Where To Go For More Information And Help

**Oregon Department of Agriculture**
Natural Resources Division
Water Quality Program
635 Capitol Street NE
Salem, OR 97301-2532
Ph: 503-986-4700
Fax: 503-986-4730

**Soil and Water Conservation Districts (SWCD)**
Oregon’s 45 SWCDs provide technical and financial assistance to landowners and have no regulatory role. Consult your phonebook or use the following internet address to find the SWCD nearest you.
http://www.oregon.gov/ODA/SWCD/

**Watershed Councils**
Watershed councils are locally organized, voluntary, non-regulatory groups established to improve the conditions of watersheds in their local area. Use the following internet address to find the watershed council nearest you.
http://www.oregonwatersheds.org/whatcouncil

**Oregon State University Extension Service**
The Oregon State University Extension Service engages the people of Oregon with research-based knowledge and education that focus on strengthening communities and economies, sustaining natural resources, and promoting healthy families and individuals.
Online Publications:
http://extension.oregonstate.edu/eesc/

Streamside Vegetation: Good for People, Plants and Animals

Oregon Department of Agriculture
2009
Why is Streamside Vegetation Important?

1) Helps store water for later release
   - Stores large quantities of runoff and releases it slowly to the channel by groundwater discharge.
   - Delays and reduces peak flow, which decreases flood damage.

2) Potential Income for Landowners
   - Wood products.
   - Improved forage.
   - Hunting and fishing.
   - Increased property values.

3) Key to controlling many water pollution problems.
   - Prevents bank erosion and saves economically important cropland.
   - Reduces soil loss by an estimated 77 to 97%.

4) Vital for fish habitat.
   - Provides shade that helps to control stream heating.
   - When you remove riparian vegetation, stream temperatures can increase from 2 °F to 23 °F.
   - Provides woody debris for fish hiding cover and creates resting pools.
   - Provides food for water loving insects, which are food for fish.

5) Protecting Streamside Vegetation is the Law
   - Oregon’s Agricultural Water Quality Management Act requires landowners conducting agricultural activities on private land to allow the establishment and development of adequate streamside vegetation.
   - This does not preclude using areas near streams. The law requires proper management.