

# HEADWATER STREAMS WHERE RIVERS BEGIN

A healthy, natural river system has hundreds of primary headwater streams. These small streams flow through our community and become the rivers that shape our landscape. Protection of our headwater streams is a good storm water management practice that can help reduce pollution and control the flow of water to larger streams.

Headwater Streams are another piece of the water quality puzzle.

We are all a piece of the puzzle and must do our part to help keep our streams and rivers healthy and flowing free.

## ***Six simple stream solutions to help you be a piece of the puzzle:***

**Don't mow stream banks - natural buffer zones help to reduce erosion.**

**Help the stream flow freely by removing trash and debris.**

**Don't change a stream's path - it leads to problems, not solutions. Let nature take its course.**

**Plant shrubs or deep rooted vegetation on the banks.**

**Don't dump any waste, including grass clippings, into streams. Yard waste eliminates critical, life giving oxygen in the water.**

**Keep your septic system in good working condition.**

For more information, contact the  
Cuyahoga Soil and Water Conservation District  
216-524-6580 or [www.cuyahogaswcd.org](http://www.cuyahogaswcd.org)

