Water running over rocks tends to cleanse itself as impurities bubble out. Also, the sound of running water attracts wildlife.

Pervious concrete: The pervious concrete path extends completely throughout the exhibit. Pervious concrete contains openings that allow rain water to soak through into the soil below. This helps replenish groundwater supplies, making more water available for humans, animals and plants. Standard concrete, asphalt and other nonporous paving materials divert rainwater into ditches and waterways keeping it from soaking into the ground. The faster water runs off paved areas, the more likely it is to cause soil erosion and allow pollutants to get into our drinking water supply. Our contractor for all of PWQ's pervious installation is Jim Miller, of C2 Products in Arcadia, Indiana.

Model home: This model home demonstrates some conservation activities available to homeowners. The home makes good use of trees. Summer shade lowers energy needed to cool the home. Trees growing on the west side form a wind break, helping to keep the home warmer in winter. The yard is well covered in grass. This holds soil in place and allows rainwater to slow down as it runs off, allowing more water to soak into the ground. Fertilizers used on the yard are phosphorus-free and contain only the needed amounts of nitrogen and potassium. This lowers the amount of fertilizer running off into waterways during heavy rains, thereby decreasing algae blooms in lakes and streams.

Wildlife benefit from the bird feeders scattered throughout the yard. Small birds will enjoy a meal and may become a meal themselves for predators and birds of prey. Bird feeders are a good place to watch, and explain the need for "the circle of life."

Native plants areas: Native plants and flowers growing around and behind the home provide natural food and shelter for wildlife. Natives are attractive additions to the yard. The flowering plants add color at varying times of the season, and grasses form edging, dividers and barriers. Their growth patterns and nutritional content fill the needs of native wildlife. Non-native plants produce attractive blooms and green leaves, but do not provide the nutrients needed by Indiana's wild creatures.

Native plants also keep soil in place. Their long roots hold securely throughout the seasons including periods of flood and drought and they create tunnels in the soil to allow for better infiltration. Many non-natives aren't as deeply rooted. Native plants also grow in a symbiotic relationship, meaning they keep each other in check, ensuring that each species will be available when needed. Non-natives can become invasive, over-crowding native plants. Some crowd out all natives and leave the soil below them bare and exposed to erosion.

Rain barrels are used to conserve water and reduce runoff. The barrel, located at the corner of the home, gathers water running off the roof. The water can be used to water plants, wash cars or fill any other outside need. This lessens the need for municipal water lowering the demand on the utility and the homeowner's water bill.

Rain gardens are plant-filled depressions in the yard. They collect rainwater and hold it for a few days, allowing it to soak into the ground. This replenishes groundwater supplies and lessens erosion from runoff. The plants are native to the area. They are water-loving; they store water in their leaves and stalks, releasing it as needed by the plant and the surrounding soil. This reduces the homeowner's need to water.

Compost bin: The compost bin provides the homeowner with a way to send less trash to the landfill. Vegetation from the home and yard, food scraps, leaves, coffee grounds and many other organic materials can be composted. By mixing and decomposing, these materials will be turned into fertilizer and humus for use in the garden, flower beds and around trees. No need to buy fertilizer when you can compost.

Septic System: A septic system model is located behind the house. Some homes are not close enough to a sewer system and instead use a septic system to treat wastewater onsite. Failing septic systems can contribute nutrients and pathogens to groundwater and streams and lakes. Proper maintenance and care can help keep septic systems working properly and in turn protect human health and water quality.

with you. These numbers are not shared with anyone other than Day Coordinators.

You are responsible for the shift/shifts you sign up for. You will receive a confirmation email when you sign up for a shift. You'll also receive a reminder email a day or two before your shift/s. If you cannot work a shift/s, it is **your responsibility** to find a substitute/s, so have someone in mind before-hand who is willing and able to fill in for you at the last minute (someone from your agency or organization).

If you need to change a shift, simply go back to the online sign up and make the change. All volunteers who sign up by July 1 will receive a complimentary admission ticket to the fair. After that date, we cannot guarantee that the ticket will arrive in time. We will do our best to see that you receive your State Fair ticket (all will be email this year!).

When you arrive for your shift, check in with the Day Coordinator at the water history cabin located back by the pasture/grazing area near the water pump. He/she will give you a PWQ badge and a T-shirt. This person is your point of contact during your shift. If you need to leave Pathway during your shift, please let t

The water history cabin is air conditioned and is for PWQ volunteers only. This is a place you may store any personal belongings you might bring with you. The cabin is not locked, so do not store any valuables in there. Most of the time, we have several volunteers nearby but they are not responsible for your belongings. There is a refrigerator you can use. Remember to stay hydrated! We have the best water available at the state fair – so bring your water bottle. Wear comfortable shoes, sunscreen and a hat (if you want). Mosquitos can be a problem at times and there is insect repellent spray in the cabin for you to use.

Remember

- If you see something, say something. Report any suspicious behavior or activity to the day coordinator or security.
- Arrive early for your shift (weekends and Two-dollar Tuesdays are extremely busy. It may take 30 to 60 minutes to get into the fairgrounds) and check in with the day coordinator (don't just go to your area). If you are signing up for the first or last shift of the day, please help the day coordinator in setting up or putting away display items.
- If you are unable to make your shift time, it is your responsibility to find a replacement or trade with someone. It is extremely difficult to get last minute volunteers and get them tickets.
- Plan lunch or dinner breaks before or after your shifts.
- **Note parking information:** Your State Fair admission ticket **DOES NOT** include parking in the infield. Parking expenses **are not** reimbursed by the Pathway Committee, so please check with your employer about their policy for reimbursement. Volunteers (and employees) can park for free at the 46th Street lot with an admission ticket and ride the State Fair shuttle to the fairgrounds. It can take as long as 45 minutes to arrive at the exhibit, so plan plenty of time to get to this lot, park and get to Pathway before your shift. Shuttle service runs to and from the fairgrounds daily, so you will be able to get back to your car by bus. Parking also is available in the State Fair infield for $ per car. A list of additional parking opportunities is available on the state fair website.
- Restrooms are located nearby PWQ (in the green building) and in the Normandy Barn (large white barn located in Pioneer Village). Please let someone know if you are leaving your area. Day Coordinators will give you a break during your shift.
- Click here for the PWQ Web site

PWQ Demonstrations

Sign up to provide a demonstration! Have a unique soil and water activity? Share it at Pathway to Water Quality!