

Solve the word-find!

U M S O N P R C A L
 K U E J P O U N A T
 U S E Q Q N J Q C N
 K K R E R O S I O N
 E V T T X G V S O T
 Z I L D D V Z F I P
 X Z C J O N I R X C
 K U B H I M R G J U
 S T N A T U L L O P
 Y L R J N P J R A Q
 T S X U L K R E K T
 I E Y R P E K T J K
 L D P A I L R A V M
 A I M G Z Y U W M B
 U C S E X W N M Q Q
 Q I C A J A O R M Y
 H T A S G F F O P P
 B S V N V Q F T T R
 E E F F Q A D S N L

Quality	Runoff	Stormwater
Pollutants	Pesticides	Rain
Trees	Bank	Erosion



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with you and me!



Riparian Buffers

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Riparian Buffers protect water quality!

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What is a Riparian Buffer?

A riparian buffer is a strip of vegetation along the banks of a stream. Buffers are commonly 50 feet deep on each side of a stream.



Stormwater is the water that runs off hard surfaces when it rains or snow melts. Driveways, sidewalks, and other hard surfaces collect lots of pollutants like pesticides and motor oil. When it rains, this untreated polluted water flows directly into our streams and lakes.



Why is it important?

1. Buffers moderate stream temperature and the amount of sunlight on the stream.
2. Buffers mitigate flooding downstream by absorbing stormwater and slowly releasing it.
3. Buffers improve food webs and species richness by providing natural habitats.
4. Buffers reduce erosion by strengthening stream banks.
5. Buffers filter pollutants such as sediment, phosphorus, and pesticides through the soil before entering the stream.