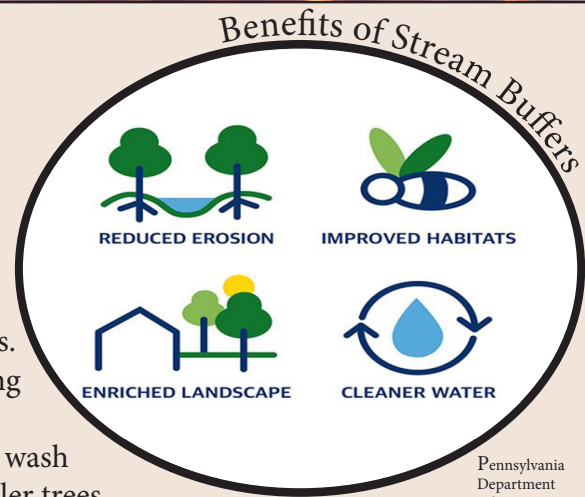


Green Ribbons of Life

Stream buffers, also known as riparian strips, are the green ribbons of life that protect our waterways. These living networks of native grasses, low-growing shrubs, flowers, and trees link land and water with robust root systems to support the banks. Streamside forests are nature's water filters, shock absorbers, and sponges. Trees and shrubs are the stream's last defense protecting waterways from pollution and damage.

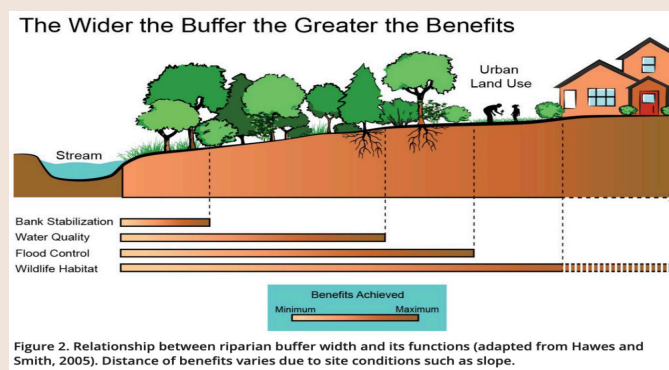
Stream buffers are essential for good water quality and healthy streams. They help prevent pollutants, pesticides, nutrients, and sediment from entering rivers and streams. Riparian strips are also crucial for wildlife habitat and productive fisheries. Root systems hold the soil in place so sediment does not wash into the stream and smother fish eggs or benthic insects, while shade from taller trees help keep the stream at a cooler temperature. Leaves and other debris provide food for insects that fish eat.



How to help your stream!

- Stop mowing to the edge of the bank.
- Maintain a healthy stand of native trees and shrubs. For streamside buffers, the wider the better. A minimum of 50 feet of vegetation is recommended.
- Avoid using fertilizers or pesticides near waterways.
- Keep cattle and motorized vehicles out of waterways.
- Plant areas of exposed soil and control erosion when disturbing soil.
- Repair damaged streamside buffers by planting appropriate trees or shrubs.

Boone County has established a stream buffer ordinance to protect streams and encourage riparian zones. The stream buffer comprises two zones, predominantly undisturbed strips of land extending along both sides of a stream and their adjacent wetlands, floodplains, or slopes. The type of stream and slope determine the size and presence of the setback regulation of the buffer system. You can read more about the Stream Buffer Ordinance at www.showmeboone.com/resource-management/regulations/



Stormwater Fact

A good riparian buffer can remove up to 80 percent of excessive nutrient inputs from pesticides, fertilizers, and animal waste.

-PennState

MS4 Stormwater Management Program

Under the federal Clean Water Act, Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) permits are issued to cities, counties and other public entities across the nation that operate a stormwater drainage system that collects and manages stormwater runoff and discharges it to streams, lakes and other water bodies. An MS4 is a conveyance or system of conveyances (roads with drainage systems, municipal streets, catch basins, curbs, gutters, ditches, manufactured channels, storm drains, etc.) that send water to our local creeks and streams.

Boone County has been a regulated Phase II MS4 since 2003, under the direction of the Missouri Department of Natural Resources through the Environmental Protection Agency, and is jointly permitted with the City of Columbia and the University of Missouri. This partnership is known as Show-Me Stormwater Management, and has implemented a variety of programs and initiatives to address stormwater quality since that time.

Event Calendar

January 19th

5:00-7:00 pm

Stormwater Management Plan Interested Persons Meeting

January 26th

6:00-8:00 pm

Produce Safety for Community Gardens and Home Gardeners

February 3rd-March 17th

Thursday's 6:30-8:00 pm

2022 Home Gardening Webinar Series

March 9th

6:00-7:30 pm

Soil 101 and Understanding Soil Test Reports

April 9th

9:00am-12:30 pm

Monitoring Blitz in Rock Bridge Memorial

This permit requires Show-Me Stormwater Management to develop a stormwater management plan. This document establishes a 5-year plan of action summarizing how Show-Me Stormwater Management plans to address and evaluate water quality impacts from stormwater through six Minimum Control Measures:

1. Public Education and Outreach
2. Public Involvement and Participation
3. Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination
4. Construction Site Runoff Control
5. Post-Construction Runoff Control
6. Pollution Prevention/Good Housekeeping

The Draft 2021-2026 Stormwater Management Plan is up for review!

Show-Me Stormwater Management invites the public to review and offer written comments on the proposed Stormwater Management Plan.

All written comments on the proposed Stormwater Management Plan comments must be received or postmarked on January 26, 2022 by 5:00 pm.

To learn more or comment, please visit

www.showmeboone.com/stormwater/ms4.asp

Quick Quiz

Take this quick quiz at <https://forms.gle/W5epDq3mRW2Rgd9i6> or send it to Michele Woolbright in Resource Management, or email them to Stormwater@boonecountymo.org with your answers by December 23rd. Participants can win a travel mug!

1. What event is on January 19th?

2. What is a benefit of a stream buffer?

3. What are two minimum control measures (MCM) for the Stormwater Management Plan?
