

**Technical Report for DCR Minigrant
01-TAPP-2005-RTE
June 2, 2007**

Sponsor: Rappahannock Friends and Lovers of Our Watershed (RappFLOW):
www.RappFLOW.org

Project directors: Beverly Hunter bev_hunter@earthlink.net and Timothy Bondelid timothy@trbondelid.com

Project Title: Residential and Commercial Best Management Practices for Nutrient Reduction in the Thornton River Subwatersheds: The Thornton River Re-Leaf Project

Attachment F: Riparian site assessment form

This form was developed during this project for the following purposes:

- To guide the observations of volunteers and landowners who are conducting an assessment of a riparian site;
- To document the observations;
- To report observations and suggested actions to the landowner;
- To communicate the information among members of the steering committee and other volunteers;
- To standardize the types of observations to be made;
- To guide the training of volunteer site evaluators.

This form is used in conjunction with RappFLOW's *Riparian Buffer Evaluation Handbook*, available at <http://rappflow.org/stream-buffers-2007/PDF/RappFLOW%20Riparian%20Buffer%20Evaluation%20Handbook.pdf>

RappFLOW Riparian Site Assessment Form (Page 1)
Preliminary Site Visit

RappFLOW Site ID Number:

RappFLOW Volunteer(s) conducting this assessment:

Date(s):

Basic Site Information:

Owner(s):

Address:

Phone/fax:

Email:

Tax Parcel(s):

River/Streams:

Bank Looking Downstream:(L, R, Both):

Approximate Stream Length (Feet):

GPS/coordinate Information as available (for instance, upstream end, downstream end, middle, landowner's home, etc.):

Photos taken by:

Summary of Suggested Actions:

I. Stream Bank

II. Riparian Buffer Area

III. Property Drainage

IV. Adjacent Areas

RappFLOW Riparian Site Evaluation Form (Page 2)

Preliminary Site Visit

I. Stream and Stream Bank Evaluation

(See section 4.1 – 4.2 of the RappFLOW Riparian Buffer Evaluation Handbook for features to observe.) *Overall Condition (Excellent, Good, Fair, Poor):*

Comments:

Suggested Next Steps:

II. Riparian Buffer Area (at least 15 feet from stream outward)

(See sections 4.3 – 4.4 of the RappFLOW Riparian Buffer Evaluation Handbook for features to observe and note.) *Note the condition of the area, especially Forest, Grassland, Exposed Soils, channels, or opportunities for direct runoff. Also note Invasive Plant Species as feasible:*

Owner's viewpoint, plans, desires for the Riparian Area, such as recreational, streamside relaxation, picnics, pathways, and water views:

Potential actions for improvement and landowner's expression of interests:

Suggested Next Steps:

RappFLOW Riparian Site Evaluation Form (Page 3)

III. Property Drainage Evaluation:

Note conditions and issues related to slope, impervious surfaces, rooftop drainage, parking areas, lawn condition and drainage, ditches, swales, bare soils, drainage to/from adjacent properties.

Note potential sources of nutrients and other contaminants.

Primary opportunities for improvement:

Examples: Mowing higher, roof drainage control, swales (no-mow, mow real high, plantings), raingardens, graveled ditches, etc.

Suggested Next Steps:

RappFLOW Riparian Site Evaluation Form (Page 4)

IV. Drainage Issues on adjacent properties (if applicable):

Include Adjacent property owners' names as available

Note if drainage issues and if draining to or from adjacent property