



You may have noticed that many streams banks in Greensboro are greener these days. Changing the way we maintain our urban streams is just one step that the City is taking towards improving and protecting water quality. By allowing the areas bordering our streams to grow more naturally, rather than regularly mowing these areas, we are allowing the streams to function as a natural ecological system. The vegetated areas along our streams are commonly called “stream buffers”.

Benefits of Stream Buffers:

- Stabilizing stream banks and reducing soil erosion, a primary cause of water pollution.
- Vegetation acts as a filter to naturally protect and clean water.
- Provides shading for the water, which keeps it cooler, allowing fish and other aquatic life to thrive.

As stream buffers mature to create a canopy effect the taller trees will shade out the undergrowth and minimize the brushy look of the stream buffers. With time and effort, healthy natural streams will exist within our community.

Questions About Stream Buffers?

City Contact Center at 373-2489 (CITY) or visit: www.greensboro-nc.gov/stormwater

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How You Can Help?

The City encourages public involvement and participation in this process. If you would like to help protect our limited water resources in Greensboro, here is how you can get involved:

- Volunteer to plant trees in the stream buffer areas.
- Adopt a Stream
- Apply Drain Markers
- Report pollution issues and drainage concerns immediately.
- Don't Pollute!

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