

Fish Really do Grow on Trees

That is, they need trees to grow.

Trees along a stream bank maintain the health of the stream and the fish population in it and become a forested riparian zone.

The forested riparian buffer:

1. Helps to maintain the stream bank. The root stems of large woody plants keep the bank from eroding. Eroding banks clog streams with sediment.
2. Prevents pollution of the stream by lawn fertilizers or run-off from roads.
3. Supplies of food for many of the critters that live in the stream, including fish.
4. Shades the stream, allowing fish, such as trout, who need cold water to survive.
5. Improves wildlife habitat.
6. Provides a natural corridor for wildlife.
7. Enhances water quality.

If you have a stream side on or near your property, please try to maintain it as a buffer. Remove only invasive species and replace them with natives. A healthy stream system is dependent on your help.