
University of Pennsylvania
Institute for Environmental Studies



presents

Bern Sweeney

Stroud Water Research Center

Riparian forests, stream ecology, and the ability of streams to provide ecosystem services

Abstract: Numerous studies have addressed the links between watershed landscapes and the dynamics of stream ecosystems. In this talk Dr. Sweeney will address the influence of streamside vegetation on a variety of physical, chemical, and biological characteristics and processes of natural stream ecosystems and their biological populations and communities. He will also review the research related to the potential role of streamside forest buffers in mitigating non-point pollution in headwater streams. Critical factor that has been little studied with regard to forest buffers will be discussed. These will include the influence of riparian vegetation on channel geomorphology, its implications to stream ecosystem dynamics, and the ability of stream ecosystems to provide important ecosystem services to mankind. This new perspective has important implications with regard to the utility of forest buffers for providing benefits to humans above and beyond the obvious — i.e. keeping contaminants out of stream and river ecosystems.

Date: Thursday, February 14, 2002

Time: 12:15 pm - 1:45 pm

Place: Auditorium at Wistar Institute

On Penn's campus: Spruce Street & Penn's 36th Street Walkway

NO REGISTRATION REQUIRED

Direct questions to:

215-573-3164

ies_penn@sas.upenn.edu

<http://www.sas.upenn.edu/geology/ies>
