



Suite 340
One Credit Union Place
Harrisburg, PA 17110-2993

TO: All Holders of PA Technical Guide

SUBJECT: Technical Guide Notice No. 47

April 26, 1999

Purpose: To transmit Riparian Forest Buffer (Interim) 391 standard

Background: Riparian buffers should be created that are of sufficient width to provide multiple habitat and water quality benefits recognizing that:

Buffers widths of greater than 75 feet provide maximum benefits.

Buffers widths of at least 35 feet provide multiple benefits and are consistent with the NRCS 391(Interim) standard.

Where creation of a riparian forest buffer at least 35 feet is not possible, a narrower forest buffer or an alternative buffer that provides one or more of the benefits attributed to riparian forest buffers should be provided. Narrower buffers may be preferred over no buffer at all, depending on site conditions.

Recommended Forest Buffers widths of less than 35 feet will depend upon site conditions as determined by the field conservationist.

Refer to the "Chesapeake Riparian Handbook", Technical Guide Reference Number 45, for further guidance. Please provide your comments for the final version of the 391 standard.

Filing Instructions: File in PATG Section IV and add 391 to the index of practices.

If you have any questions or comments, contact Rich Shockey at the Harrisburg NRCS State Office.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Janet L. Oertly".

**Janet L. Oertly
State Conservationist**

U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in all its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender, religion, age, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation, and marital or family status. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs.) Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication (Braille, large print, audiotape, etc.) should contact USDA TARGET Center at 202-720-2600 (voice or TDD).

To file a complaint of discrimination, write USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, Room 326W, Whitten Building, 14th and Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20250-9410 or call 202-729-5964 (voice or TDD). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.