

The mission of ClearWater Conservancy is to conserve and restore our natural resources through land conservation, water resources stewardship, and environmental outreach across central Pennsylvania.

**Streamside Stewards** (also known as Buffer Stewards) are year-round volunteers who help manage and maintain planted streamside forest buffers throughout central Pennsylvania. You may be interested in volunteering if you are an outdoor enthusiast, looking to give back to your community, and enjoy learning about the environment. Volunteers can work as individuals or as a team (parent-child, friends etc). If you are volunteering as an individual, you may be paired with one or more volunteers depending on the size of the site. If you have any physical limitations or disabilities that require accommodation, please let us know.

Stewardship plays an important role in helping us ensure the success of our established forest buffers. It is through the help of our committed community volunteers that we can make sure our trees are growing and thriving. Volunteers are expected to communicate with ClearWater staff on a regular basis. Communication with ClearWater includes, but is not limited to, notifying us if you become injured, you require additional supplies, trees, or assistance, and if you are no longer able to volunteer.

### Primary Duties:

- Visit designated buffer on a regular basis and communicate with the landowner.
- May be required to lift and carry tools across uneven terrain.
- Check on tree tubes, check for invasive species, and replant trees and shrubs as needed.
- Report each visit using Stewardship Tracking Form.
- Willing to dedicate at least a year of service to being a Steward - *continuing longer than a year is encouraged!*
- Volunteers are expected to communicate with ClearWater staff on a regular basis.

### Additional Opportunities:

- Participate in lectures and training.
- Receive monthly e-newsletter with stewardship and environmental tips.
- Ability to become a mentor and teach others in the community about conservation.
- Join a community of individuals who want to make a positive impact on the environment!

There are multiple streamside forest buffer locations throughout central Pennsylvania. You will work with a ClearWater staff member to help find a location suitable for you!

New Streamside Steward volunteers can join at any time, but it is encouraged to start in the Spring or Fall. The volunteer work is expected to mostly occur between March-May and late August-November. Off season work in winter and summer can be dedicated to additional trainings, webinars, and general site walks. Time spent at sites varies based on size and the time of first planting. Volunteers say they spend 5-25 hours a year out at sites.

If you are interested in becoming a Streamside Steward please contact Jenna Kolwicz, Community Engagement Coordinator, at [jenna@clearwaterconservancy.org](mailto:jenna@clearwaterconservancy.org).

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