of land draining into a particular body of water, and is defined by the high points of an area, not by municipal boundaries. The use of the land within a watershed directly affects the quality of water within the watershed.

We all live in a watershed and we all contribute to non-point source pollution. Non-point source pollution includes pet waste, motor oil, fertilizers, pesticides and other pollutants that wash off the land in storm water runoff. It is estimated that non-point source pollution accounts for more than 50% of water quality problems in the United States.

The actions we take in our homes and yards affect our families, neighbors and the sources of our drinking water. By using environmentally friendly practices around our homes, we can help protect, preserve and enhance the water resources of our communities.

**Partner with NJWSA and URWA to help protect our natural resources and preserve the watershed where we live, work and play!**



**Conserve Water.** Fix leaky faucets. Install low flow appliances. Install a rain barrel.

**Be a pooper-scooper!** Clean up after your pet. Animal waste can contain harmful bacteria, viruses and nutrients that can pollute waterways.



### I want to be a River-Friendly Resident!

Fill out the information below, then complete the survey inside and send it to NJWSA or take the online survey at [www.njriverfriendly.org](http://www.njriverfriendly.org)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_

Zip code: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Would you like to be added to our E-Newsletter mailing list? (we will not share email address)

NJWSA     URWA     No Thanks

How did you hear about the River-Friendly Resident Program? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

### About NJWSA & URWA

The New Jersey Water Supply Authority was formed in 1981 to manage Spruce Run, Round Valley and Manasquan Reservoirs and the Delaware & Raritan Canal as potable water supplies. The Upper Raritan Watershed Association was formed in 1959 to focus on protection and preservation of the Upper Raritan Watershed. NJWSA's Watershed Protection Unit and URWA work with stakeholders within the Raritan Basin to protect these water supplies.

For more information, please contact:

#### New Jersey Water Supply Authority

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#### Upper Raritan Watershed Association

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# Raritan Basin River-Friendly Resident Program

## A Partnership to Protect Our Natural Resources



Stream buffer on Mulhockaway Creek, Hunterdon County



New Jersey Water Supply Authority  
Watershed Protection Programs Division  
[www.njriverfriendly.org](http://www.njriverfriendly.org)

Upper Raritan Watershed Association  
[www.urwa.org](http://www.urwa.org)

Please answer the following survey to determine if you qualify as a River Friendly Resident! You must achieve 75% of the applicable actions to qualify.

	Action	Yes	No	NA
<b>Stormwater Management Actions</b>				
1	I pick up after my pet. I dispose of the waste in the toilet or trash.			
2	My gutters are directed away from paved areas onto vegetation or into a rain barrel.			
3	I planted groundcovers or other vegetation or use mulch to cover exposed soil areas.			
4	I dispose of household chemicals properly.			
<b>Lawn &amp; Garden Maintenance Actions</b>				
5	- I never water my lawn <b>OR</b> - I water my lawn early in the morning or later in the evening (not during the heat of the day) <b>OR</b> - I water my lawn only through an irrigation system with a soil moisture sensor.			
6	I mow my lawn at the highest setting.			
7	I perform soil tests at least every other year.			
<b>For questions 8-11 check N/A if you do not use fertilizers/pesticides in your yard.</b>				
8	I use soil test results to guide fertilization of my yard.			
9	I follow the directions on pesticides and fertilizers when I use them.			

	Action	Yes	No	NA
10	I use organic slow release fertilizer or compost on my lawn.			
11	I do not use pesticides or fertilizers within 10 feet of my stream (or other water body). (Check NA if you do not have a waterbody on your property)			
12	There is at least 10 feet of undisturbed-not mowed vegetation along my stream (or other water body).			
13	I leave the grass clippings on the lawn.			
14	I converted a portion of my lawn to garden or natural vegetation using native species.			
15	I apply an integrated approach for controlling unwanted insects, weeds and animals (e.g. pulling weeds, spraying pests of plants with water, using barrier fences).			
<b>Water Conservation Actions</b>				
16	I use water collected in a rain barrel for watering my garden.			
17	I have spray/shut-off nozzles attached to watering hoses.			
18	I have at least 1 low flow toilet in my house, or at least 1 toilet has been modified to function as low flow.			
19	I have at least 1 low flow shower head in my house.			

	Action	Yes	No	NA
20	I have faucet aerators installed on at least 2 faucets.			
<b>Wildlife &amp; Habitat Enhancement Actions</b>				
21	I plant native species of plants on my property.			
22	I remove invasive plants from my property.			
23	I have birdhouses or bathhouses on my property.			
<b>Septic System Maintenance Actions</b>				
24	I know the location of my septic tank and drain field.			
25	My septic system is pumped and maintained every 3-5 years. Date of last pumping:			
<b>Education/Outreach Actions</b>				
26	I participated in a stream or neighborhood cleanup in 2008/2009/2010.			
27	I attended an educational class or hike on a landscape related topic.			
<b>Score</b>				

**Maintain your septic system properly.**

Faulty septic systems can pollute local groundwater. Septic tanks should be pumped out every 3 to 5 years.



**Enhance wildlife habitat.**

Installing bird boxes attracts local species such as the Eastern Bluebird