

Healthy Waters

WHY IS CLEAN WATER IMPORTANT?



Photo by Gary Dincher

- ◆ Clean and healthy water is part of a healthy ecosystem. Humans use water from rivers and lakes for drinking, bathing, cooking, playing in and more.
- ◆ Streams and creeks also provide habitat and drinking water for wildlife.
- ◆ Water is life: in order for humans and wildlife to stay healthy, these waters must be clean.



PIEDMONT TRIAD
REGIONAL COUNCIL

Protecting water quality through outreach,
education & public participation since 2004.



Stormwater SMART Member Governments:

Davidson County, Randolph County, Rockingham County,
Archdale, Asheboro, Burlington, Elon, Gibsonville, Graham,
Green Level, Haw River, Lexington, Mebane, Oak Ridge,
Summerfield, Randleman, Reidsville, Thomasville & Trinity.



www.stormwaterSMART.blogger.com



www.facebook.com/PTRCStormwaterSMART



www.stormwatersmart.org

www.twitter.com/StormwaterSMART

Healthy Waters

WHAT TO LOOK FOR

- ◆ **Gentle Slopes:**

When you are able to easily access the water, that means the slopes are gentle for plants to stay standing for reduced erosion.

- ◆ **Free of trash:**

Clean water will not have trash or litter.



- ◆ **You can see the bottom:**

You should be able to see rocks or gravel on the bottom of the river or stream. Soil erosion, also called sedimentation, is the number one type of water pollution in NC. Sediment covers up the rocks in the bottom of creeks and rivers and clogs the gills of the life living in the creek. Fish and wildlife that live in the creek need the rocks to hide under and lay their eggs on.

- ◆ **Low amounts of algae/scum:**

Algae in the water is caused by sunlight and nutrients. Extra nutrients from dog waste, human sewage, and fertilizers cause algal blooms, which take oxygen out of the water and away from the life in the river or stream.



Stormwater SMART
1398 Carrollton Crossing Drive
Kernersville, NC 27284
(336) 904-0300
www.stormwatersmart.org

