

# **Loudoun Soil and Water Conservation District & Loudoun County**



**Non Agricultural Stream  
Riparian Buffer Planting  
Program**

# **What is the Program?**

**A project to incentivize the planting of riparian buffers on land not eligible for funding through the Traditional State Agricultural Cost Share Program.**

**Private landowners, HOAs, Businesses, and other commercial sites are all eligible.**

# **How do Buffers Help?**

- **Forested buffers help filter sediment and nutrients before they reach the stream channel.**
- **Trees help cool stream water, providing better habitat for insects, fish, and other wildlife.**
- **Trees provide aesthetic benefits to properties.**

# What areas need a buffer?

- **Un-forested areas with only short grasses or denuded areas.**



# Bare root plantings w/o tubes



# **How Does the Program Work?**

- **Landowners submit an application noting the size and location of the proposed planting on the site.**
- **Loudoun SWCD, County, and Forestry staff will rank the projects based on criteria such as size, stream impairments, and unique characteristics (ex. Trout stream)**

# **How Does the Program Work?**

**Applications will also include planned species choices (eligible species list provided)**

**Selected projects will be notified and Site visits conducted to inspect planting site and adjust plans as needed.**

# **How does the program work?**

- **Landowners will hire a contractor, or complete plantings on their own according to approved plans and keep copies of bills, and record a declaration of restriction protecting the buffer from destruction.**
- **Project will be inspected by District, County and Forestry personnel.**
- **Check for reimbursement will provided to the landowner.**
- **Site will be inspected again at 1 year to check for 75% survival, if needed replanting will occur to meet this criteria at owner expense.**

# **Deadlines**

**Applications due to Loudoun Soil and Water Conservation District by March 15<sup>th</sup>.**

**Approved projects will be notified by April 1<sup>st</sup>, and plantings shall be installed by May 1<sup>st</sup>.**

**This is a tight schedule!**

# Contact Information

- **Loudoun SWCD: 571-918-4530 ext. 107 (Chris Van Vlack)**

**[www.lswcd.org](http://www.lswcd.org)**

**-Virginia Dept. of Forestry (Loudoun)**

**703-777-0457**

**bryant.bays@dof.virginia.gov**

**(Bryant Bays)**

