

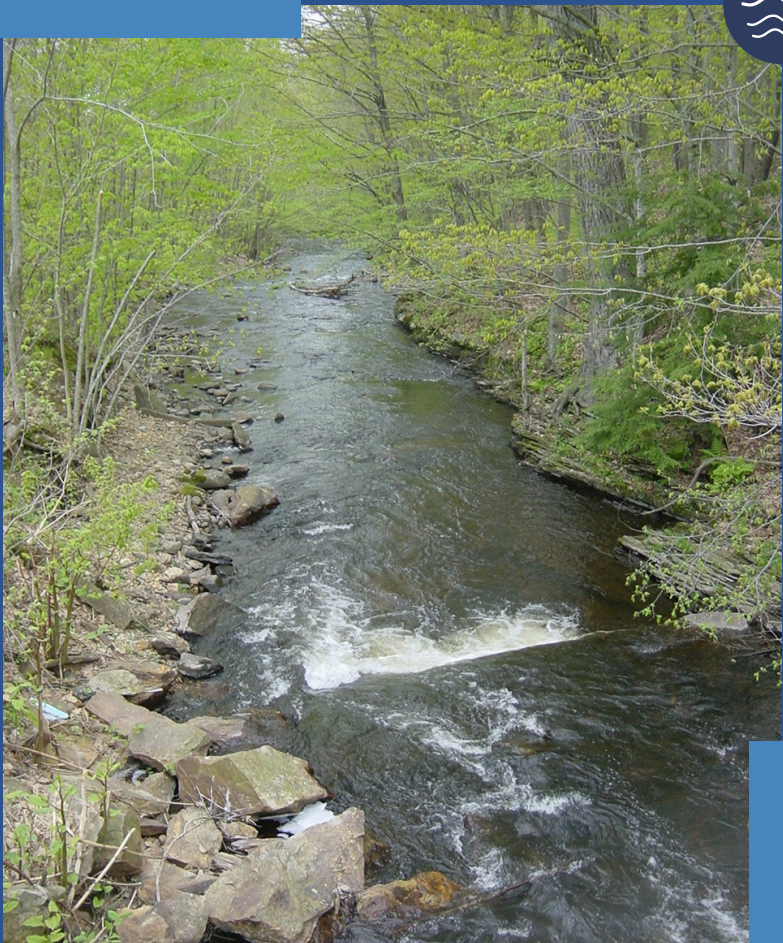
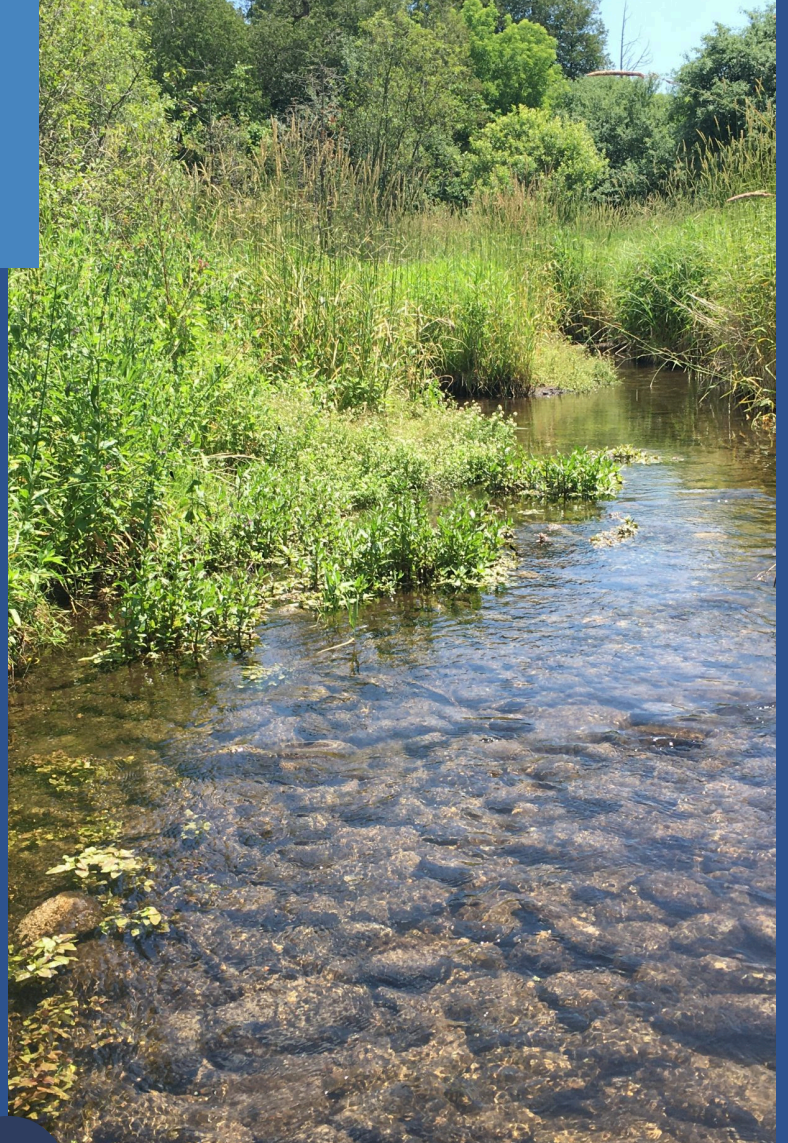
Stream Buffers

What is a stream buffer?

A stream buffer, often called a "riparian" buffer, is a strip of land directly adjacent to the stream bank, typically extending 50 to 100 feet from the water's edge.

This area serves as a crucial defense against stormwater pollution.

Regulatory measures limit development and land clearing within this zone to ensure that trees and vegetation can effectively filter pollutants from stormwater before it enters the stream.



What is allowed in a stream buffer?

The NC Division of Water Quality regulates activities permitted within a stream buffer.

There are two protection zones:

Zone 1 includes the 30 feet closest to the stream and this area is to be left "undisturbed."

Zone 2 includes the area 30-50 feet from the stream, and this area may be graded as long as it is revegetated, and no building is allowed.

 (252) 296-3305

