



## A Landscape That Will Make a Difference

### **Backyard Buffer Program**

Maryland Department of Natural Resources, Forest Service  
1260 Maryland Ave., Suite 103  
Hagerstown, MD 21740

Place  
Stamp  
Here

  
**Backyard Buffers Program**  
Maryland Forest Service  
1260 Maryland Ave., Suite 103  
Hagerstown, MD 21740

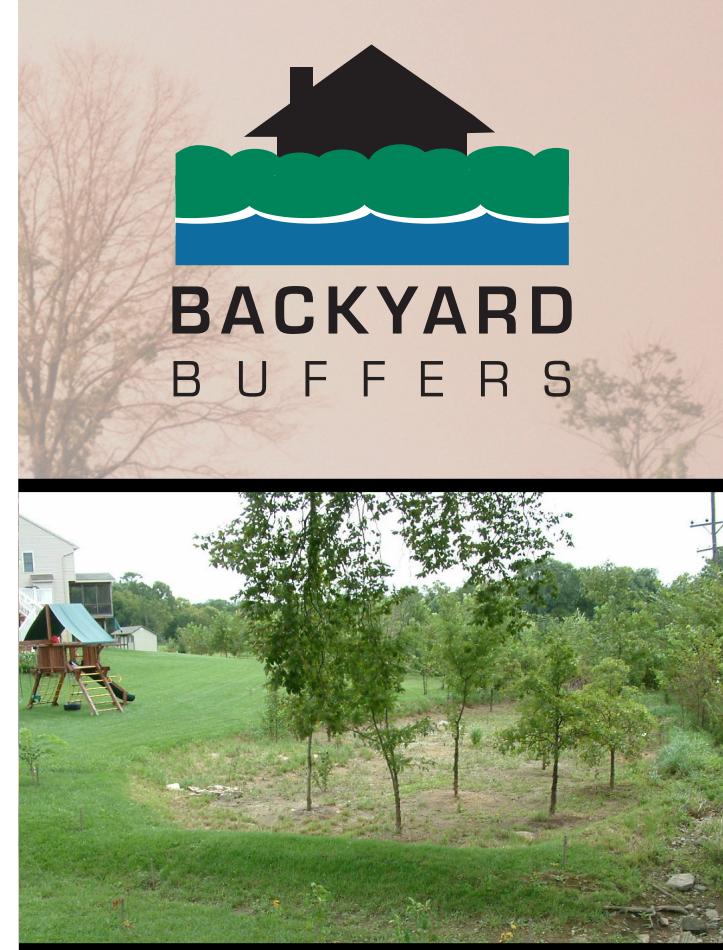


Photo Courtesy of Maryland DNR, Forest Service, Spring 2006

## A Landscape That Will Make A Difference



Sponsored by the Potomac Watershed Partnership, Maryland DNR Forest Service, Frederick County Government, and the Monocacy & Catoctin Watershed Alliance.

# Clean Water Through The Backyard Buffers Program



The Potomac Watershed

The Potomac Watershed Partnership, in cooperation with Maryland DNR Forest Service, Frederick County Government, and the Monocacy & Catoctin Watershed Alliance present the "Backyard Buffers" program. This program is designed to assist homeowners 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 streambanks, 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-five 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 a 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. Participants can also help complete the cycle and "pay back" the cost of the "buffer-in-a-bag" by returning the bag in the autumn filled with select sorted acorns or black walnuts that will be used to grow new seedlings as part of the "Growing Native" program. If you need assistance with planting due to a disability, contact the Maryland DNR Forest Service office at the number on this brochure.



## Backyard Buffers Can Make A Difference



Were you aware that water from your property ultimately drains into the Potomac River and 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:

**MD DNR Forest Service at 301-416-7261 or 301-791-4010**

Brochure printing made possible by the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, the Chesapeake Bay Program, the USDA Forest Service, and the US Environmental Protection Agency under the Chesapeake Bay Small Watershed Grants Program.

## 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?

- Radio
- Newspaper
- Television
- Other (specify) \_\_\_\_\_

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