



RIPARIAN BUFFERS

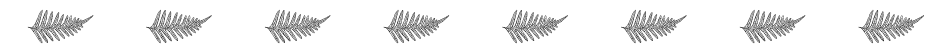
What is a Riparian Buffer?

The term "riparian" refers to the land that is directly adjacent to a stream. Riparian can also refer to the land adjacent to a wetland, pond, or lake.

A riparian buffer is a vegetated area along a body of water. This vegetation "buffers" the stream from the impacts of human activity - like farming, industry, urbanization, and livestock grazing - and protects the water quality of the stream.

Benefits of riparian buffers:

- Wildlife habitat
- Sediment filtration
- Reduced flooding
- Reduced erosion
- Carbon sequestration
- Groundwater recharge
- Lower water temperatures



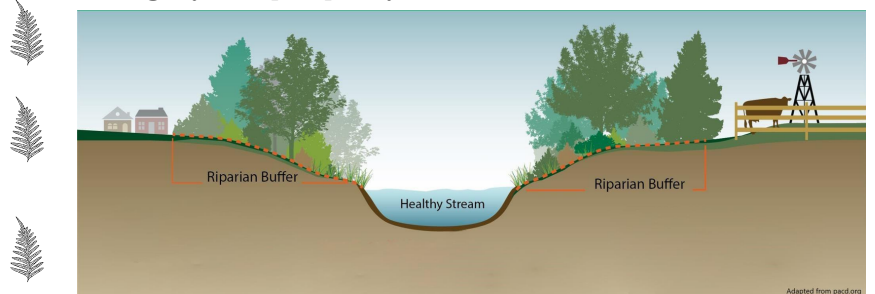
Components of a Riparian Buffer

Riparian buffers are a form of green infrastructure. By providing habitat, holding soil in place, and mitigating stormwater, they can be an asset in farm fields, backyards, and even urban areas! The main components of a buffer include:

- Trees
- Shrubs
- Grasses
- Forbs

Riparian buffers are planted with native plants that are adapted to Ohio's soils and climate. In addition to the environmental benefits that these buffers provide, they can be managed for fruit and berry production.

If you have a stream or other body of water that runs through your property, contact Columbiana SWCD.



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What Should I Plant In My Riparian Buffer?

When planting a riparian buffer, it is important to select trees, shrubs, and other species that are adapted to the saturated soil conditions found along streams. The Columbiana SWCD can help you create a planting plan for your riparian corridor. The district office will also help you determine the appropriate depth of the riparian buffer.

Trees

Box Elder *Acer negundo*
Black Maple *Acer nigrum*
Red Maple *Acer rubrum*
Silver Maple *Acer saccharinum*
Yellow Birch *Betula lutea*
River Birch *Betula nigra*
Shagbark Hickory *Carya ovata*
Hardy Catalpa *Catalpa speciosa*
Common Hackberry *Celtis occidentalis*
Eastern Redbud *Cercis canadensis*
Beech *Fagus grandifolia*
Kentucky Coffeetree *Gymnoclaus dioicus*
Butternut *Juglans cinerea*
Black Walnut *Juglans nigra*
Sweetgum *Liquidambar styraciflua*
Tulip Poplar *Liriodendron tulipifera*
Cucumber Magnolia *Magnolia acuminata*
Black Gum *Nyssa sylvatica*
Sycamore *Platanus occidentalis*
Cottonwood *Populus deltoides*
Quaking Aspen *Populus tremuloides*
Wild Black Cherry *Prunus serotina*
Chokecherry *Prunus virginiana*
Swamp White Oak *Quercus bicolor*
Bur Oak *Quercus macrocarpa*
Pin Oak *Quercus palustris*
Red Oak *Quercus rubrum*
Weeping Willow *Salix babylonica*
Black Willow *Salix nigra*

Shrubs

Allegheny Serviceberry *Amelanchier laevis*
Black Chokeberry *Aronia melanocarpa*
Common Pawpaw *Asimina triloba*
American Hornbeam *Carpinus caroliniana*
Buttonbush *Cephalanthus occidentalis*
Silky Dogwood *Cornus amomum*
Flowering Dogwood *Cornus florida*
Sumac *Rhus hirta*
Common Elderberry *Sambucus canadensis*
Arrowwood *Viburnum dentatum*
Nannyberry *Viburnum lentago*

Other Plants

Gray's Sedge *Carex grayi*
Northern Fox Sedge *Carex stipata*
Blunt Spike Rush *Eleocharis obtusa*
Fowl Manna Grass *Glyceria striata*
Southern Blue Flag Iris *Iris virginicus*
Cardinal Flower *Lobelia cardinalis*
Common Monkeyflower *Mimulus ringens*

There are many more species that are suitable for a riparian buffer. Contact the CSWCD for further information.

