

What are some examples of environmentally friendly practices?



Rain gardens with native vegetation filter pollutants from stormwater before they reach streams.



Preventing livestock from entering streams helps maintain stable streambanks and reduces *E. coli* and other pollutants entering streams.

For more information on protecting Brandywine Creek and available best management practices implementation cost-shares please contact:

Hancock County Soil & Water Conservation District

1101 W Main Street, Suite N

Greenfield, Indiana 46140

Phone: 317-462-2283 ext. 3

Shelby County Soil and Water Conservation District

2279 South 840 West

Manilla, Indiana 46150

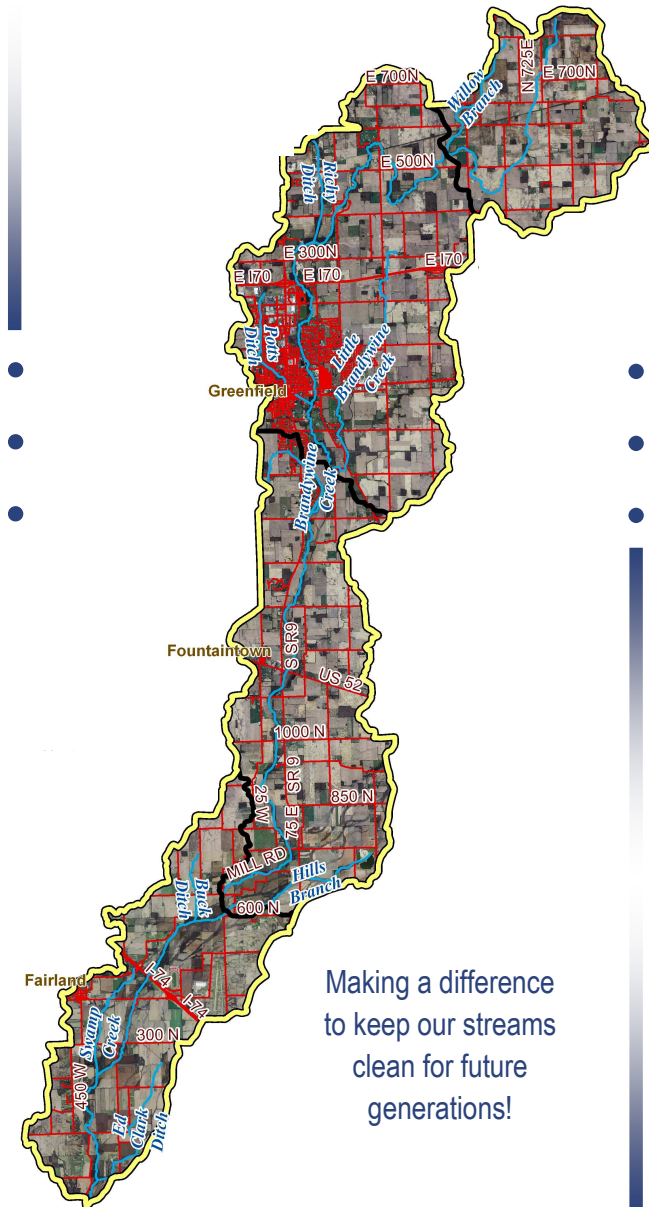
Phone: 765-544-2051 ext. 7



The *Brandywine Creek Watershed Management Plan* was made possible by funding from the Indiana Department of Natural Resources Lake and River Enhancement Program and the Hancock SWCD. Davey Resource Group managed the study.



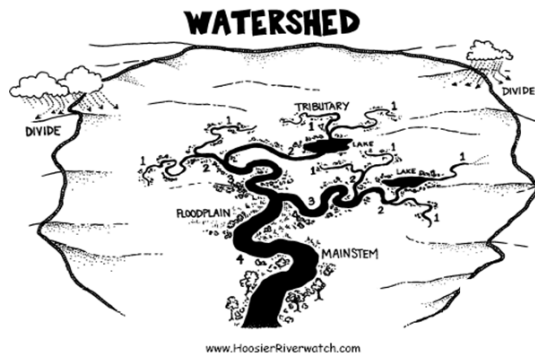
Brandywine Creek Watershed



Making a difference to keep our streams clean for future generations!

What is a Watershed?

- An area of land at a higher elevation that drains water, sediment, and dissolved materials to a common area of water at a lower elevation



Clean, healthy streams are important because they:

- Provide a place for fun and safe water recreation activities
- Support healthy fish and aquatic life populations
- Preserve areas for wildlife habitat
- Reduce the possibility of ground water contamination
- Influence economic activities
- Regulate flooding



Common pollutants in the Brandywine Creek watershed include:

- *E. coli*
- Phosphorus
- Nitrogen
- Sediment



Sources of non-point source pollutants in our streams include:

- Urban stormwater from parking lots and developed areas
- Failing and inadequate septic systems
- Improper disposal of trash and hazardous waste
- Excessive use of lawn and agricultural fertilizers
- Livestock, wildlife, and pet waste deposited in or adjacent to waterways or storm drains
- Clearing vegetation in natural areas
- Soils disturbed for new development and agricultural production



What can homeowners do to make our streams healthier?

- Install rain gardens
- Use phosphorus free fertilizers
- Maintain septic systems
- Properly dispose of household waste
- Use rain barrels

What can agricultural producers do to make streams healthier?

- Prevent livestock access to waterbodies
- Installing filter strips and preserve natural riparian areas adjacent to streams
- Installing water control structures on tile system outlets
- Plant cover crops
- Implement no-till practices
- Develop nutrient and pest management plans

How can my community work together to make our streams healthier?

- Ensure environmentally friendly practices are incorporated in new developments
- Develop areas of native vegetation adjacent to streambanks and shorelines
- Routine street sweeping

