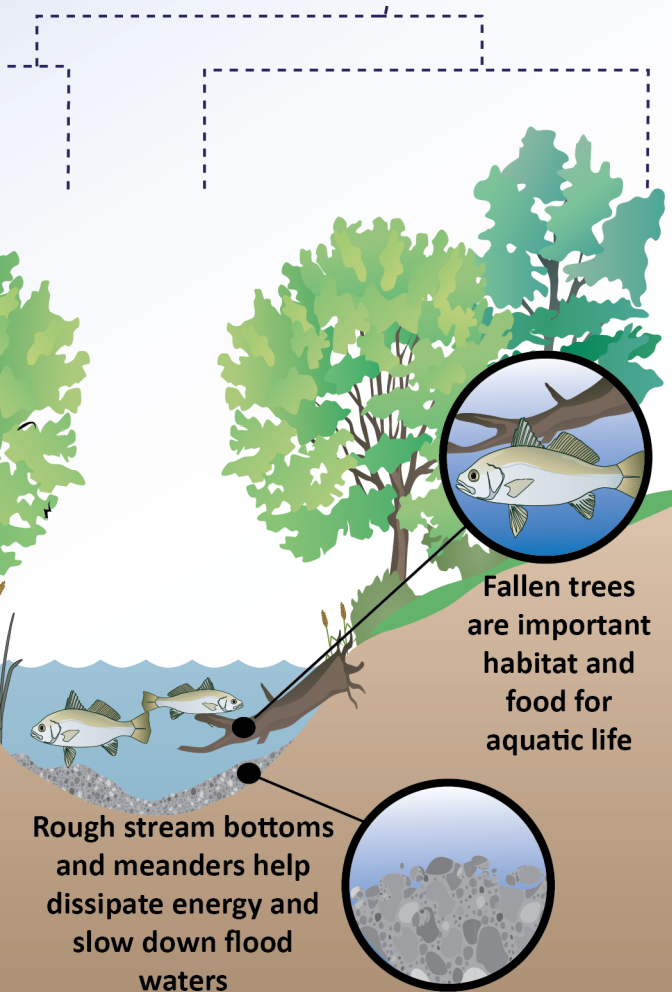


When we straighten, armor, and remove vegetation from streams, we increase the amount of water entering the creek and the speed at which it travels, commonly resulting in damaging high waters and accelerating land loss due to erosion.

By protecting the plant communities near streams through wise stream management practices we can ensure good water quality, reduce flooding likelihood, and keep our property from washing away.

Riparian Buffers



You Need a Permit When...

You can't work from the bank and have to enter the stream with equipment.

Planning to work in a protected stream, such as Outstanding State Resource Waters.

Excavating gravel for commercial sale.

Installing bank stabilization structures.

Building culverts, bridges and low water crossings in the stream.

Still not sure if you need a permit? Contact KDOW to find out!

To apply for a permit, learn more about regulations for stream obstruction removal, learn about the health and/or protection status of your stream visit:
water.ky.gov/waterquality

For More Information Contact:

Kentucky Division of Water
300 Sower Blvd.
Frankfort, KY 40601
Email: water@ky.gov
Phone: 502-564-3410

Watershed Friendly STREAM MAINTENANCE



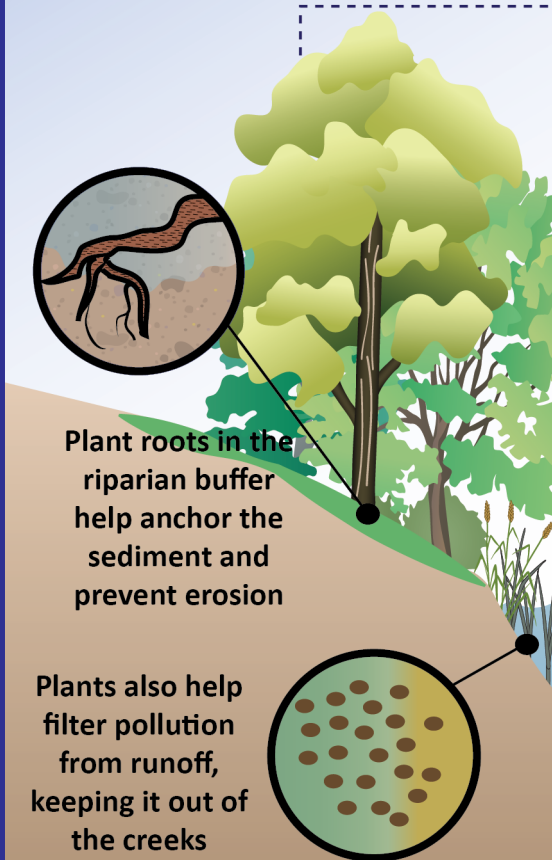
TEAM
KENTUCKY
ENERGY AND
ENVIRONMENT CABINET

*Guidelines for Debris Removal
from Kentucky Waterways*

Healthy Streams = Healthy Communities

Why Care About Healthy Streams?

A healthy stream ecosystem is the best defense against flooding and erosion problems on your property.



Guidelines for Stream Obstruction Removal

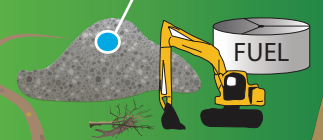
Follow These Guidelines and No Permits Are Required

Gravel mined and used on your property does not require a permit.



Reseed and mulch your work area once your project is complete to prevent sediment from washing into the stream.

Store fuel, debris, and mined gravel in an upland site, outside the floodplain.

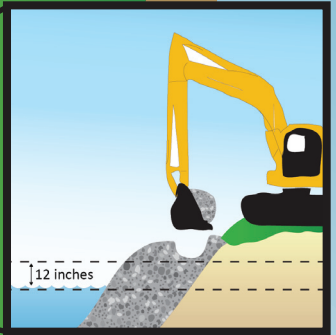


Remove gravel from the bank or a nearby bridge.

Store log jam debris and other obstructions removed from the stream outside the floodplain.



Only excavate the top of the gravel bar, 12" above the water's surface.

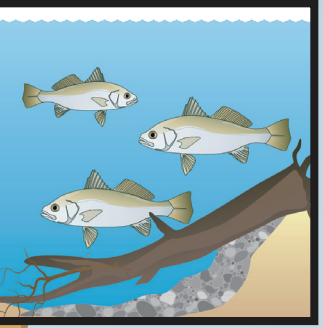


Minimize disturbance of the Riparian Zone to prevent erosion and property loss.



Use sediment control measures like silt fences to prevent soils from entering the creek.

Channel
Top of Bank
Floodplain



Avoid working in the stream during fish spawning season (April 15- June 15).



Do not use the stream as a road. Access the creek from the bank.

We All Live Downstream

That means that the water quality available to us is determined by our upstream neighbors

MORE TIPS

Try to limit gravel removal to one excavation per year.

Gravel excavation should be conducted only during low-flow, preferably in late summer or fall.