

# Growing Ambler Greener

Ambler EAC

[amblereac@gmail.com](mailto:amblereac@gmail.com)

Mary-Margaret Monser, Ambler EAC Chair



# Clean Streams, Clean Water

- Three year Growing Greener grant secured and managed by Ambler EAC for Ambler Borough
- Based on Philadelphia Water Department's Rain Check Program
- **Educates, Engages, and Employs** Residents, Businesses and Municipal Leaders to Be the Difference in Healthier, Cleaner Waterways
- **Grows Stewardship** of Our Community
- Evolves local leaders in Environmental Restoration



# Clean Streams, Clean Water

- Homeowner Best Management Practices
  - 250 Rain Barrels
  - 60 Down Spout Planter Boxes
  - 75 Rain Gardens
  - 22 Permeable Conversions



# Clean Streams, Clean Water

- Why is this project a priority/Goals
  - Our children have a right to clean air, pure water, and the preservation of the environment
  - Wissahickon is an impaired watershed
  - Mitigate flooding
  - Grow a culture of environmental stewardship and sense of community
  - Requirements of the MS4 program:
    - Increase awareness of stormwater as a pollutant
    - Manage stormwater for quality and quantity



# Clean Streams, Clean Water

- Beneficiaries
  - community, homeowner, municipality, watershed, wildlife, downstream neighbors
- Sponsors
  - Ambler Borough and DEP
- Partners
  - Master Watershed Stewards
  - Local volunteers
  - Ambler Borough
- Stakeholders
  - DEP, WVWA, PEC, Ambler Borough



Master Watershed  
Steward Program



PennState Extension



# Clean Streams, Clean Water

Develop Website  
Engage Volunteers / Contractors  
Project Management Tool

Community Outreach  
Workshops / Neighbor 2 Neighbor

Fabricate Downspout Planters  
Install Rain Barrels / Assessments  
Infiltration tests

Install Downspout Planters  
Guide Contractor Installations

Maintenance  
Annual Inspection

2018

2019

2020

# Clean Streams, Clean Water

• Growing Greener	\$206,100
• Value in Kind	
- EAC	\$120,689
- Ambler Borough	\$10,000
• PECO Green Grant	\$4,231
• Mascaro	\$500
• Ambler Rotary	<u>\$1,400</u>
	\$342,920





# Clean Streams, Clean Water

- Measuring Success
  - Number of features installed and maintained
  - Borough leadership accountability/ employing better BMP's
  - Changes in ordinances to support engaging residential stormwater management BMP's
  - Engaging other communities in instituting similar programs
  - Growing a green economy
  - More fish, bees, butterflies



# Clean Streams, Clean Water

## • Challenges

- Volunteer program
- Time Management
- Contractors to install rain gardens at a reasonable price for our community
- Homeowner commitment
- Support



# Clean Streams, Clean Water

- Outreach
  - Workshops
  - Neighbor 2 Neighbor
  - Master Watershed Stewards
  - Other EAC's
  - Engaging Leaders
  - Media

