
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Local Businesses are Pledging to Keep Rivers and Streams Clean

10/25/17 FRANKLIN COUNTY, OHIO— In 2016, over 120 businesses in Franklin County pledged to take action and help prevent stormwater pollution. Once again this year, businesses both small and large have the opportunity to join the movement and become a *Water Quality Partner*.

When it rains, stormwater runs over hard surfaces like roads and rooftops, picking up pollutants such as dirt, oil and toxic chemicals, depositing them in local streams and rivers. These pollutants can threaten wildlife and native plants as well as harm our own drinking and recreational waters. As a *Water Quality Partner*, business owners **voluntarily pledge** to keep Franklin County waterways healthy by participating in practices that reduce water pollution. These practices range from simple things like properly containing and disposing of potential pollutants, to larger projects such as using rain barrels and rain gardens to slow water down and naturally reduce the amount of pollutants that reach our rivers and streams. Whether a business needs tips on how to meet clean water regulations, or is simply looking to support clean water and sustainability in their community, the Water Quality Partnership can help them reach those goals.

In return for their commitment, partners receive a window cling and *Certificate of Partnership* to display at their business as well as public recognition of Franklin Soil and Water's new website. Additionally, each partner has access to information and continuing education on stormwater issues. Join other business owners who are proud to be on the front lines of pollution reduction in Franklin County, become a *Water Quality Partner* today!

For questions, please call (614) 486-9613 or email Katie Phillips, GIS Technician and Water Quality Partnership coordinator, at kphillips@franklinswcd.org. Visit www.franklinswcd.org for stormwater management tips, resources, and to make the commitment to become a *Water Quality Partner*.

The mission of Franklin Soil and Water Conservation District is to promote land-use decisions for the conservation, protection and improvement of soil and water resources by providing information assistance through effective partnering, technical guidance and education.