

**Hudson River Estuary Program's**  
**“Trees for Tribs” Initiative**  
*Replanting the Streams of the Hudson Valley*  
**Fall 2009**

Riparian (streamside) buffers are a major component to maintaining healthy streams and water. These buffers, composed of trees, shrubs, and grasses help to reduce pollution entering waterways by slowing down and filtering runoff, thus extending retention time. Buffers also help to reduce flooding and erosion by stabilizing shorelines and absorbing high velocity flows. In addition, they serve an important role for wildlife as a shoreline transition zone and travel corridor, not to mention increasing overall biodiversity and improving in-stream health.

The Hudson River Estuary Program's “Trees for Tribs” Initiative is offering free native trees and shrubs for qualifying projects in the Hudson River Estuary watershed within the State of New York from the Verrazano Narrows Bridge to the Troy Dam. The Estuary Program's Riparian Buffer Coordinator can assist with plant selection, designing a planting plan, and other technical information to improve the odds of success for your project.

**If you want plants for:**        Fall 2009

**Application time is:** Any time before August 1, 2009. Reserving plants early is advisable (applications are accepted after deadlines, but are at a disadvantage)

**Applications will be filled according to the following priorities:**

- Local non-profit watershed groups, land trusts, and other environmental organizations will be given preference.
- Project sites located in high profile, public or highly visible areas, such as town parks or adjacent to roads will be given preference.
- Groups providing a Project Data Sheet (with specifics on where the desired plants will be planted) along with their application will be given preference vs. groups who provide that information later.
- Sorry, plants are **not** available for:
  - large projects where proposals should have included buffer restoration costs from the outset, particularly projects involving channel realignment or other major excavation work
  - new sites enrolled in the Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP)

**Species available:** Native tree and shrub species will be determined on a project by project basis depending on existing conditions.

**Plants:** Shrubs are typically 12” to 30”+ tall, bareroot seedlings in the spring and potted for fall projects. Trees are typically a combination of 4’-6’+ tall, 2-4’ tall, & 15-30” tall containerized saplings and 12-30” bareroot seedlings.

- **Shrubs:** Comprise 60% of total plants. Seedlings are grown by NYS DEC Saratoga Nursery. Additional species/plants are available for purchase at: <http://www.dec.ny.gov/animals/7127.html>.
- **Trees:** Comprise 40% of total plants. Trees will be grown by RPM Ecosystems (4-6’+ tall trees), Pinelands Nursery & Supply (2-4’ tall trees), Octoraro Native Plant Nursery (15-30” tall trees), and NYS DEC Saratoga Nursery (12-30” tall trees) as part of an ongoing vegetation study, thus projects will typically receive 1/4 of their trees from each nursery.

**In accepting plants, all recipient groups agree to the following conditions of the program:**

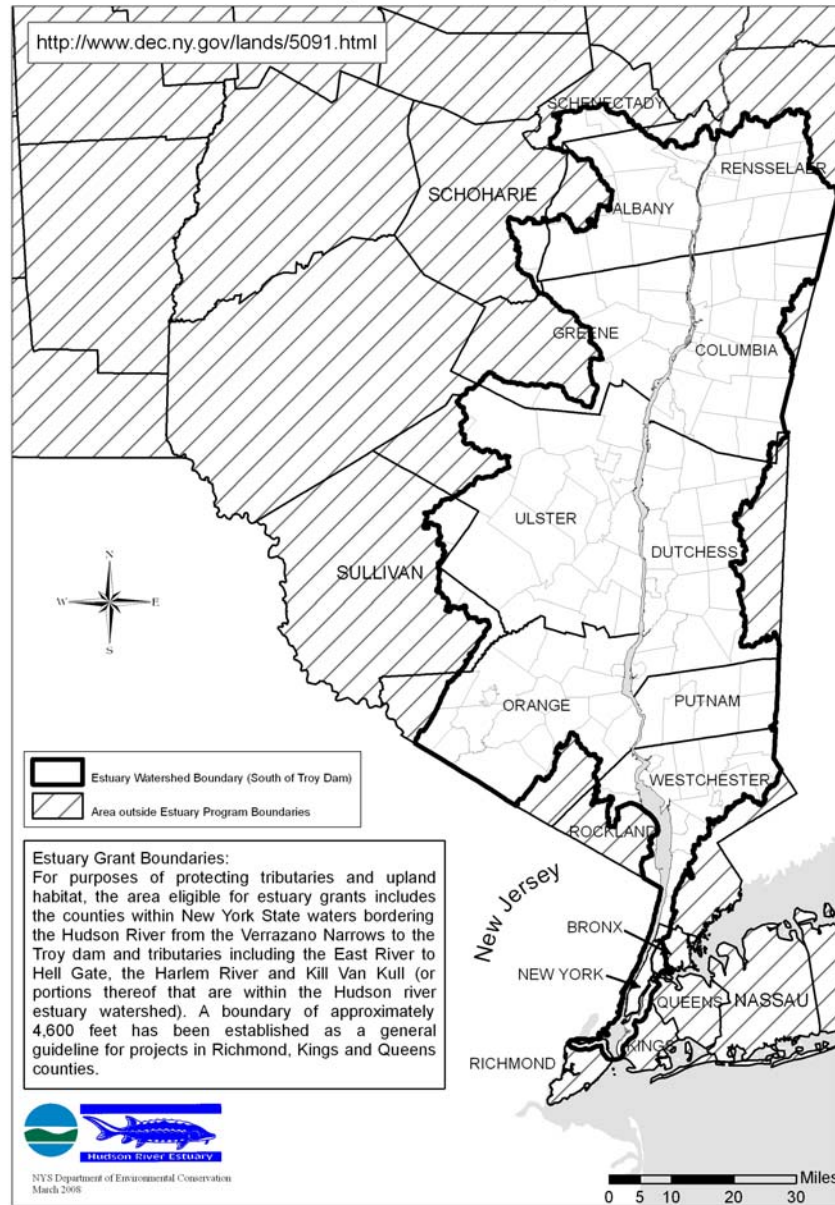
1. Prior to site preparation and planting, recipient should contact **Dig Safely New York** ([www.digsafelynewyork.com](http://www.digsafelynewyork.com)) at **1-800-962-7962** to verify the presence of any underground utilities within the planned project location.
2. Plants are offered to organizations/individuals for riparian buffer projects in the Hudson River Estuary’s Watershed and are to be used for the proposed project only.
3. Recipients agree to provide the Estuary Program with site information on where plants are used. Recipients will provide a **fully completed** Project Data Sheet for each project where trees and shrubs will be used. **Failure to provide this information will result in your being invoiced for plants.**
4. Landowner and/or Organization shall not cut, remove, mow or otherwise disturb vegetation, including but not limited to trees and shrubs, planted or naturally growing in the project area, unless deemed necessary by the HREP’s Riparian Buffer Coordinator.
5. Landowner and/or Organization shall not alter, undermine, or remove bio-engineering structures constructed within the project area.
6. During times of drought, Landowner and/or Organization shall water newly planted trees and shrubs as needed.
7. Tree tubes shall be properly installed and maintained per manufacturer’s guidelines and monitored at least twice annually (early spring before growth spurt and early summer).
8. Tubes shall be removed at an appropriate time (when tree diameter is approximately 1.5” at the top of the tube).
9. Depending on the applicant/organization, yearly water quality and plant material monitoring may be a required component of buffer project. The Estuary Program’s Riparian Buffer Coordinator will discuss this component with you.
10. Recipients shall coordinate with the Estuary Program’s Riparian Buffer Coordinator in regards to returning plant containers.
11. The Estuary Program’s Riparian Buffer Coordinator shall be granted access to project site to periodically inspect and monitor plant material, as well as, stream conditions.

**Tree Shelters:** Tree shelters can boost tree growth and survival if properly selected, installed, maintained, and eventually removed. The Estuary Program may provide tree shelters for trees only, as shrubs are typically not tubed for various reasons.

**Tree Shelter Installation & Maintenance Guidelines:**

1. A pressure-treated yellow pine stake or heartwood white oak stake (treated or not) or locust stake (treated or not) is required. Other wooden stakes will likely not hold up adequately. Use of other materials (fiberglass or rebar etc.) can be discussed.
2. Groups receiving tree shelters agree to provide maintenance of tree shelters including their eventual removal at an appropriate time for tree health. Upon removal they shall be returned to the Riparian Buffer Coordinator, unless otherwise instructed.
3. Shelters shall be properly installed per manufacturer guidance, with a stake driven to an adequate depth to keep shelter upright.
4. Shelters shall be monitored at least twice annually (early spring before growth spurt and early summer after much growth is ideal) with attention to the following: Stakes needing to be re-hammered (lifted by frost heave, loosened by wind, etc.)
  - a. Other damage, needs, etc. including need for control of competing plants, invasive species and noxious weeds
  - b. Identification of plants needing replacement.
5. Shelters shall be removed at an appropriate time. **At present the consensus is to remove shelters only at the point where tree diameter is approximately 1.5” at the top of the tube.** Later removal may lead to fungus and canker from humid conditions. Earlier removal may lead to increased risk of vole damage, deer damage, insufficient girth on tree and simple reduction of benefits of the shelter overall. If better information becomes available, Riparian Buffer Coordinator will attempt to get the word out advising project partners.

## Hudson River Estuary Grants Program Boundaries



For assistance, project information form, and project data sheet please contact:

**Kevin Grieser, Riparian Buffer Coordinator**  
**NYS DEC - Hudson River Estuary Program**  
**21 South Putt Corners Rd.**  
**New Paltz, NY 12446**  
**Phone: (845)-256-3145**  
**Email: [kagriese@gw.dec.state.ny.us](mailto:kagriese@gw.dec.state.ny.us)**

NEW YORK STATE  
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION  
HUDSON RIVER ESTUARY PROGRAM

“TREES FOR TRIBS” INITIATIVE - PROJECT DATA SHEET

I. CONTACT INFORMATION:

Your Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Today's Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Organization (if applicable): \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Street Address and/or PO Box #: \_\_\_\_\_  
City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Area code)

II. PROJECT LOCATION/IDENTIFICATION: (Please include project site map, i.e. USGS, Yahoo Maps, Mapquest, Google Earth, Local Live)

Landowner/Project Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Project Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Optional) (requested dates are not guaranteed)  
Street Address and/or Physical Location: \_\_\_\_\_  
City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_ County: \_\_\_\_\_  
Municipality: \_\_\_\_\_ Land Ownership Type: Federal State Public Private  
Is buffer permanently protected? Yes or No or Unknown  
Stream Name: \_\_\_\_\_ State Hydrologic Unit Code: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Or name of nearest downstream) (<http://www.dec.ny.gov/lands/34488.html#Hydrologic>)

Latitude: \_\_\_\_\_ Longitude: \_\_\_\_\_ River Mile: \_\_\_\_\_  
(please take reading from upstream end of project or center if project is a pond, lake, or wetland) (if applicable)

Note: A USGS 7.5 Topographic Quadrangle map, including Map Name and indicating project site will provide latitude and longitude or [www.maporama.com](http://www.maporama.com).

Waterbody associated with project: Unnamed Tributary Stream Lake or Pond Wetland River  
Average width of stream in feet: \_\_\_\_\_ Major watershed associated with project: \_\_\_\_\_  
(water's edge to water's edge)  
Adjacent land use: Forest Herbaceous/shrub Crops Grass Pasture Paved Other: \_\_\_\_\_

III. EXISTING RIPARIAN BUFFER CHARACTERISTICS:

Buffer Type: \_\_\_\_\_% Forest \_\_\_\_\_% Trees/shrubs \_\_\_\_\_% Grasses \_\_\_\_\_% Fencing only \_\_\_\_\_% Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Are the streambanks eroding? Yes or No If yes, describe the severity: \_\_\_\_\_

Are there any invasive plant species present? Yes or No or Unknown If yes, what species: \_\_\_\_\_

First (Left) Side: Length of stream buffer in feet: \_\_\_\_\_ Average width of stream buffer in feet: \_\_\_\_\_  
(left bank when facing downstream)

Second (Right) Side: Length of stream buffer in feet: \_\_\_\_\_ Average width of stream buffer in feet: \_\_\_\_\_  
(right bank when facing downstream)

Was this stream buffer previously planted as part of a buffer project? Yes or No If yes, what dates: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of trees planted: \_\_\_\_\_ Number of shrubs planted: \_\_\_\_\_ Dimensions of area(s) planted in feet: \_\_\_\_\_

Tree and shrub species planted: \_\_\_\_\_

Percentage of tree tubes used for trees: \_\_\_\_\_% for shrubs: \_\_\_\_\_% Percentage of weed mats used for trees: \_\_\_\_\_% for shrubs: \_\_\_\_\_%

Was any bio-engineering used for this project? Yes or No If yes, what types & species: \_\_\_\_\_  
(i.e. fascines, staking, coir logs, etc.)

NEW YORK STATE  
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION  
HUDSON RIVER ESTUARY PROGRAM

“TREES FOR TRIBS” INITIATIVE - PROJECT INFORMATION FORM

I. PROPOSED RIPARIAN BUFFER PROJECT:

Briefly describe the project in which plants would be used, including partners and organizations involved in the project: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

If you do not need assistance with your planting and only need plant material & supplies, please describe below: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Is the project enrolled in CREP (Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program)? \_\_\_\_\_

**First (Left) Side:** Length of stream buffer to be planted, in feet: \_\_\_\_\_ Avg. width of stream buffer to be planted, in feet: \_\_\_\_\_  
(left bank when facing downstream)

**Second (Right) Side:** Length of stream buffer to be planted, in feet: \_\_\_\_\_ Avg. width of stream buffer to be planted, in feet: \_\_\_\_\_  
(right bank when facing downstream)

II. ESTIMATING HOW MANY PLANTS TO REQUEST: (Assistance is available in determining plant totals, see contact info below.)

First Side length \_\_\_\_\_ x First Side width \_\_\_\_\_ = First Side Square Feet (SF) \_\_\_\_\_

Second Side length \_\_\_\_\_ x Second Side width \_\_\_\_\_ = Second Side Square Feet (SF) \_\_\_\_\_

First Side SF \_\_\_\_\_ + Second Side SF \_\_\_\_\_ = Total SF \_\_\_\_\_

Trees: 40% of total, 15'x15' spacing (1 tree per 225 SF) Total SF \_\_\_\_\_ x .60 = Tree SF \_\_\_\_\_ /225 SF = Total # of trees \_\_\_\_\_

Shrubs: 60% of total, 10'x10' spacing (1 shrub per 100 SF) Total SF \_\_\_\_\_ x .40 = Shrub SF \_\_\_\_\_ /100 SF = Total # of shrubs \_\_\_\_\_

**Species composition will be determined with the help of the Hudson River Estuary Program's Riparian Buffer Coordinator.**

**Delivery and/or pick-up will be coordinated with the Hudson River Estuary Program Riparian Buffer Coordinator.**

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**ADDITIONAL COMMENTS:** \_\_\_\_\_

Signature below indicates acceptance of the conditions listed on this sheet.

**Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

Please return to: NYS DEC, Hudson River Estuary Program  
Attn: Kevin Grieser, Riparian Buffer Coordinator  
21 South Putt Corners Rd.  
New Paltz, NY 12561

Phone: (845) 256-3145  
Fax: (845) 255-3649  
Email: [kagriese@gw.dec.state.ny.us](mailto:kagriese@gw.dec.state.ny.us)