

# Clean Water Through The Backyard Buffers Program



Chesapeake Bay Watershed

The Maryland DNR Forest Service presents the "Backyard Buffers" program. This program is designed to assist homeowners with land five acres or less, who have a stream or other waterway on or adjacent to their property to create a streamside buffer of native trees and shrubs. A streamside buffer can create habitat for wildlife, reduce peak water temperatures, and reduce the amount of sediment, fertilizer, and toxic materials that enter our waterways. Deep-rooted trees and shrubs can also stabilize stream banks, protecting them from erosion.

## What's In The Bag?

The Backyard Buffers program provides a free "buffer in a bag" to help get homeowners started in buffering their streamside. The bag includes twenty (20) native tree and shrub bare-root seedlings, 1 to 2 feet in height, of various species that are well suited to streamside conditions.



Also included are fact sheets on tree planting techniques, typical planting arrangement, proper tree maintenance, native plant species suitable for streamside plantings, and additional information for those who wish to learn more.

## How Do I Get Involved?

If you are a homeowner and have a stream or other waterway on or adjacent to your property, and are interested in creating streamside buffer, complete the attached application form, detach it from the brochure, and return it to the address on the back with a letter stamp. The bags will be available for pickup at a designated local site in time for the spring planting season. Quantities are limited.



## Backyard Buffers Can Make A Difference

Were you aware that the water from your property and all of Queen Anne's County ultimately drains into the Chesapeake Bay? The Backyard Buffers program is designed to help homeowners protect a natural resource that needs our help. Plant native trees and shrubs along your waterway and become a part of the solution. For further information on the Backyard Buffers program, fill out and return the attached application or contact; Forest Service at 410-819-4120.

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## Backyard Buffers Application

Please take a minute to fill out the following information. We will contact you as soon as possible.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/State Zip \_\_\_\_\_

County \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Best time to reach you? \_\_\_\_\_

Length of stream you wish to buffer (in feet) \_\_\_\_\_

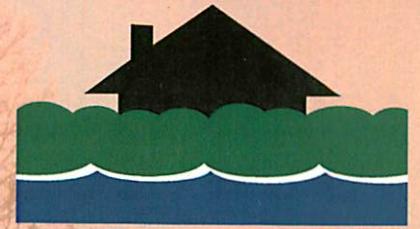
Length of stream on the property \_\_\_\_\_

Stream name or name of closest named water body \_\_\_\_\_

How did you hear of this program?

- Mailing
- Newspaper
- Flyer
- Other (Specify) \_\_\_\_\_

Please detach form, place stamp and mail to the address on the other side.



**BACKYARD  
BUFFERS**



Photo Courtesy of Maryland DNR, Forest Service, Spring 2006

A Landscape  
That Will  
Make A Difference



**Backyard Buffers Program**  
Maryland DNR Forest Service  
120 Broadway Avenue, Suite #14  
Centreville, MD 21617

A Landscape That Will Make a Difference

**Backyard Buffers Program**  
Maryland Department of Natural Resources, Forest Service  
120 Broadway Avenue, Suite #14  
Centreville, MD 21617

Place  
Stamp  
Here