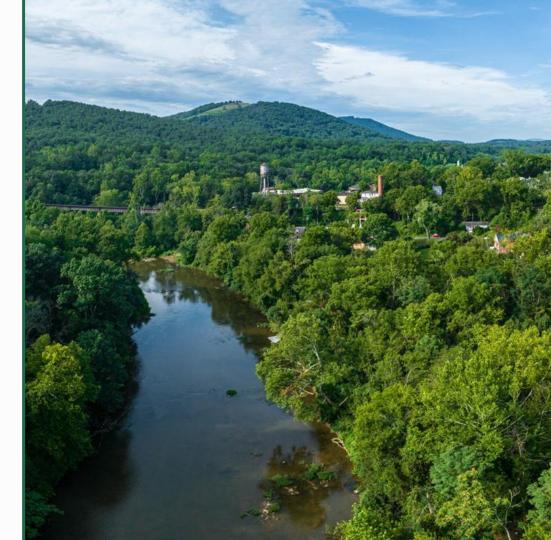


PEC's Mission

Protect and restore the lands and waters of the Virginia Piedmont, while building stronger, more sustainable communities.



Plantings for the Piedmont

- Headwater Stream Initiative began in 2016 in Upper Rapp Watershed. Has since expanded to Potomac and York
- Provides free technical assistance, project design, materials, and labor for the planting of native trees and shrubs in riparian and upland zones
- Collaboration between:
 - o FOR
 - o VDOF
 - Local Soil and WaterConservation Districts
 - NRCS



What is a riparian buffer?

A riparian buffer is an area adjacent to a stream, lake, or wetland that contains a combination of trees, shrubs, and/or other perennial plants and is managed differently from the surrounding landscape, primarily to provide conservation benefits.





Why are riparian buffers important?

- Reduces erosion and stabilizes stream banks
- Filters out pollution, such as sediment or nutrient
- Provides shade, which moderates water temperatures for aquatic wildlife
- Provides habitat for invertebrate, fish, and wildlife
- Provides organic material as food for invertebrate, fish and wildlife
- Reduces the impacts of flooding through temporary storage, interception and slow releases from heavy rains



Plantings for the Piedmont Requirements

- The property must be located within the upper Rappahannock, Potomac, or York watersheds. This includes the following counties: Rappahannock, Culpeper, Greene, Madison, Orange, Fauquier, Loudoun*, and Clarke counties.
- The property needs to have a body of water (stream, creek, river, pond, or wetland area).
 Upland plantings are restricted to agricultural properties.



Plantings for the **Piedmont Requirements**

- If the property has livestock, there must be exclusion fencing protecting the proposed planting area.
- The project cannot fulfill any regulatory requirements for replanting or mitigation associated with development.
- Landowners must be willing to commit to a minimum 35' riparian buffer.









Thank You!

pecva.org
pecva.org/buffers

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Contributions like yours make the work PEC does possible.

