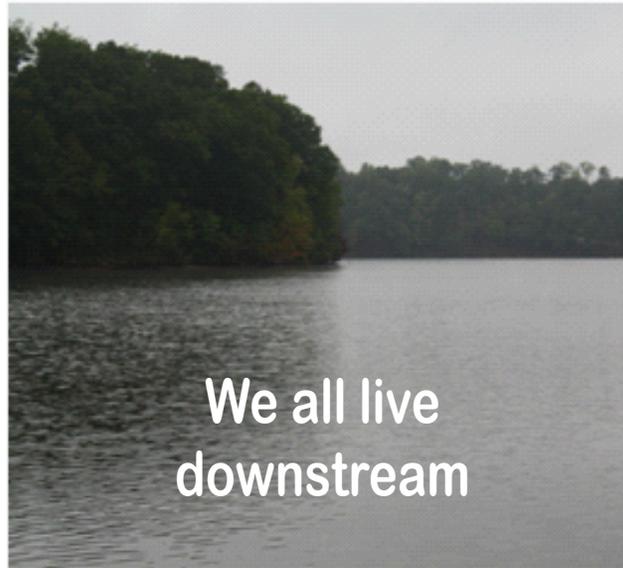


Top 10 Reasons for Maintaining Riparian Buffers

1. Slow water runoff
2. Prevent erosion
3. Enhance water infiltration to soils
4. Trap sediment
5. Trap fertilizers, pesticides, bacteria, pathogens, and heavy metals
6. Improve fish habitat
7. Offer a natural habitat for wildlife
8. Adds beauty and value to your land
9. Provides recreational opportunities
10. Reduce flooding



For more information on water quality and stormwater management, go to:

www.StormwaterSMART.org

or contact

Stormwater SMART
2216 W. Meadowview Road
Wilmington Building, Suite 201
Greensboro, NC 27407
Phone (336) 294-4950; Fax (336) 632-0457
email: stormwatersmart@ptcog.org

Riparian Buffers: Keeping Our Waters Clean



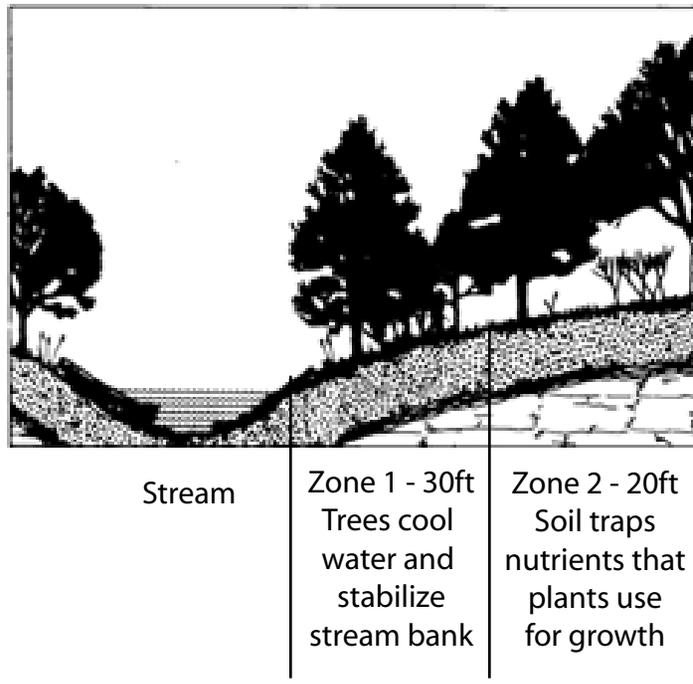
Please protect our waters by leaving a buffer.



How Do Riparian Buffers Work?

When vegetation borders the streams and lakes the plants slow the flow of surface runoff, allowing time for the plants and soil to absorb the water before it enters the stream, rivers or lakes.

Plants and soil trap, absorb and filter pollutants found in stormwater runoff including fertilizers, pesticides, oil, metals and other nutrients.



Why Buffers?

Riparian buffers significantly reduce nitrogen loads and other nutrients from entering streams and therefore represent important nutrient best management practices (BMPs) for land managers.

50 foot buffers are mandated by the Jordan Lake Rules and your local municipality will be implementing ordinances soon!

Buffers improve our water quality and reduce flooding and erosion.

Jordan Lake Rules Buffer Regulations:

Riparian Buffers are 50 feet wide and are split into two vegetated zones:

Zone One is 30 feet from the top of the bank. Within this zone, vegetation must not be disturbed.

Zone Two is an additional 20 feet outside the undisturbed zone. Limited disturbance (i.e. pruning) is allowed within this zone.

Existing development is exempt from these regulations.

For a full description of activities that are exempt from this rule or are allowable please visit:

<http://portal.ncdenr.org/web/wq/swpws/401/riparianbuffers/rules>

or

jordanlakerules.org

