Community Conservation Assistance Program (CCAP) Frequently Asked Questions

What is CCAP?

CCAP is a voluntary, incentive-based program designed to improve water quality through the installation of best management practices (BMPs) and Stormwater Control Measures (SCMs). These projects aim to address erosion and drainage issues that result in water quality concerns - sediment, nitrogen, and phosphorus pollution entering local streams or the stormdrain network through direct connections.

Who is eligible?

Homeowners, businesses, schools, churches and other civic and community groups and publicly-owned lands are eligible for the program.

How to apply

Interested landowners may apply to Durham Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) for financial and technical assistance for the installation of projects to protect water quality. Applications are ranked based on local water quality priorities and, if eligible, a conservation plan is prepared. Landowners may receive financial assistance of up to 75 % of the pre-established average cost of each project.

CCAP
Community Conservation Assistance Program

Durham SWCD Vision Statement

To address all natural resources on every acre in Durham County in a way that will benefit the environment, wildlife, its people, and the natural resources themselves, plus produce an environmentally conscious group of citizens who will set a trend of conserving, enhancing and promoting our natural resource base.

Durham SWCD Mission Statement

To conserve, enhance, and promote the natural resources of Durham County by providing technical assistance, environmental education, and economic incentives to County citizens through a diversified program to meet the County's changing needs.

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North Carolina Community Conservation Assistance Program

DURHAM SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT | DURHAM COUNTY

Soil & Water

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Phone (919) 560-0558

www.dconc.gov/swcd

The soil is the source of life, creativity, culture, and real independence.

Best Management Practices (BMPs)

BACKYARD RAIN GARDENS - Backyard rain gardens, also known as bioretention areas in larger scale settings, are small depressions in the landscape that are used to collect stormwater runoff for a short period of time. They typically hold water for less than 48 hours. Rain Gardens are placed between stormwater runoff sources, such as rooftops & driveways, and nearby receiving waters, like storm drains or creeks. *Rain gardens can include a variety of trees, shrubs and perennial plants that provide habitat and treat runoff.*

CISTERNS- Cisterns are above or below ground storage tanks designed for collecting rainwater for use in watering lawns, gardens, landscape or indoor plants. Cisterns are intended to reduce stormwater runoff, encourage runoff infiltration and conserve water.

CRITICAL AREA PLANTINGS– Critical area plantings are established on areas of highly erodible land. These plantings result in permanent perennial vegetative cover to protect and improve water quality.

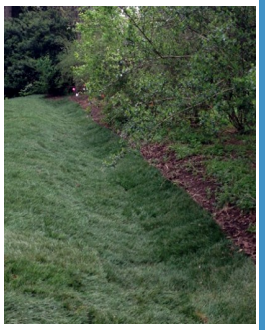
STREAMBANK and SHORELINE PROTECTION– Streambank & shoreline protection uses vegetation to stabilize and prevent erosion of the banks of streams, lakes or other waterways. This BMP restores the natural functions of the stream and improves water quality, prevents erosion, restores wildlife, reduces flooding and filters polluted runoff.

IMPERVIOUS SURFACE CONVERSION - Impervious surfaces are land covers such as driveways and roads that do not allow percolation of rain water into the ground or vegetation. This BMP allows for removal and conversion to a more permeable surface. *Must be combined with a vegetation establishment or permeable pavement installation.*

RIPARIAN BUFFERS - Riparian Buffers are areas of native trees and shrubs located adjacent to a body of water. These buffers serve as a barrier to nonpoint source pollution from stormwater runoff. Buffers also control flooding, protect property from erosion and provide essential wildlife habitat.

PERMEABLE PAVEMENT - Permeable pavement, an alternative to conventional concrete and asphalt paving, allows runoff to soak back into the ground instead of running off. Permeable pavement can be used for driveways, walkways and low flow parking lots. These materials reduce runoff, decrease flooding, filter pollutants and recharge groundwater. *This BMP is only eligible as a component of impervious surface conversion.*

GRASSED SWALES - A grassed swale is a vegetated channel that is shaped and graded to establish a stable conveyance for stormwater runoff. As stormwater flows through the swale, its velocity is reduced and pollutants are removed.



For more information, contact Durham Soil & Water at 919-560-0558 or visit our website www.dconc.gov/swcd