

# Backyard Riparian Stabilization & Restoration Projects

# The State's 25' vegetative buffer

The Georgia Erosion & Sedimentation  
Act of 1975

# The Letter of the Law

- 100 s.f threshold
- Enforced through a Local Issuing Authority
- The Non-Existent 'Good Guy Self-Exemption Clause'
- Know & communicate with your LIA

# The spirit of the law

- “restoration or enhancement to improve water quality and/or aquatic habitat quality”
- “...impacts to the buffer are minimal”
- “Minimal” = no machinery
- Is hand work always minimal?

# Causes

- Erosion from below - flows in the channel
- Erosion from above - causes outside the channel
- Both

# Erosion from below

**Slumping & sloughing banks**



**Undercut banks**



# Erosion from above





# Both below & above





# Effective Techniques

## Erosion from below

# Toe stabilization w. placed rocks, logs, wattles, plants - 1



# Toe stabilization w. placed rocks, logs, wattles, plants - 2







# Final stages (so far)



# Stable mass into banks



Major element missing



# Erosion from below



# Erosion from above





# Flows downhill & rills



# Undercuts - stable & unstable



# Backyard stabilization challenges

- Understanding of streams
- Knowledge of needed techniques
- Appropriate materials
- Appreciation of limits