

## How to Sign Up

Yes, I want to become a volunteer to help make a difference in the Patapsco Valley area today!

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Group Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Daytime phone \_\_\_\_\_

Other phone \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Do you have a preference for a particular stream?  yes  no

If yes, name of stream  
\_\_\_\_\_

How do you want to volunteer?

- stream cleaner
- stream walker
- stream watcher
- occasional help with stream cleanups
- storm drain stenciling
- tree plantings
- invasive plant removal

Yes, send me some information about becoming a member of the Friends of the Patapsco Valley & Heritage Greenway!

## True or False?

Items or liquids that flow into a storm drain enter a treatment facility and are cleaned before they flow into a nearby stream and our waterways.

**False! False! False! False!**

**Any thing** that enters into the gutter enters a storm drain and goes directly into

**the closest stream or waterway**

...where it flows into a bigger stream or waterway, which flows directly into the

### Patapsco River

...where it flows into bigger bodies of water which flows directly into the

### Chesapeake Bay!

Please don't pour oil, antifreeze, pool chemicals, car wash soap, pet waste, grass or dump trash, leaves or anything else into nearby storm drains, or you could be part of the problem of the pollution of the Chesapeake Bay!

Please teach others who may not realize that they are polluting our streams and waterways!

Be a part of hundreds of others who treasure the Patapsco Valley, working to preserve its culture, environment and history. Sign up as one of our valued members today!

**Friends of the  
Patapsco Valley & Heritage  
Greenway, Inc.**

# Stream Watch Program



**Working together to make the  
Patapsco Valley streams  
healthy and happy!**



**P. O. Box 96  
Ellicott City, MD 21041  
410-480-0824  
patapscofriend@comcast.net  
www.patapscoheritagegreenway.org**

## Patapsco Valley Watershed Area

The Patapsco Valley watershed area occupies over 442 miles of streams. There are many streams throughout the lower Patapsco Valley area including:

### Arbutus/Halethorpe/Relay

Herbert Run

### Catonsville/Oella

Bull Branch/Pig Run

Cedar Branch

Cooper Branch

Herbert Branch

Miller Branch

Patapsco River (along Route 144)

Sawmill Branch

Soapstone Branch

### Elkridge

Deep Run Branch

Patapsco River (near the State Park)

Rockburn Branch

### Ellicott City

Bonnie Branch

Patapsco River (Historic District)

Sucker Branch

Tiber Hudson Branch

Unfortunately, many streams and stream banks are experiencing problems with trash, leaks from sewer and septic tanks, erosion, toxic materials poured into nearby storm drains, and large volumes of storm water runoff causing havoc for these streams that lead into the Patapsco River.

## Stream Watch Program

The Friends of the Patapsco Valley and Heritage Greenway, Inc. are searching for volunteers for the stream watch program for the Patapsco River Valley. Adult volunteers and families are needed that live, work or “play” close to one of the streams flowing into the Patapsco River. Volunteers are needed as: cleaners, walkers or watchers for a short stretch of a stream.



**Cleaner** – volunteers remove trash from their adopted section in and around their “section” of the stream on a quarterly basis. Cleanups can be on an individual basis or arranged for a group cleanup with other volunteers.

**Walker** – volunteers regularly walk their “section” of the stream and twice a year complete forms to collect information on the health of the stream and stream bank (visible wildlife, erosion, trash, or other environmental concerns).

**Watcher** – volunteers that are both cleaners and walkers of their “section” of the stream and collect specific information on any damage, pollution and/or potential restoration opportunities observed within the stream or stream bank.

## Why Get Involved?

1. Learn more about nearby streams; experience the beauty of nature and aquatic life.
2. Get a little exercise, enjoy the great outdoors while helping the environment.
3. Ensure an ample supply of clean, safe water for our drinking water.
4. Ensure our wild furry, feathered and finned friends have a safe, clean and healthy environment to live in.
5. Help local government to troubleshoot and correct local stream or stream bank problems.
6. Reduce the risk of flooding by spotting and troubleshooting potential problems before heavy rainfalls happen.
7. Get the satisfaction of knowing that you are making a difference by being our “eyes and ears” to keep our streams safe and clean.

## How Do I Sign Up?

1. Contact the Friends of the Patapsco Valley & Heritage Greenway and attend a short training session.

**Call: 410-480-0824**

**Write: PO Box 96, Ellicott City, MD 21041**

**E-mail: patapscofriend@comcast.net**

2. Pick a reach of stream you would like to “adopt.”
3. Choose whether you want to become a cleaner, walker or watcher.
4. Ready, set...go! It's that simple!