

## Tips for Streamside Landowners

If you are fortunate to live along one of our community's streams, you play a major role in keeping the stream healthy and clean. Here are a few ways to protect your stream from pollution and erosion.

1. **Plant trees** or shrubs along the stream. Roots will hold the soil together and fallen leaves form the base of the food chain in the stream.
2. **Create a "no mow" zone** along the stream, allowing taller grasses to grow. This will stabilize streambanks and filter pollutants from runoff before reaching the stream. Just a few feet of no mow zone will make a difference, but extend this area as much as you can.
3. **Place structures outside of the floodplain.** To the extent possible, keeping garden sheds, driveways and other improvements away from the stream will give rainwater a chance to soak into the ground.
4. **Go easy on the fertilizer.** Use them only in accordance with manufacturer's guidelines and only when you are certain it is not going to rain soon. In areas that drain to a stream or pond, try going without fertilizer.
5. **Keep grass clippings, manure, and other waste piles away from the stream.** Nutrients and other pollutants can easily be washed into the stream.
6. **Keep farm animals out of streams.** Use fencing and control stream access.
7. **Redirect your downspouts** onto lawn or natural areas and away from driveways that lead to stormdrains in your street or streams. Better yet, direct them to a garden with water-loving plants.

For more tips on how to care for your streamside property, including recommendations on trees and flowers to plant, visit [www.delcocd.org/Streamside%20Property%20Bochure1.pdf](http://www.delcocd.org/Streamside%20Property%20Bochure1.pdf)

