

# CONSERVATION PAYS...

IN YOUR  
STREAM

LET'S  
**CONNECT**



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## ABOUT US

The Sauk County Land Resources and Environment Department offers technical assistance to design and implement conservation practices to all county landowners free of charge. Financial assistance may be available through various federal, state and other county programs.





Photo Credit: Dane County Land & Water Resources Dept.

## HOW DOES CONSERVATION PAY?

Streambank erosion impairs water quality by reducing the amount of suitable habitat and foraging areas available to fish and other wildlife. Streambank erosion can also cut into farm fields, reducing land available for crop production. Stabilizing and vegetating eroded streambanks can prevent the loss of productive cropland and reduce sediment in the stream. Installing stream habitat structures can provide much needed cover and foraging areas for fish, reptiles and amphibians.

## STREAM CONSERVATION PRACTICES

**Filter Strip:** Area of vegetation that removes sediment, organic material, and other runoff, protecting an adjacent water body.

**Harvestable Buffers:** Establishment of grass based filter strips that can be harvested for livestock forage and are intended to reduce agricultural runoff from entering an adjacent water body

**Stream Crossing:** A stable and reliable area or structure across a stream to allow livestock, machinery, and/or people to cross while reducing erosion and other issues.

**Stream Habitat Improvement:** Installation of structures to improve stream habitat for wildlife including fish, reptiles, and amphibians. Structures may include lunkers, weirs, and log wads that will provide cover and improved foraging areas.

**Streambank and Shoreline Protection:** Vegetative or structural measures, including rock rip-rap, shaping and seeding, and watering ramps that stabilize and protect banks of streams, lakes, estuaries, or excavated channels from scour or erosion.

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*Conservation will ultimately boil down to rewarding the private landowner who conserves the public interest.*

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-Aldo Leopold

