

## RIPARIAN RESTORATION PROJECT

# MOUNTAIN LAKE BROOK- LIBERTY TOWNSHIP

### 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](http://www.northjerseyrcd.org)  
or  
[www.rce.rutgers.edu/njriparianforestbuffers](http://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 a natural area
3. The use of native plants
4. Control streambank erosion

Waterway Buffered: Mountain Lake Brook tributary to Pequest River

Location: Mountain Lake Bog Preserve, Liberty Township, Warren County

Description: State owned Natural Land area with passive recreation opportunities. There is approximately 2 acres of lawn area with a single row of trees along the brook below the outlet of Mt. Lake. Initial site preparation included removal of construction debris from the buffer area. The completed buffer consists of 31 native trees representing 11 different species & 67 native shrubs representing 10 different species.

Size: 200 feet long , 2 acres

Planting Date: June 2005

Total Cost: \$3,563.00



Site prior to planting May 2004

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### Dominant Trees & Shrubs Planted

#### Trees:

- Red Maple
- Shadbush
- River Birch
- American Hornbeam
- Sycamore
- Swamp White Oak
- White Ash
- Flowering Dogwood
- Black Willow

#### Shrubs:

- Speckled Alder
- Smooth Alder
- Silky Dogwood
- Grey Dogwood
- Winterberry
- Red Osier Dogwood
- Chokecherry
- Pussy Willow
- Highbush Blueberry

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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 North Jersey RC&D and Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) staff. Volunteers from NJ Youth Corps and township residents 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. Leave a designated area unplanted to allow the local fire company access to the brook for water supply.



After planting June 2005