

## Catawba County Buffer Zone Requirements

Buffers are natural areas of vegetation that are adjacent to natural watercourses (eg: stream, lake, wetland, marsh, etc.). Land-disturbing activities near lakes or natural watercourses have buffer zone requirements, and the County's Soil Erosion and Sedimentation Council Ordinance provides information on how buffers are measured. This page is not intended to provide all information regarding buffer requirements.

- Throughout all of the County, visible siltation must be kept within the 25% of the buffer zone nearest the land-disturbing activity.
- Within the majority of Catawba County, a standard 25-foot buffer is required for the majority of land disturbance taking place near lakes or watercourses. Visible siltation can occur within the first 6 feet of the 25-foot buffer (See the Graphic below).
- Within the Sherrill's Ford Sewershed the buffer requirement is 50 feet (Ch. 31 Sec. 31.8 (c)), so visible sedimentation is limited to the first 12.5 feet.

