# YOUR LEGACY. YOUR NATURAL RESOURCES.

Protect them all by planting a streamside buffer Learn more at dcnr.pa.gov/BufferMyStream.

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## THERE'S STILL TIME TO HAVE YOUR STREAMSIDE BUFFER PLANTED.

Act now to protect and enhance your property naturally, with trees!





#### So, what is a streamside buffer?

A streamside buffer is a deliberate planting of trees and shrubs along any size of waterway to protect it against erosion and pollution. Research shows that buffered streams are 2 to 8 times more effective in removing excess nutrients and other pollutants. Trees within these buffers act like sponges to slow rainwater runoff, keeping your land intact and protecting your property value.

#### THE BENEFITS OF STREAMSIDE BUFFERS



**Reduced erosion:** Tree roots hold streambanks in place.



Improved habitats: Streamside buffers create better natural conditions for wildlife in the water and on land, including trout and pollinators.



**Enriched landscape:** Buffers add shade, privacy and help with property value.



**Cleaner water:** Trees and shrubs filter pollution.

#### WHICH STREAM LOOKS HEALTHIER TO YOU?





Without a streamside buffer, heavy rainfall can cause pollution to run off into your waterway—and even erode streambanks.

As the streamside buffer matures, its ability to filter out pollution increases. That results in cleaner water and healthier land.

### Everyone benefits from good stewardship.

Cleaner water and healthier land benefits all Pennsylvanians. Planting a streamside buffer shows your neighbors that you are a good steward of your land and how much you value your community.



Chip Brown, owner of Pointer Haven Lodge in Centre County and 109 acres along Elk Creek "When you have a piece of land, you have to be a good steward of it," Chip Brown says. "Streamside buffers improve the health of the soil while cleaning and protecting the waterways."

"Being a good neighbor is very important to us, and our buffers are the best BMP to manage stormwater and is the best and last defense for keeping pollution out of our streams. Our neighbors appreciate the cleaner water

and the wildlife the buffers bring to the area," notes Roger Rohrer. "Buffers are not only a great asset for improving our farm's environmental footprint, but they also enhance our neighborhood's quality of life for all."



Roger Rohrer, farm owner and operator in the heart of Lancaster County