



EVERYONE LIVES
DOWNSTREAM!

What is a watershed?

A watershed is the area of land that drains to a specific body of water, whether a stream, pond, lake, river or ocean. A watershed area can be as large as many states or as small as your backyard. Everyone lives in a watershed.

Do you know what your "watershed address" is or what watershed you live in? *Just like your home address is broken down into country - state - city - street, your watershed address can be found in much the same way. Why is this information important? Because whatever we do in Lancaster County will eventually affect the water quality of our friends and neighbors downstream.*

Why do we need to educate people? *In Lancaster County there are over 1,400 miles of streams and creeks. Nearly 50% of these streams are impaired or polluted, according to the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (DEP). Many more stream miles are not polluted, but will be affected in some way by increased development pressure, storm water management issues, agricultural practices, or land use changes in the coming years.*

What is the Chiques Creek Watershed?

The Chiques Creek Watershed covers approximately 126 square miles of area, nearly all of which is within Lancaster County. Beginning in Lebanon County, the Chiques Creek flows 31 miles to its confluence with the Susquehanna River near Marietta Borough. Six Lancaster County townships (East Hempfield, Mount Joy, Penn, Rapho, West Cornwall, & West Hempfield) and two boroughs (Manheim & Mount Joy) have areas contained within the Chiques Creek Watershed.

What is the Chiques Creek Watershed Alliance? www.chiquescreekwatershed.org

The Chiques Creek Watershed Alliance (CCWA) was founded in 2001 with a mission to “promote good stewardship of the land within the Chiques Watershed in order to protect and preserve the Chiques Creek for our present community and for future generations.”

We are a non-profit organization driven by local volunteers and community leaders with a vision to accomplish these and other similar goals:

- *Promote good stewardship of the land within the Chiques Creek Watershed*
- *Provide opportunities for restoring and improving the small streams and tributaries within the watershed by sponsoring conservation projects; and*
- *Provide information on watershed protection through written materials and educational projects and to oversee the ongoing scientific evaluation of the Chiques Creek Watershed.*

When and where does the CCWA meet?

We meet the first Wednesday of the month, at 7:00 p.m. at the Rapho Township Municipal Building, 971 North Colebrook Road, Manheim. Email reminders are sent before each meeting.

How can I get involved?

- **Come to a CCWA event** – Our Watershed Expo is held at the Manheim Farm Show in June!
- **Look for our geocache** – go to www.geocaching.com GC447CP
- **Check out our website** www.chiquescreekwatershed.org **and take the Tour de Chiques!**
- **“Like” us on Facebook**
- **Stop by Manheim Borough’s Logan Park** -- a floodplain restoration project coordinated by CCWA.
- **Join our mailing list** – just send an email to manager@raphotownship.com to sign up!

How do I become a CCWA Member?

Membership dues are \$10 per year for individuals, and \$15 per year for families. New faces are welcome at our meetings, so come and learn what we are all about and then decide if you would like to become a member!