



Lye
Creek

25'
Grass
Buffer

View from Main Cross - Towards South
25' Setback from E. Main Cross St.
North Branch Nursery, Inc.

Phase II - West side

1" = 50'



Phase II Planting with Trees & Shrubs

North Branch Nursery

Pemberville, OH

Frequently Asked Questions about a Riparian Buffer

1. What is a riparian buffer?

A riparian buffer is a vegetated area, usually forested, bordering a stream, lake or pond.

2. How do riparian buffers work?

The vegetated area nearest the water stabilizes the streambank and provides shade and habitat. The vegetation also acts as a sponge and filter absorbing to remove and transform, or store nutrients and other pollutants. The outer areas of the vegetated buffer slows and spreads out the water over the land, trapping sediment and absorbing water and nutrients.

3. What are the values of a riparian buffer?

Riparian buffers are very useful in improving and maintain good water quality. Riparian buffer zones filter stormwater before it reaches the stream. Riparian zones help to prevent sediment, and excess nutrients from the stormwater reaching the stream. In addition, the buffer zone controls water erosion keeps stream cooler, and provides habitat for wildlife. Riparian buffers slow floodwaters helping to maintain streambanks and protect downstream property.

According to the National Tree Benefit Calculator, riparian buffer trees can typically intercept 44 gallons of stormwater runoff per year, or 17,600 gallons per year for 400 trees. Water quality will be improved by 1. Intercepting and holding rain on leaves, branches and bark, 2. increasing infiltration and storage of rainwater through the tree's root system, 3. reducing soil erosion by slowing rainfall before it strikes the soil. All of these will lead directly to the improvement of the chemical, biological and physical integrity of the area. Additional benefits to this area will include a moderating the temperature in Lye Creek, decrease streambank erosion, filter the sediment and nutrients in the stormwater, provide better aquatic and wildlife habitat, and increase the aesthetic of the area.