



WATER AT RISK

By Carol Hillestad for the Brodhead Watershed Association

Does your municipality work with BWA to protect clean water?

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A pocket park in Stroudsburg. A “storywalk” at Minisink Park in Smithfield township. A kiosk in Middle Smithfield.

What they all have in common? Clean drinking water — and proof that good things grow from working together.

Leaders in Stroudsburg, Smithfield and Middle Smithfield are getting the word out how to protect our drinking water, with help from Brodhead Watershed Association. Some recent collaborations:

Stroudsburg’s pocket park offers a green respite

A sweet little pocket park in Stroudsburg, with benches and native trees, flowers and grasses, provides shade and a welcome green view at the corner of Quaker Alley and Sixth Street. Its rain gardens and permeable pavers also show how this “green infrastructure” can help clean and purify run-off from streets and sidewalks before entering the nearby Brodhead Creek and storm drains. <https://brodheadwatershed.org/wp-content/uploads/StroudsburgPocket.pdf>

Kiosks at Minisink Park inform and entertain

A great meeting of the waters takes place at Minisink Park, where the Brodhead and Cherry Creeks join the mighty Delaware. The park’s soccer fields accept flood waters — as they were designed to do — and allow it to infiltrate the soil naturally. The well-used walking trail that circuits the fields now has signs that tell stories about this land. From ancestors of the Lenape, to travelers on Route 80, to green infrastructure that cleans and protects the creeks. <https://brodheadwatershed.org/minisink-park-2/>

Stormwater management works at Community and Cultural Center

Keeping water clean is a priority for Middle Smithfield. With expertise from BWA, the township designed outside areas of the Community and Cultural Center to protect water resources naturally. Parking areas, gardens and meadows, walkways, downspouts and trees all work together to keep water supplies clean. Pervious paving material, for instance, allows rainwater and snow melt to sink into the earth, cleaning and purifying it naturally. Signs explain how these strategies work together for the good of all. <https://brodheadwatershed.org/middle-smithfield-kiosks/>

Other municipalities have taken advantage of BWA’s tried-and-true, common-sense ways to keep our precious water resources clean. How about yours?

Find out more! Go to www.brodheadwatershed.org and click on [Municipal Projects](#).

Brodhead Watershed Association protects water quality and quantity throughout our area. Get involved! Become a member! www.brodheadwatershed.org



Signs like this along the trail at Minisink Park in Smithfield Township make your walk more meaningful and interesting.