

The Maurice River Watershed



CU Maurice River is dedicated to protecting the watershed of the Maurice River and the region known as Down Jersey, enabling current and future generations to enjoy the environmental, recreational, cultural and scenic resources of this Wild and Scenic global treasure.

CU Maurice River empowers individuals, organizations and neighboring communities to promote the region's enduring well-being and quality of life. We support education, awareness, and informed decision-making utilizing field work, research, and advocacy.

Become a member, make a donation and/or learn more about us by visiting www.cumauriceriver.org.

Seining with local youths and family members



Collection of dragonfly larvae for national air quality study



Banding Purple Martins



South Jersey's Leading Watershed Organization

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Maurice River Watershed Stewards

Stream-Friendly Property Designation

APPLICATION FORM



Eligibility

Do you live within the perimeters of the Maurice River Watershed shown in this map? Yes No

If you answered **yes**, your residence or property is eligible for stream-friendly designation. Read the instructions and find out how to apply.



South Jersey's Leading Watershed Organization

The Maurice River Watershed has remarkable water quality, abundant open space, and plentiful biodiversity: no small feat for a region in America's most densely populated state. However, poor land-use practices can compromise the health of the watershed.

When the workings of a watershed are impaired, it causes serious problems:

- flooding
- water shortages
- surface run-off
- soil erosion
- change in water flow
- water contamination
- invasion by exotic plants
- loss of habitat
- property damage from storm surges

The condition of streams and rivers is a reflection of the diverse land uses within the watershed. Land management decisions made on residential properties ultimately impact the health of the entire river basin and community. Poor land use leads to dirtier water, less water, and damaged habitats, while good land use has positive impacts on:

- water quality
- water regeneration
- healthy habitat

This **Stream-Friendly Designation Application** provides active Maurice River Watershed stewards a way to have their best management practices recognized. Maybe you are already implementing eco-friendly management practices on your property and are looking to expand upon them, or maybe you are just getting started and need some ideas. Regardless of your current stewardship level, continue reading to learn how your property can earn Stream-Friendly designation.

INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Respond "yes" or "no" to whether you have included the actions from the following list into your management routine.
 - Each **yes** answer is the equivalent of **one stewardship point**, while **no** responses represent opportunities to expand on your best management practices.
2. Tally your stewardship points. If you amass 30 points you are eligible for designation.
3. Return the application to CU Maurice River for review (P.O. Box 474, Millville, NJ 08332).
4. Approved applicants will be awarded a plaque recognizing their best management efforts.

Page numbers correlate to CU Maurice River's publication *Protecting Down Jersey Rivers: A Guide to Eco-alternatives for Maurice River Watershed Residents*. You can download it for free from the www.CUMauriceRiver.org home page.

1. Water Conservation Indoors and Outdoors (PAGES 5-6)

I preserve local drinking water reserves and aquatic habitats by...

	Yes	No
reducing grass cover and planting native plants	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
watering remaining grass on an as-needed basis	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
watering before 9am or after sunset	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
checking in-ground sprinkler direction periodically	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
mulching and leaving grass and leaf clippings	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
raising lawn mower to 3-4 inches high	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
sweeping instead of using water to clean pathways and driveways	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
harvesting water in a rain barrel and using it to water plants	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
taking my vehicle(s) to a car wash that recycles water	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
replacing older fixtures with low-flow models	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
running only full loads in dish and clothes washers	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
minimizing use of garbage disposal by composting	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
using leftover water from boiling to water outdoors	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
using tap water and/or a water filter instead of buying bottled water	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
refrigerating water instead of running until cool	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
being conscious of overall water waste	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
fixing faucet, pipe, and toilet leaks immediately	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

2. Reducing Water Pollution (PAGES 8-11 & 13)

I reduce the amount of contamination flowing off my property by...

	Yes	No
replacing impermeable surfaces with porous ones	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
lining impermeable surfaces with depressions	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
using landscape contours to keep storm water on my property	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
extending downspouts into garden beds (and/or)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
using rain barrels to catch water from downspouts	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
maintaining the health of mature trees and extending their longevity	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
reducing use of fertilizers and pesticides by planting native flora	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
reducing lawn cover	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
reducing use of chemical fertilizers by testing soil before deciding on a fertilizer, calibrating spreader before each use, following label instructions, switching to organic alternatives, and cleaning spills immediately (and/or) talking with my lawn service provider about their practices and products	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
using integrated pest management	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
weeding by hand or using natural herbicides to spot treat	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

I reduce the amount of contamination flowing off my property by...

	Yes	No
composting organic waste and using it to enrich soils	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
implementing integrated pest management to combat mosquitoes	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
picking up pet waste and discarding it in a trash can	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
avoiding the use of road salts after snowfall	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
monitoring my septic tank annually and servicing it every 3-5 years	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
reforesting my property with native trees	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
installing a rain garden	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

3. Water Quality Protection Indoors (PAGE 12)

Indoors I preserve water quality and wildlife habitat by...

	Yes	No
using biodegradable personal hygiene products	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
using non-toxic home cleaning and care agents	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
disposing of medicines at local drop-off points	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
disposing of electronics at county or municipal drop-offs	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
disposing of hazardous waste at county or municipal hazardous waste drop-offs	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

4. Creating a Culture of Watershed Stewardship

I make a difference for community health by...

	Yes	No
volunteering or donating to local watershed and environmental organizations	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
being an advocate for water protection with my family and acquaintances	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
supporting policies promoting watershed health, preservation of natural areas, and combating climate change	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
sharing an appreciation for the local environment with younger generations	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

TALLY OF "YES" ANSWERS: _____

Applicant's Name: _____

Property Address: _____

City: _____

Contact Information: _____

E-mail: _____

Phone: _____