

How Can the Backyard Conservation Program Help You?

- Site evaluation to determine the best options for your property.
- Written conservation plan outlining best management practices (BMPs) for your yard.
- Lists of resources for installing and maintaining your BMPs.
- Possible financial assistance through our cost-share program.
- Education through workshops, literature and demonstration areas.
 - Workshops on various topics.
 - Public speaking at your organization's next event or meeting.

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HAMILTON COUNTY *Soil & Water*



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Hamilton County SWCD

Backyard Conservation



Your guide to the Backyard Conservation Program

The Backyard Conservation Program

The mission of the Backyard Conservation Program is to provide technical and educational assistance to help urban landowners in Hamilton County implement conservation practices. These practices protect our soil, water, air, and wildlife while providing beauty and enjoyment for the homeowner and community.

Our Goals

- Increase awareness among Hamilton County citizens regarding urban ecological issues and the conservation practices that can protect our resources.
- Provide “how-to” information and conservation plans to encourage adoption of conservation practices in backyards, neighborhood common areas, and parks.
- Build and strengthen partnerships with local organizations and schools to encourage a conservation ethic across Hamilton County communities.
- When possible, provide cost-share assistance to encourage implementation of conservation practices.



Why Practice Backyard Conservation?

The everyday decisions we make at home greatly affect our environment. Increased urbanization means more impervious surfaces and runoff and less wildlife habitat. Our water, soil, air, and wildlife depend on us for their protection and adopting conservation practices is one important way in which we can preserve the environment for future generations.

In this fast-paced world, we recognize that connecting back to nature is an excellent way to relieve stress and anxiety. By preserving the natural resources around our home, we can spend less time maintaining our yards and more time enjoying them.

What Benefits Does Backyard Conservation Provide?

- Provides substantial monetary and time savings compared to traditional lawn maintenance
- Increases property values
- Protects watersheds by providing filtration and reducing pollution from runoff
- Attracts wildlife, providing food and cover
- Provides integrated pest management
- Connects communities with nature

Backyard Conservation Practices:

- Composting
- Pond Edge Enhancements
- Rain Gardens
- Filter Strips
- Wildlife Habitat
- Mulching
- Native Plants
- Nutrient Management
- Pest Management
- Invasive Plant Control
- Pervious Pavement or Pavers
- Backyard Ponds for Wildlife
- Rain Barrels
- Vegetative Streambank Stabilization
- Terracing
- Tree Planting
- Wetlands
- Water Conservation
- Land Grading
- Outdoor classrooms

