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***Press Release***



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:** **CONTACT:** Adrianna Calderon October 19th, 2023 610-782-3002

**Lehigh County Conservation District Implements Stormwater Pollution Prevention Project**

 **ALLENTOWN, PA-** The Lehigh County Conservation District, in partnership with Lehigh County, received funding from the Pennsylvania Association of Conservation Districts to implement a stormwater pollution prevention project at Cedar View Apartments in Allentown, Pa.

The Lehigh County Conservation District was established by Lehigh County Commissioners on September 26, 1946, at the request of a significant number of landowners in the county. It is one of sixty-six conservation districts in Pennsylvania and nearly 3,000 nationwide. The past half-century has seen the Lehigh County Conservation District employ its own staff to address a variety of resource management concerns: agricultural nutrient management, biosolids application, as well as soil conservation; erosion and sediment control from urban development sites, farmland preservation, conservation education, and watershed protection.

The stormwater pollution prevention project includes the installation of a rain garden, which will collect surface runoff from adjacent parking lots and mowed lawn. In addition, residents will learn about the importance of minimizing stormwater runoff and non-point source pollutants reaching our local waterways through an educational Open House taking place on October 27, 2023 from 11:30am – 12:30pm.

The rain garden will include an educational sign and a rock garden, where residents can paint and place rocks for the community to enjoy. In addition, an educational brochure will be distributed during the open house and available in Cedar View Apartments.

Attached photos include the outline of the proposed rain garden, and the rain garden after sod and soil have been removed.

Rick Molchany, Director of General Services, stated, “educational opportunities help us inform the public on efforts that they can do with their properties to assist in removing pollutants from our waterways. Efforts like this are applauded, appreciated, and I’m thrilled for our Conservation District partner efforts to assist”.

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