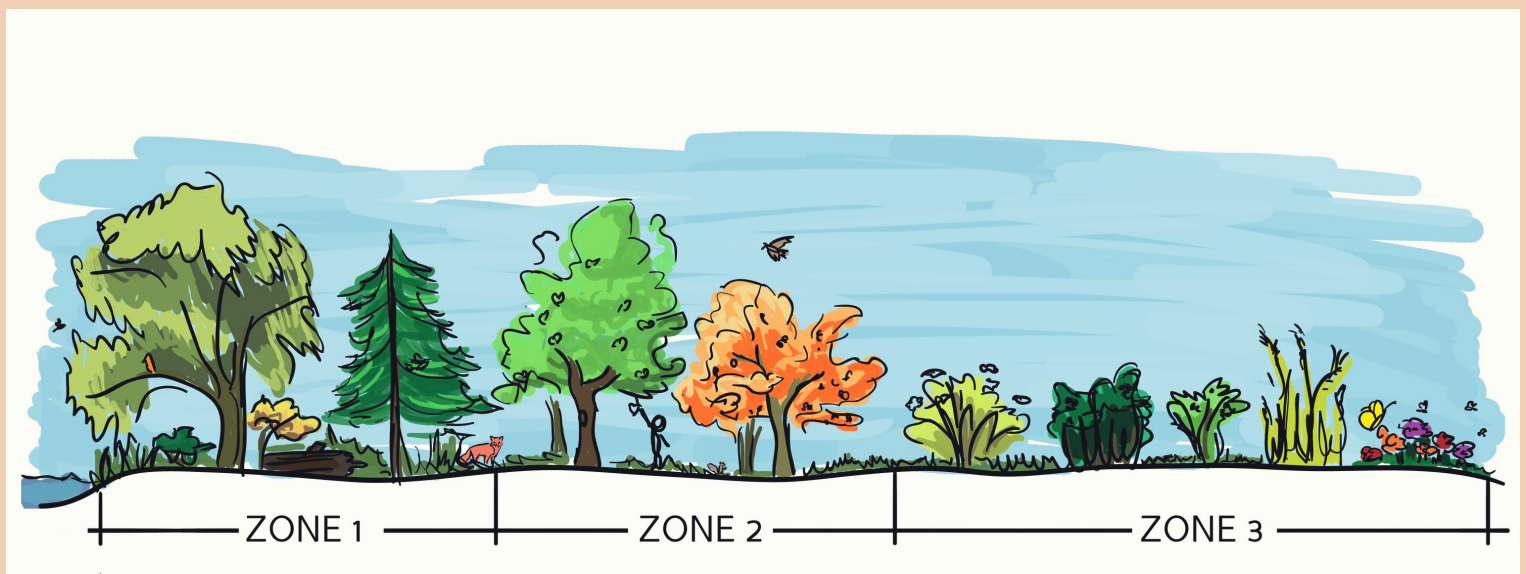


# Multi-functional Riparian Forest Buffers

WHAT TO CONSIDER WHEN DESIGNING, PLANTING AND PLANNING FOR YOUR BUFFER

## What is a Multi-functional Riparian Forest Buffer?

Riparian Forest Buffers are the strips of trees and shrubs along waterways that help protect stream health. The Multi-functional Riparian Forest Buffer concept was designed to appeal to a broader set of landowners, provide greater flexibility, address long-term maintenance issues while allowing landowners the potential to earn an income from their buffers or harvest goods for their own enjoyment and use.



<p><b>DESIGN</b></p>	<p>Multi-functional Buffers typically have 3 zones. All buffers must have a minimum width of 15 feet, but an average buffer width of at least 35 feet is strongly encouraged.</p>
<p><b>ZONE 1: UNMANAGED FOREST</b></p> <p>.....</p> <p><b>ZONE 2: MANAGED NUT/FRUIT TREES AND SHRUBS</b></p> <p>.....</p> <p><b>ZONE 3: MANAGED WOODY FLORALS AND FORBS</b></p>	<p>FROM STREAM EDGE TO 15 FEET. NATIVE RIPARIAN FOREST TREES AND SHRUBS - NO HARVESTING.</p> <p>.....</p> <p>FROM EDGE OF ZONE 1 EXTENDING AN ADDITIONAL 20 FEET (TO 35 FEET TOTAL). FRUIT AND NUT TREES AND SHRUBS: NON-MECHANICAL HARVEST ALLOWED.</p> <p>.....</p> <p>FROM EDGE OF ZONE 2 EXTENDING AN ADDITIONAL 50 TO 100+ FEET. WOODY FLORALS AND FORBS, INCLUDING BIOMASS CROPS: MECHANICAL HARVEST ALLOWED.</p>

# Species Selection and Potential Products

ALL SPECIES SURVIVABILITY WILL DEPEND ON SITE CONDITIONS. CONSULT YOUR LOCAL SERVICE FORESTER FOR SPECIES RECOMMENDATIONS.



**Paw Paw (*Asimina triloba*):**  
Native tree; best production in full sun; bears fruit after 5-7 years; harvest when fruit softens and turns yellow (fall).  
Products: Fresh fruit; jam; whole sale; frozen pulp.

**Highbush Blueberry (*Vaccinium corymbosum*):** Native shrub; grows in moist, acidic soils; harvest from mid- to late-summer.  
Products: Fresh berries; juice; wine; syrup; cough drops; concentrate.



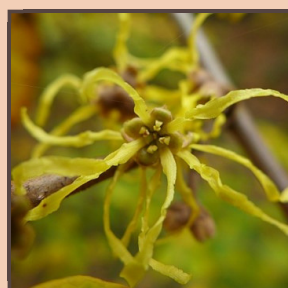
**Persimmon (*Diospyros virginiana*):** Small, native tree; grows in moist soils; bears fruit after 4-6 years; harvest when the fruit turns orange (fall).  
Products: Fresh fruit; frozen; dried fruit; baked goods.

**Common Elderberry (*Sambucus canadensis*):** Native shrub; grows in moist-wet soils; harvest in late summer/early fall.  
Products: Fresh berries; juice; wine; syrup; cough drops; concentrate; cuttings.



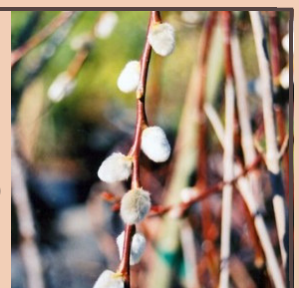
**Chestnut (*Castanea spp.*):**  
Yields nuts after 4-6 years after planting; ripens in late summer/early fall.  
Products: shelled nuts; gluten-free flour.  
\* upland areas only

**American Hazelnut (*Corylus americana*):** Dense, deciduous shrub; grows in well drained soils; harvest fruits late summer/early fall.  
Products: shelled nuts; candies; flour; butters and oils.



**Witch-hazel (*Hamamelis virginiana*):** Native, shade tolerant; fragrant; yellow flowers bloom in the fall.  
Products: medicinal properties; cuttings can be sold to the floral industry.

**Willow species (*Salix spp.*):**  
Pussy willow, curly willow and others can be coppiced for their ornamental properties.  
Products: cuttings can be sold to the floral market; crafts and decorative wreaths.



**Dogwood species (*Cornus spp.*):** Redosier dogwood and silky dogwood can be coppiced for their ornamental properties.  
Products: Cuttings can be sold to the floral market; crafts and decorative wreaths.

**Serviceberry (*Amelanchier spp.*):**  
Medium-sized, native tree; grows in moist soils; harvest fruit in early summer.  
Products: Fresh berries; baked goods; jam.



FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT YOUR LOCAL SERVICE FORESTER:

[WWW.DCNR.STATE.PA.US/FORESTRY/YOURWOODS](http://WWW.DCNR.STATE.PA.US/FORESTRY/YOURWOODS)



**pennsylvania**  
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION  
AND NATURAL RESOURCES