May 2 webinar: Learn how to garden for clean water

April showers bring May flowers, and on May 2, Brodhead Watershed Association will host a webinar on how to keep your water clean and the garden growing all summer long.

The online class, called Gardening for Clean Water, will begin at 9 a.m. with local Master Gardener Amy Romanelli-Girardi.

“What we put in our garden affects more than just our garden,” Romanelli-Girardi said. Learn how your choice of plants can directly and indirectly contribute to water quality, how home landscapes impact the entire area drained by Brodhead Creek, and which native plants work for yourself, wildlife, and everyone’s drinking water.

Amy Romanelli-Girardi, a resident of Barrett Township for 20 years, has worked for a local garden center/nursery, tending to the stock of trees, shrubs, and perennials. She particularly enjoyed helping customers make selections that matched their preferences with their site conditions.

The webinar is free, but registration is required by noon on Friday, May 1. To register, email info@brodheadwatershed.org or phone 570-839-1120. Instructions for signing in for the webinar will be sent to registrants. Note that dates and times are subject to change. People who register will be notified of any changes, and changes will be posted on the BWA website at brodheadwatershed.org/greening-mountainhome.

Gardening for Clean Water is one in a series of Go Green at Home workshops and part of BWA’s Greening Mountainhome project. Future workshops will include: July 25, rain barrels and how to install them; Sept. 12, rain gardens tour.

In another facet of the Greening Mountainhome program, rain barrels will be installed at locations throughout the area. With the help of volunteer artists, Todd Schwartz and Boy Scout Troop 89, painted rain barrels will beautify their locations as well as catch roof runoff to be used in a rain garden.

Rain barrels will be installed in early summer at locations chosen by these Greening Mountainhome sponsors: Fisher & Fisher Law Offices; Joseph Dilger, DDS; ESSA Bank & Trust; NBT Bank; Blake Martin Financial; Donaghy Insurance; Steele’s Hardware; Capri Pizza; Mick Motors; Woodfield Manor; Frogtown Chophouse; Buck Hill Falls Company; PourHouse; Basso; Rotary of the Pocono Mountains; Barrett Township Historical Society; Hilfiger Restoration; Callie’s Candy Kitchen; Daily Bread; Barn Door Antiques; Mickey Miller; Peter Maier; and Natalie Berdoe.

Brodhead Watershed Association is a nonprofit environmental organization formed in 1989. BWA is dedicated to protecting and preserving water resources and the environment of the Brodhead watershed, and the water quality of the Brodhead, Cherry, Marshalls, McMichael, Paradise and Pocono creeks and their tributaries. BWA assists municipalities, residents, businesses and groups with protecting natural resources through education, workshops, seminars, public programs and stream monitoring. For information: info@brodheadwatershed.org or 570-839-1120.