



BENEFITS OF RIPARIAN BUFFERS



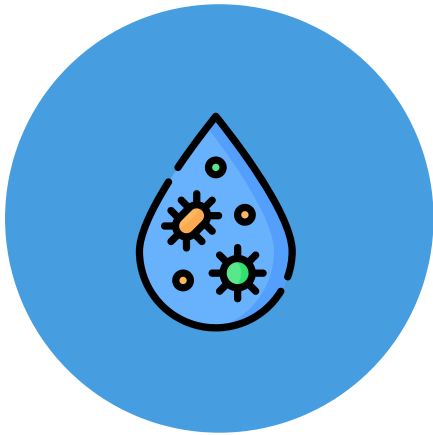
PennFuture

RIPARIAN BUFFERS ARE:

- Vegetated areas next to streams, rivers, lakes and other water areas
- Native grasses, perennials, shrubs, and trees
- Forested buffers provide maximum benefits

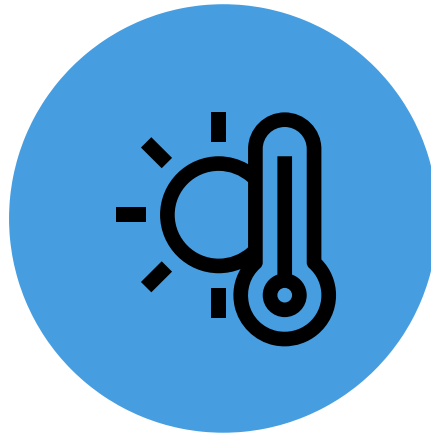
RIPARIAN BUFFERS

PROTECT FROM:



Pollution

Vegetated buffers help to filter sediment (erosion), nutrients, road salts, and other pollutants



Heat

Vegetated buffers provide shade to waters/habitat and also help to cool stormwater runoff



Flooding

Vegetated buffers slow the flow of water and absorb excess stormwater

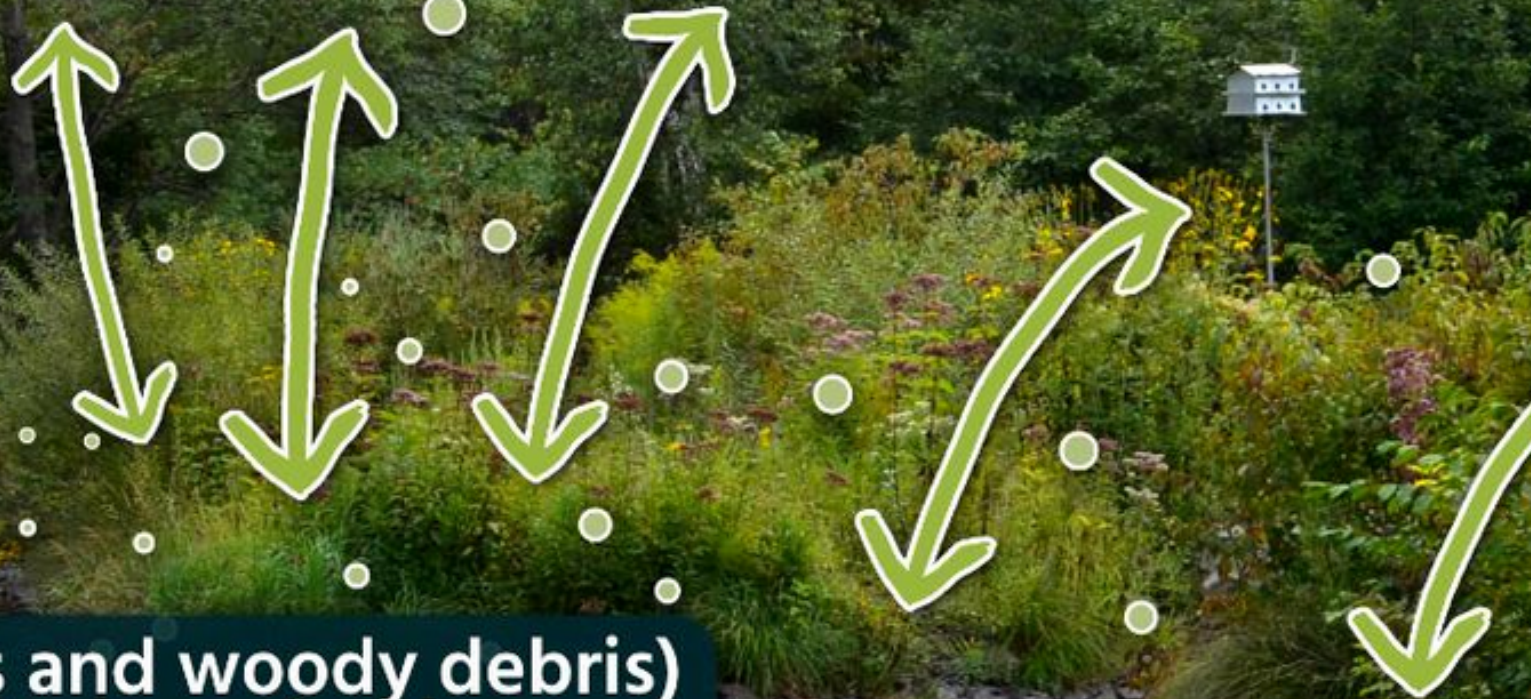
ECOSYSTEM BENEFITS

- Habitat for wildlife
- Shaded aquatic ecosystems
- Biodiversity
- Better fishing and hunting



CLIMATE BENEFITS

Carbon is stored in trees and soil



Carbon (leaves and woody debris)
consumed as the base food source

COST BENEFITS

WELL DESIGNED RIPARIAN BUFFERS CAN
REMOVE UP TO

80%

OF EXCESS NUTRIENTS FROM ENTERING
WATERWAYS.

SAVING

\$1000s

IN ANNUAL WATER SUPPLY TREATMENT COSTS
AND REDUCING THE STRAIN ON THE SYSTEMS



BIGGER IS BETTER

150-300

FEET

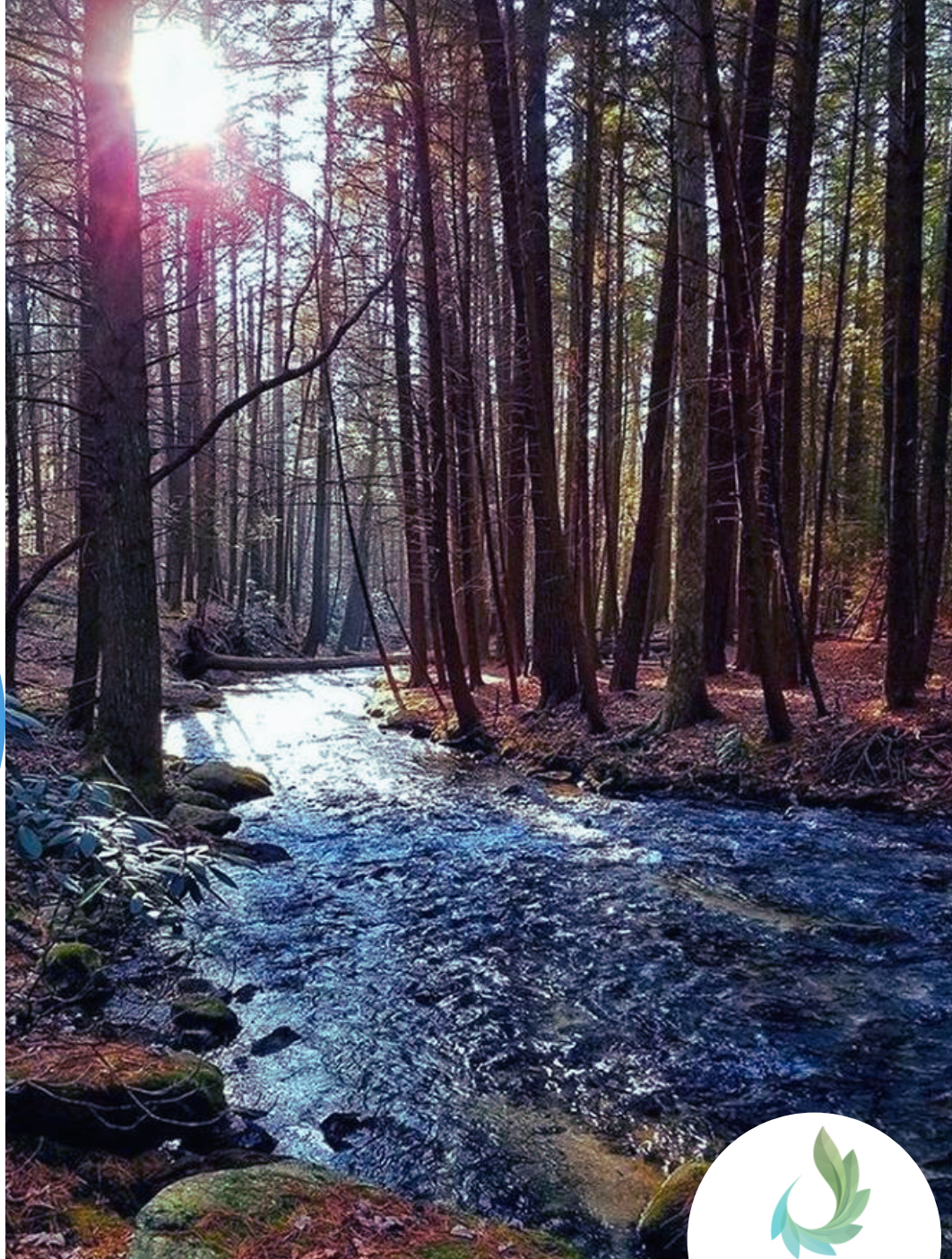
Larger riparian buffers
provide more protections
and are more robust

RIPARIAN BUFFERS

KEEP
EV/HQ
STREAMS
CLEAN

IMPROVE
IMPAIRED
WATERS

PROTECT
COMMUNITIES



REFERENCES

<https://extension.psu.edu/what-are-riparian-buffers>

https://www.pennfuture.org/Files/Admin/OurPoconoWaters_Report_FINAL_WEB-PDF_8.8.22-%28reduced%29.pdf

<https://storymaps.arcgis.com/stories/c7a9f52d3bba453eaa9642551eeb7144>

<https://www.pennfuture.org/Blog-Item-Planting-Trees-and-Fighting-for-Funding-in-the-Keystone-State>