

To do the word search, first read these paragraphs then find the words listed below.

The United States has made tremendous advances since Congress passed the Clean Water Act in 1972 to clean up the aquatic **environment** by controlling **pollution** from industries and sewage treatment plants. Today, **nonpoint source** pollution remains the nation's largest source of **water** quality problems. Sometimes referred to as polluted runoff, nonpoint source pollution occurs when rainfall, snowmelt, or irrigation runs over land or through the ground, picks up pollutants, and deposits them into surface waters or introduces them into ground water. The most common nonpoint source pollutants are **sediments** and **nutrients**. Other common nonpoint source pollutants include **pesticides**, pathogens, salts, oils, and excess **fertilizer**.

The **watershed** approach is the preferred way to restore a stream, river, or lake. It looks beyond the waterbody itself and examines the entire drainage area, including all the potential sources of pollution that drain into it. Water **conservation** uses practices and technologies that limit water use in the bathroom, kitchen, laundry room, lawn, driveway, and garden. Conserving water reduces the demand on existing water supplies and limits the amount of water that runs off the land. **Runoff** should also be minimized by using **low impact** development (LID) techniques, which work with the natural landscape and native plants to soak up more rainwater by improving infiltration. Low impact development solutions include **rain gardens** and green roofs, which treat rainwater as a precious resource. Other ways to control polluted runoff include **erosion** control techniques such as silt fencing around construction sites, establishment of **riparian** (vegetated) zones next to waterbodies to filter out pollutants, and **xeriscape** landscaping, which incorporates native plants that minimize maintenance needs. Finally, many local groups organize volunteer **monitoring** efforts, which provide information that can help government agencies understand the impacts of nonpoint source pollution and solve problems. Working together, we can all make a difference.

Can You Find These Words? (*Circle each one*)

Nonpoint Source
Runoff
Watershed
Monitoring
Conservation
Environment
Water
Pollution
Low Impact

Rain Gardens
Nutrients
Sediment
Pesticide
Fertilizer
Xeriscape
Riparian
Erosion

A	N	O	N	P	O	I	N	T	S	O	U	R	C	E
N	P	U	L	O	W	I	M	P	A	C	T	I	O	P
L	T	S	T	N	E	M	I	D	E	S	W	P	R	A
O	W	A	T	R	N	B	K	C	M	L	E	A	A	C
N	A	F	D	U	I	Y	F	F	O	N	U	R	I	S
O	T	E	W	O	T	E	R	B	W	T	N	I	N	I
I	E	R	Y	L	P	M	N	R	G	C	D	A	G	R
T	R	T	P	O	L	L	U	T	I	O	N	N	A	E
A	S	I	E	M	S	T	D	W	S	R	I	F	R	X
V	H	L	S	K	B	W	K	J	U	R	S	L	D	N
R	E	I	T	C	T	U	A	S	O	I	M	R	E	O
E	D	Z	I	P	L	V	O	T	A	W	Z	H	N	I
S	E	E	C	M	F	H	I	R	E	D	L	M	S	S
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O	D	I	D	V	O	C	M	D	J	T	J	E	G	R
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