

FISH GROW ON TREES

That is, fish need trees to grow.

Trees along a stream bank maintain the health of the stream and the fish population in the stream. Trees are part of the riparian buffer of a stream.

The riparian buffer:

- Helps to maintain the stream banks. The root systems of large woody plants keep the stream banks from eroding. Eroding banks clog streams contribute to stream sediment.



- Reduces pollution of the stream by lawn fertilizers or run-off from roads.
- Supplies food for many of the critters that live in the stream, including fish.
- Shades the stream, allowing fish, such as trout who need cold water, to survive.
- Improves wildlife habitat.
- Provides a natural corridor for wildlife.
- Enhances water quality.

If you have a stream bank on or near your property, please maintain it as a riparian buffer. Remove only invasive species and replace them with natives. A healthy stream is dependent upon a healthy riparian buffer.