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Local  
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Details for rain gardens and  
streamside buffers can be  
found at:

Northwest Conservation  
District  
[www.ncd@conservect.org](http://www.ncd@conservect.org)

Housatonic Valley Association  
[www.hvatoday.org](http://www.hvatoday.org)



# Low Impact Development

This information  
provided by the



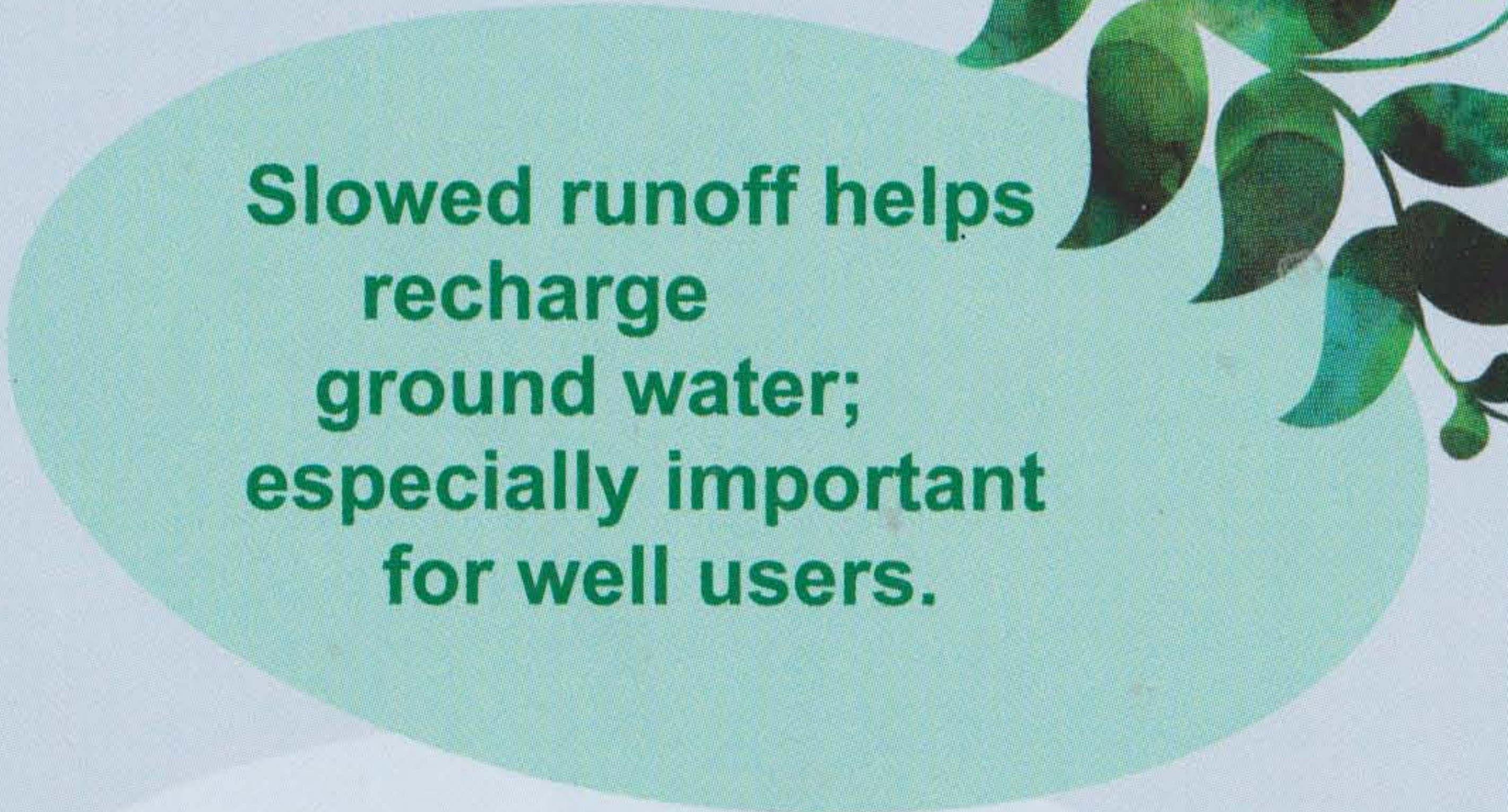
Lori Welles



*in Cornwall CT*



*In this hilly corner, what we do in our yards - or don't - has impact far afield. Runoff from rain, snowmelt and garden hoses rush a wide variety of contaminants from roofs, lawns and driveways into waterways, marshes and other sensitive areas.*



**Slowed runoff helps recharge ground water; especially important for well users.**

**Rain barrels collect water that can be used for watering gardens and other purposes. Or, direct downspouts toward lawns and rain gardens.**



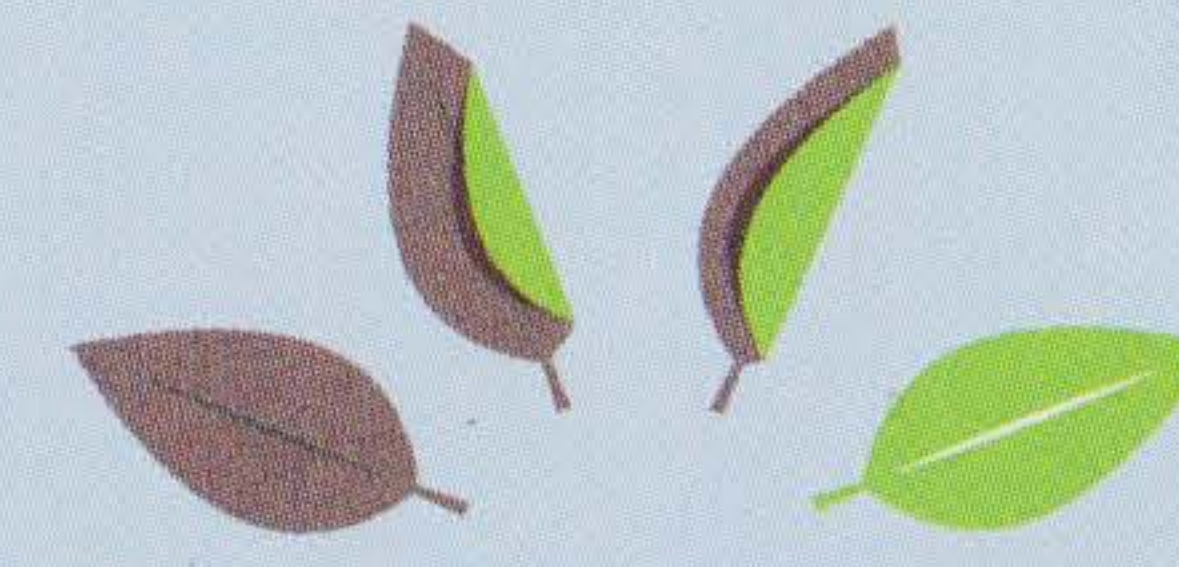
**Rain gardens are grouped plantings in shallow depressions, placed in low spots or near downspouts. They require little maintenance and provide wildlife habitats.**



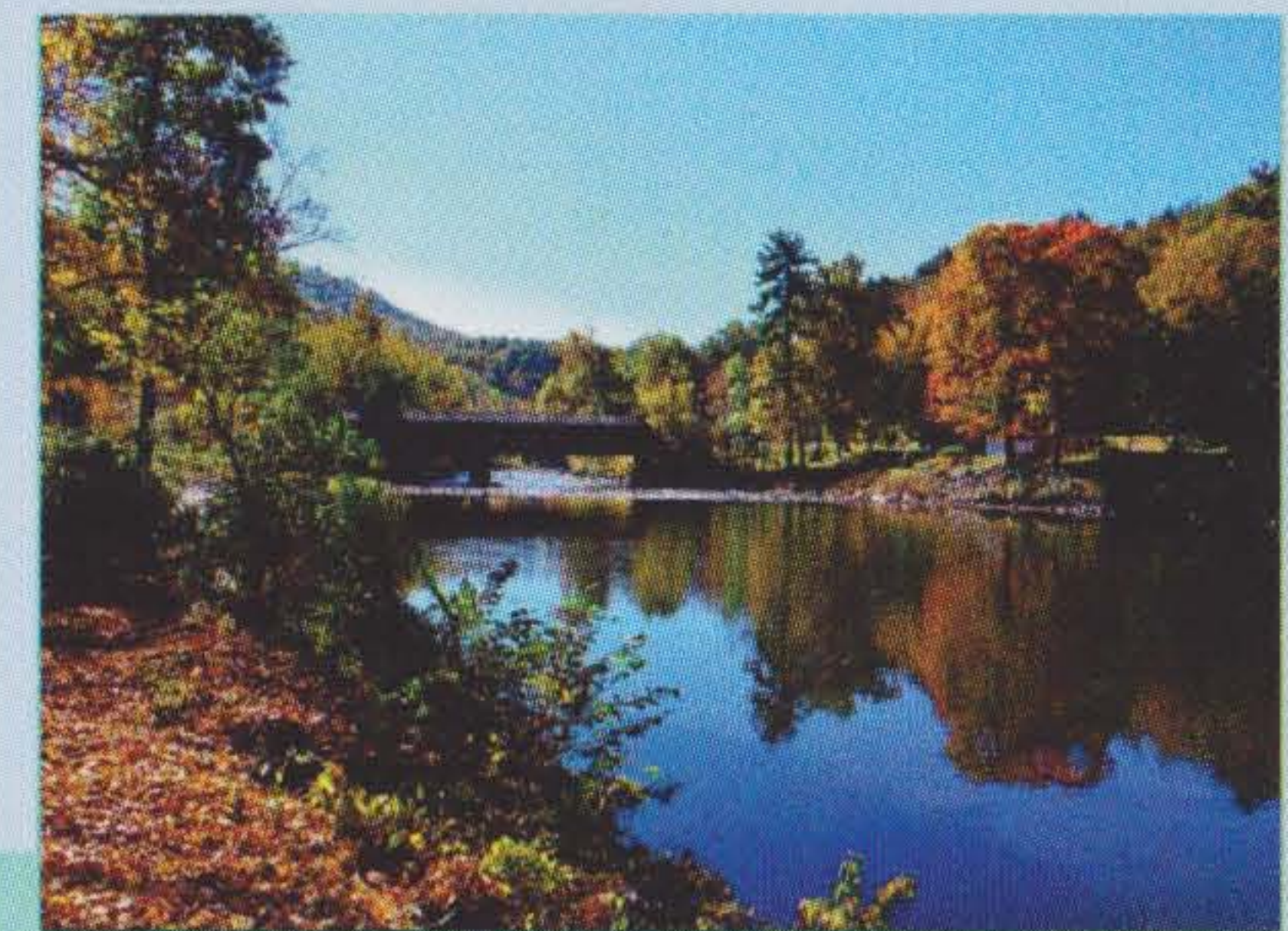
**Retain native trees and shrubs and remove invasives to develop a dense root system.**



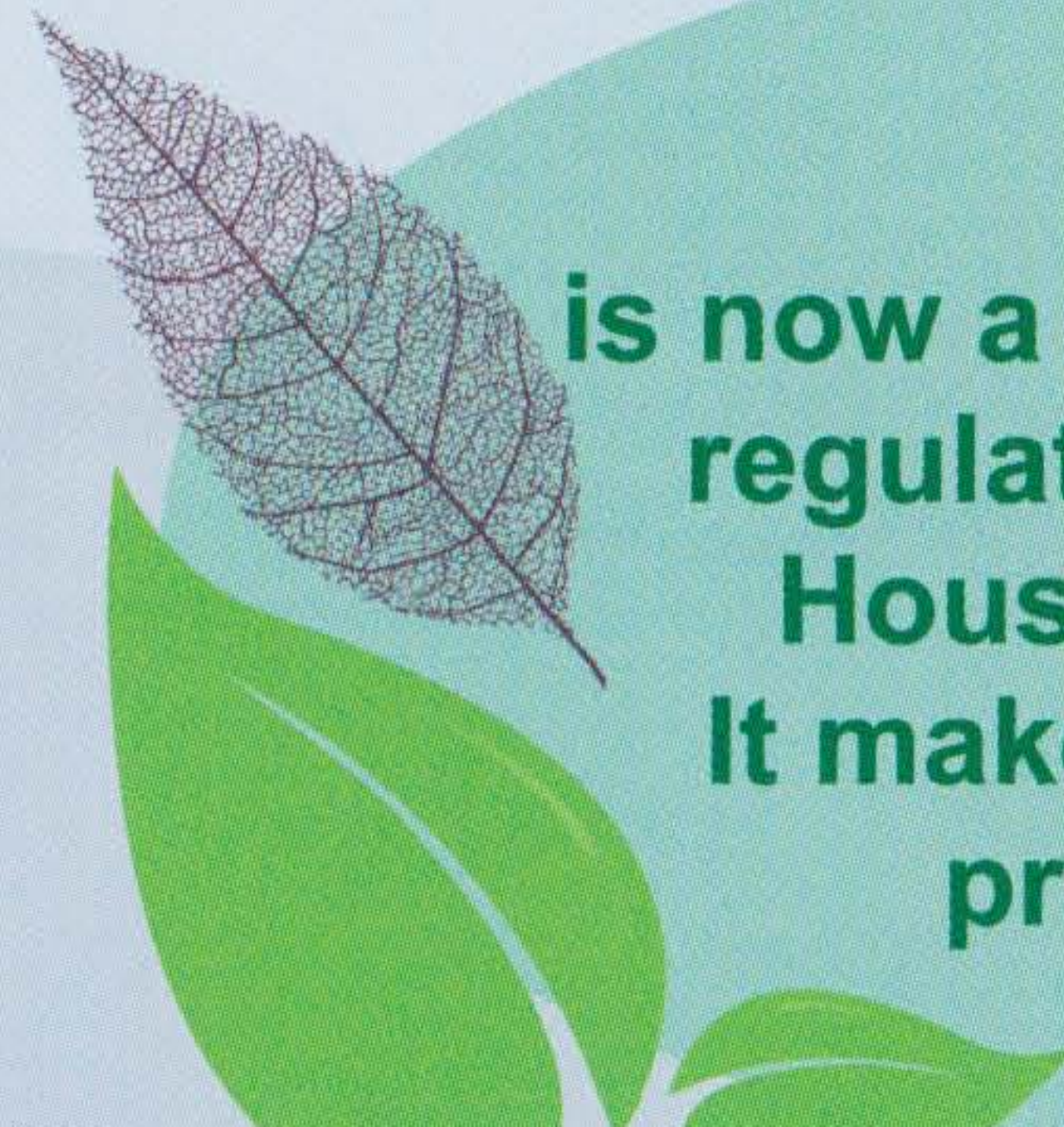
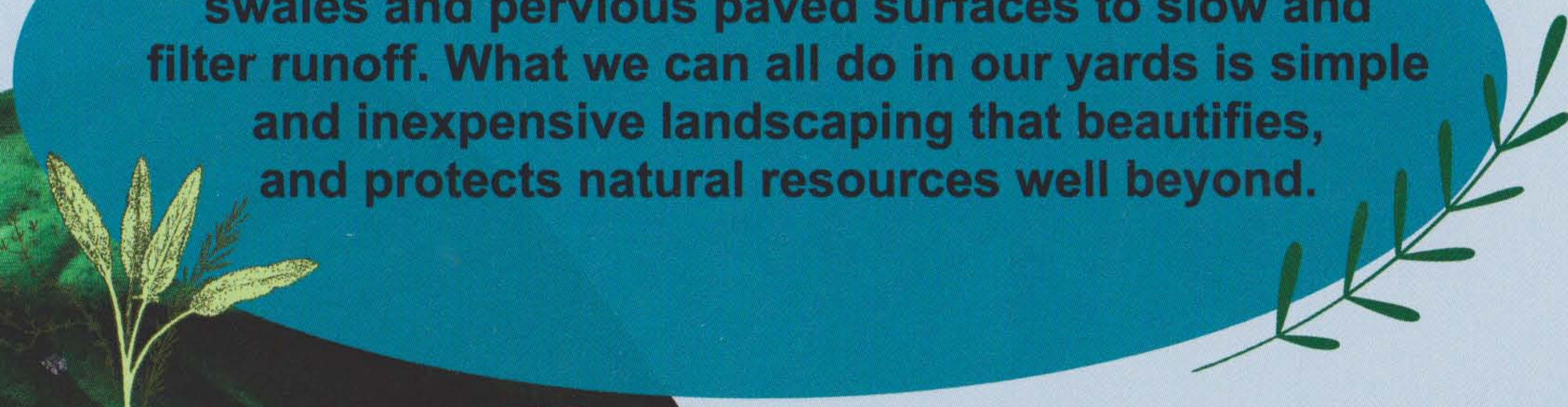
**Vegetated swales and streamside buffers protect water quality and prevent erosion that ruins property and sends harmful sediment into waterways.**



**Use pervious materials for driveways, walks and terraces, such as gravel and spaced pavers.**



**Low Impact Development, or LID, uses plantings, swales and pervious paved surfaces to slow and filter runoff. What we can all do in our yards is simple and inexpensive landscaping that beautifies, and protects natural resources well beyond.**



**LID is now a part of Cornwall's zoning regulations that pertain to the Housatonic River corridor. It makes sense as a common practice everywhere.**