RIPARIAN RESTORATION PROJECT

LOPATCONG CREEK TOWN OF PHILLIPSBURG

Riparian Forest Buffers

Communities of trees, shrubs and other plants growing along streams and lakes.

Buffer Benefits

Protect and enhance the water quality of streams and their aquatic environments by filtering non-point source pollutants such as sediment and nutrients from storm water runoff. Buffers also reduce streambank erosion and provide improved wildlife and fisheries habitat.

Additional Buffer Information:
www.northjerseyrcd.org
or
www.rce.rutgers.edu/njriparianforestbuffers

North Jersey Resource Conservation and Development
54 Old Highway 22
Suite 201
Clinton, NJ 08809-1389

Phone: 908-735-0733

Objectives of the Riparian Forest Buffer Projects were to demonstrate:

1. Effective site design utilizing naturally-occurring plant communities
2. Design flexibility that can incorporate such things as aesthetics, recreation & environmental benefit to a waterway in an urban setting
3. The use of native plants
4. Re-establish native plant communities along newly opened waterway

Waterway Buffered: Lopatcong Creek

Location: Pursel's Agway, South Main Street and Lock Street, Town of Phillipsburg, Warren County

Description: This riparian buffer planting was completed in conjunction with a dam removal and stream restoration project. The completed buffer consists of 66 native trees representing 9 different species & 208 native shrubs representing 9 different species.

Size: 860 feet long , 0.67 acres

Planting Date: April 2006

Total Cost: $7,497.00

Site prior to planting March 2003

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Dominant Trees & Shrubs Planted

Trees:

- Red Maple
- Sugar Maple
- Shadbush
- River Birch
- Ironwood
- Tulip Poplar
- Sycamore
- Black Cherry
- Plane Tree

Shrubs:

- Smooth Alder
- Red Osier Dogwood
- Witchhazel
- Winterberry
- Pussy Willow
- Elderberry
- Southern Arrow-wood

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Project Partners & Volunteers: The riparian forest buffer demonstration is part of a larger regional project, it was coordinated and implemented by North Jersey RC&D. The design was created by Princeton Hydro, LLC. Volunteers from NJ Youth Corps were invaluable participants in the planting and establishment of this planting site.

Project Funding: Originated from U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Nonpoint Source Pollution 319h grant program administered by the NJ Department of Environmental Protection through a grant awarded to the North Jersey RC&D.

Design Components

1. Buffer Installation: deer resistant species
2. Stabilize the streambank
3. Provide shade to moderate instream temperatures for trout habitat improvement

After planting September 2006

January 2006