

Maiden Creek Watershed Association

Nutrient Pollution Quiz

1. Who is affected by nutrient pollution in our streams and rivers?
2. What are some sources of nutrient pollution?
3. What can we do to prevent nutrient pollution?
4. How do farmers prevent nutrient pollution?
5. How does a wetland improve water quality?

MCWA activities include:

Stream clean-ups
 Riparian buffer plantings
 Monitoring water quality and reporting problem areas
 Educational outreach
 Invasive plant removal

Can you find the streams of our watershed in this puzzle?

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Creeks
 Bailey
 Furnace
 Kistler
 Maiden
 Mill
 Moselem
 Ontelaunee
 Peters
 Pine
 Sacony
 Stony Run
 Willow



If you would like to get involved, please contact us at:

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Answers to Nutrient Pollution Quiz

1. Everyone from the source of pollution and downstream. If we do not attempt to control pollution in the Maiden Creek Watershed – everyone using water from the Schuylkill River (Reading to Philadelphia) would be affected.
2. Point-Source – Sewage and other wastes discharged directly into the stream.
Non-Point Source – Stormwater, overflow from septic systems and air pollution that winds up in the water such as mercury from coal fired utilities. Agriculture contributes nearly 70% of the non-point phosphorus load and 40% of the non-point nitrogen load to surface and groundwater in Pennsylvania.
3. Citizens should report any and all pollution events to DEP or a local conservation district. Organized stream clean-ups remove litter and unsightly pollution which can contaminate the water. Reduce use of pesticides and herbicides on our lawns and gardens.
4. Reduce nutrient runoff from farms by using BMP's (Best Management Practices) such as fencing cattle out of the streams and planting a riparian buffer along the stream to filter out the nutrients before the water reaches the stream. The use of filter strips of vegetation – minimum of 15 to 25 feet wide removes sediment, nutrients and pollutants from runoff. Diversion channels and ridges divert excess runoff to a safe disposal area. Water & sediment control basins trap sediment and reduce gully erosion.
5. Flood waters are slowed by wetland vegetation and are released gradually to adjacent lands and surface water which reduces erosion. Wetland vegetation filters out nutrients from fertilizers.

References:

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DEP

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