



Stephen Hoffman

From: ecomment@pa.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 3, 2021 11:58 PM
To: Environment-Committee@pasenate.com; IRRC; environmentalcommittee@pahouse.net; regcomments@pa.gov; Troutman, Nick; timothy.collins@pasenate.com; gking@pahousegop.com; lversen, Sarah A.
Cc: c-jflanagan@pa.gov
Subject: Comment received - Proposed Rulemaking: Dam Safety and Waterway Management (#7-556)

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Re: eComment System

The Department of Environmental Protection has received the following comments on Proposed Rulemaking: Dam Safety and Waterway Management (#7-556).

Commenter Information:

Tim Devaney
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Comments entered:

Forested riparian buffers and forested wetlands should be protected, avoided and enhanced for the environmental and quality of life benefits they impart. Reasonable criteria for Best Management Practice would suggest a 300 foot forested buffer as basic protection of stream corridors, and help promote and protect all functions of a healthy riparian buffer. The bigger the buffer the better the services and functions it provides. Science shows thermal impacts, change in benthic life, and other cascading impacts to waterbodies when riparian forests are lost leading to changes in the aquatic function of the waterbody. These harms should be avoided through the regulatory process. Where a silt basin or detention basin has been or will be installed to gather silt to prevent particulates from entering or migrating with the stream, strict maintenance requirements must be designed and enforced in order for the basin to function as designed. Since a primary function of a stream buffer is to filter nutrients and soil particles from storm water before it gets into the stream flow, storm water should not be piped through the buffer but converted to surface flow so natural filtering can take place. Storm water from roadways is a vehicle for salt, petroleum products and contaminants should not be discharged directly into streams and bodies of water.

No attachments were included as part of this comment.

Please contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,
Jessica Shirley

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