

Where To Go For More Information And Help

Oregon Department of Agriculture

Agricultural Water Quality
Program

635 Capitol Street NE
Salem, OR 97301-2532
Ph: 503-986-4700
Fax: 503-986-4730

<https://oda.direct/AgWQresources>

Soil and Water Conservation Districts (SWCD)

Oregon's 45 SWCDs
provide technical and
financial assistance to
landowners and have no
regulatory role.

<https://oda.direct/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>

Oregon State University Extension Service

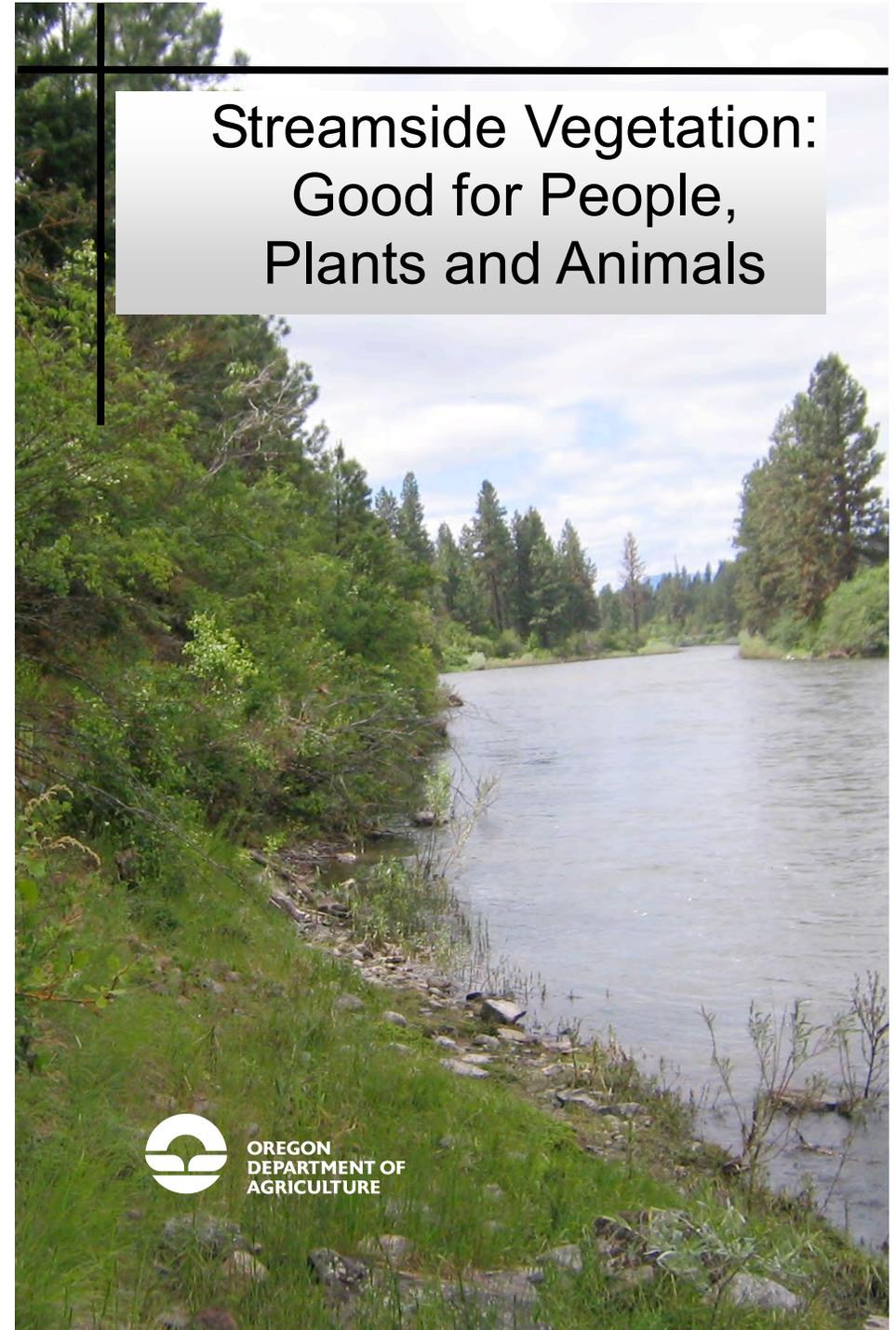
The Oregon State University
Extension Service engages
the people of Oregon with
research-based knowledge
and education that focus on
strengthening communities
and economies, sustaining
natural resources, and
promoting healthy families
and individuals.

Online Publications:
[http://extension.oregonstate.edu/
eesc/](http://extension.oregonstate.edu/eesc/)

Streamside Vegetation: Good for People, Plants and Animals



OREGON
DEPARTMENT OF
AGRICULTURE





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.

- Prevents bank erosion and saves economically important cropland.

- Reduces soil loss by an estimated 77 to 97%.

3) Key to controlling many water pollution problems.

- Filters polluted runoff and groundwater.
- Reported reductions are 50 to 85 % for phosphorus, and 67 to 89% for nitrogen.

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.