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**Residential Site Assessment**

**Homeowner Information:**

**Homeowner:**

**Site Address:** **Intake** **Date:**

**Phone number:** **E-mail:**

**Watershed:** **Sub-watershed:**

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**Desk Assessment:**

**WPRP GIS (**<http://gis-world3.aacounty.org/HTML5Viewer/index.html?viewer=WPRP>)

**Distance to nearest stream:**

**Soil expected on site:** A B C D Well/Septic *or* City Water/Sewer

**Impervious Surface (SF):** **House**:  **Driveway:**  **Outbuildings:** **Sidewalk:**  **Other:**  **Total:**

**Parcel Size (Sq ft**):  **Percent Impervious Surface:**

**Is the site in a Critical Area**? Yes/No

**Take Note:** Look at topography, land cover, storm drain infrastructure (inlets, outfalls, streams), utilities, stream location

**Using WERS GIS, create 2 Maps:**

1) Ortho Image Map of the parcel

2) A Base Map (without ortho image) of the parcel, impervious surface, related storm drain infrastructure, fences, and topography.

**Homeowner Interview and Site Assessment:**

**Date of Assessment:** **Assessed by:**

**Interview Notes:**

**General Site Conditions:**

**Soil:** *Notes*

* Fine grain (clay/silt)
* Course grain (sand/gravel)
* High Groundwater

**Sun:** *Notes*

* Full Sun
* Partial Sun
* Shade

**Vegetation:** *Notes*

* Mature trees (% of Property:\_\_\_\_\_\_)
* Highly maintained turf grass (% of Property:\_\_\_\_\_\_)
* Bare Spots (% of Property:\_\_\_\_\_\_)
* Invasive species (% of Property:\_\_\_\_\_\_)
* Mulched beds (% of Property:\_\_\_\_\_\_)

**Downspouts connected to:** *Description*

* Impervious Surface
* Mulched bed or grass
* Buried (If so, where do they daylight? Are more than one downspout tied together?)

**Existing Conditions to Sketch and Describe On Base Map:**

* Concentrated stormwater entering site
* Concentrated stormwater leaving site
* Steep Slopes and/or Erosion
* Debris
* Downspouts connected to grass, impervious surface or piped underground Pavement Conditions
* Perceived problems and solutions identified by homeowner
* Ponding or wet spots
* Site constraints such as: Utilities, septic tank, well
* Other

**Opportunities for RainScaping:**

🞏 **Cistern/rain barrel**: a water storage container attached to a downspout using a flexible hose, used to regulate the flow of water from roofs and gutters

🞏 **Conservation Landscape:** areas planted with locally native plants, designed to absorb stormwater runoff, provide wildlife habitat, clean water and reduce the use of energy and chemicals

🞏 **Downspout disconnect:** redirect your downspouts away from impervious surfaces or storm system pipes

🞏 **Dry Well:** a pit filled with gravel, riprap, rubble, or other debris, through which water is able to slowly infiltrate the surrounding soils

🞏 **Green roof:** vegetated rooftop systems that reduce stormwater runoff and increase the life expectancy of a roof

🞏 **Infiltration Trench:** a trench filled with round stones which receives water from an adjacent impervious surface and allows it to percolate down into the soil

🞏 **Living Shoreline:** address erosion in lower-energy situations by providing long-term protection, restoration or enhancement of vegetated shoreline habitats using plants, stone, sand fill and other structural or organic materials

🞏 **Pervious pavement:** porous concrete or porous pavers, allow water to infiltrate through to sub-soil

🞏 **Rain garden:** Bowl shaped garden that captures stormwater and allows it to sink into the ground

🞏 **Remove impervious area:** decrease the amount of impervious surface so that water can infiltrate instead of running off.

🞏 **Remove Invasive Species:** eliminate non-native trees and plants that grow aggressively, displacing beneficial natives

🞏 **Stormwater Planter:** a small, contained vegetated area that collects and treats stormwater that would otherwise flow directly to impervious surface

🞏 **Swales and Berms:** Swales are depressions and berms are raised areas, both of which redirect the flow of stormwater to allow better infiltration

🞏 **Tree Planting:** plant trees for their ability to stop erosion and absorb stormwater

🞏 **Other – describe**

**Opportunities for Pollution Reduction Behavior Change:**

🞏 **Bay Friendly Lawn Care:** the elimination of all fertilizers and pesticides wherever possible.  On turf lawns, it is essential to maintain dense plant cover to prevent sediment and nutrient runoff.

🞏 **Maintain Septic Systems**

🞏 **Pick Up Pet Waste:** Pet waste contains bacteria which pollute our local rivers and the Chesapeake Bay. Pick up and properly dispose of pet waster!

🞏 **Reduce Energy Use:** By reducing energy usage by 5%, you could significantly reduce pollution from burning fossil fuels.  The air pollution emitted from electric power plants is trapped by falling rain, which then drains into the local waterways and the Bay.

🞏 **Choose Non-Toxic Products:** Household hazardous wastes (HHW) include paints, cleaners, batteries, motor oil, nail polish, weed killers and drain treatments. Most of us have 50 to 100 pounds of HHW in our homes. While some products are essential to our everyday lives, HHW contain chemicals that are potentially harmful to both people and the environment.

🞏 **Maintain Cars and Boats:** Vehicle maintenance is an important and easy way to prevent oil, heavy metals, and other toxic chemicals from reaching the Bay.

🞏 **Invasive Species Removal:** For effective control of invasive plants, both the seed and the root system of these weeds must be managed by mowing, cultivating, or treating with approved herbicide.

🞏 **Keep Leaves Off of Hard Surfaces:** Keeping leaves from washing into local waterways reduces excess nutrients.

🞏 **Adopt a Stormdrain:** Help maintain a local stormdrain by removing leaves, trash, sediment before it gets into the storm sewer system.

🞏 **Cover and Stabilize Bare Soil:** Reduce the amount sediment washing into local waterways by keeping it on site.

🞏 **Other – describe**



 Date

Dear

Thank you for the opportunity to visit your property for the Residential Site Assessment. I hope the suggestions and resources below will be helpful as you consider making your property more environmentally friendly. Please feel free to contact me at any time if you have questions or need additional help with your property.

*Please note that my suggestions below are intended to help guide you toward reducing your personal pollution. As a Master Watershed Steward, I am not authorized to make specific plans to redirect water flow. For professional guidance on specific designs or installations, you may contact the contractors listed on the Residential Stormwater Landscape Professionals list provided to you the day of the assessment.*

**Part 1: Summary of Observations:**

Part one should summarize the site visit and the conditions found there. Parrot the concerns that the homeowner has brought up to ensure that they feel like they were heard. Address any concerns that you saw during your visit.

**Part 2: Opportunities**:

Part two should address each of the concerns raised by the homeowner and yourself (Part 1) with best management practices, rainscaping practices (<http://aawsa.org/wsa-rainscaping-manual-2>), or general advice. This is also a chance to offer pollution reduction behavior changes via our habits that help (<http://aawsa.org/reduce-your-pollution>).

**Part 3: Next Steps:**

Offer the resident a clear path forward. You may have resolved the resident’s issues with the visit and this follow up letter and, if so, summarize that here. If not, give direction about the best ways to make Part 2 a reality. You can offer further assistance, but it is not necessary or even possible to be involved in every step of the process. Be clear on what you are agreeing to do and not do.

**Part 4: Additional Resources:**

This is the section to include additional, tailored links to information that addresses questions that came up during the course of the interview and site assessment that are not covered in the initial hand-off packet.

Sincerely,

Master Watershed Steward

(list your contact information)



**RSA Rainscaping Action Diagram:**

Using the RSA Rainscaping Action Diagram Generator (located [here](https://drive.google.com/open?id=1Uxmlda0JD9f37LLDkeTsAh1C0krUV0WambPCnUIUn4s)), use the base map you prepared in the Desk Assessment and the symbols located in the Generator to map out your recommendations for the homeowner.

Things to note:

* Symbols DO NOT need to be to scale
* This is a way to visually show your recommendations and should be derived from the letter