# **Project History**



#### **Buckland Creek Watershed**

From its headwaters in a wetland on the property of the NYS psychiatric center and drainage west to Mt. Hope Ave., Buckland Creek flows through school campuses, backyards, and the 12 Corners commercial area before discharging into Allens Creek. The Buckland Creek Watershed, or drainage area, is 2,450 acres in size and contains almost 4,000 homes in central Brighton.

Unfortunately, as the community developed, the value of the Creek as a resource was not always recognized. Sections of the Creek were piped or channelized and water quality declined because of pollution from stormwater runoff.

Inspired by the efforts of students at Brighton High School to study and protect the Creek, several community partners applied for and received grants from NYS and the Fish & Wildlife Foundation to support restoration activities.

#### **Community Partners:**

- Stormwater Coalition of Monroe County
- Rochester Institute of Technology
- Brighton Creeks
- ColorBrightonGreen.org
- Town of Brighton
- Brighton Central School District
- Monroe County Water Quality Coordinating Committee
- Monroe County Dept. Environmental Services
- Rochester Museum and Science Center
- Water Education Collaborative
- Broccolo Tree and Lawn Care
- Great Lakes Committee, Rochester Regional Group— Sierra Club
- Monroe County Soil & Water Conservation District

#### **Five Star Restoration Funding from:**

- National Association of Counties
- National Fish and Wildlife Foundation
- US Environmental Protection Agency
- Southern Company
- Fedex

### **Project Contact Information:**

Paul Sawyko, Coordinator Water Education Collaborative 585 753 5441 psawyko@monroecounty.gov

Gabe Pendleton, RIT Intern 610 513 3770 gnp6022@rit.edu





Community Partners

(and You)

Working Together







Tel: 585 753 5441

## **How You Can Participate...**

You can help restore Buckland Creek by making your home part of the solution to stormwater pollution. Stormwater runoff from roofs and driveways transports pollutants, including sediment, automotive fluids, and bacteria to the Creek.

Rain barrels, rain gardens, and streamside plantings are easy ways you can capture and reuse rainwater, or soak it into the ground, so that it does not become stormwater runoff.

With the benefit of grant support, the Community Partners can provide you with assistance and supplies to install any of these practices around your home. For details, attend one of the project meetings or refer to the Project Contact Information.

### **Rain Barrels:**

A rain barrel is used to collect and store the rain water from your roof so that you can reuse it in your garden.



A rain barrel installed at a Brighton home.

### **Rain Gardens:**

A rain garden is a planted, shallow depression that is designed to receive runoff from your roof or driveway and quickly soak it into the ground. Rain gardens are not ponds and are generally dry. Planted with native vegetation, a rain garden can be an attractive feature in your home landscape.



Proper siting of a rain garden is critical.

### **Streamside Plantings:**

If you are fortunate enough to have Buckland Creek flowing through your property, you have the opportunity to protect water quality by planting native vegetation along the bank. Trees and shrubs reduce streambank erosion and shade the creek, helping to maintain the proper temperature for aquatic life.

