

# LANDOWNER STREAMSIDE VEGETATION SURVEY



*Please return your completed questionnaire  
in the enclosed envelope to:*

Kansas Forest Service  
Kansas State University  
2610 Claflin Rd.  
Manhattan, KS 66502



**K-STATE**  
Research and Extension

Kansas State University  
Agricultural Experiment Station  
and Cooperative Extension Service



Kansas Forest Service  
Kansas State University



**1. To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements about trees on your farm?  
(Please circle your answer).**

	Completely disagree	Disagree	Somewhat disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Somewhat agree	Agree	Completely agree	Do not know
a. There are too many trees on my farm.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
b. There are too many <b>undesirable</b> trees on my farm.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
c. There are too few <b>desirable</b> trees on my farm.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
d. It is difficult to tell the different kinds of trees apart.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
e. I do not give much thought to the trees on my farm.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8

**2. There are multiple concerns about having trees located along streams beside cropland. To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements?**

	Completely disagree	Disagree	Somewhat disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Somewhat agree	Agree	Completely agree	Do not know
a. Trees along a stream compete with crop growth.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
b. Trees along a stream make farming more difficult.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
c. Trees along a stream do not generate income.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
d. Trees along a stream take land out of production.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
e. Trees along a stream require extra maintenance.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
f. Trees along a stream contain too many types of unwanted trees.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
g. Trees along a stream cause floodwater to stay on the crop field for a longer time.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
h. Having trees along a stream lead to government regulations.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
i. Trees along a stream look ugly.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
j. Trees along a stream increase stream bank erosion.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
k. Trees along a stream create habitat for wildlife that will damage crops.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
l. I am unsure how to manage these areas.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8

**3. The following items mention possible reasons for having trees along streams. How do you agree or disagree with the following statements?**

	Completely disagree	Disagree	Somewhat disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Somewhat agree	Agree	Completely agree	Do not know
a. To prevent significant loss of crop acreage from stream bank erosion.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
b. To make the field easier to farm by planting field “necks” to straighten field edges.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
c. To make the field easier to farm by eliminating areas that are too wet to raise crops.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
d. To provide a buffer to keep farm equipment away from steep stream banks.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
e. To improve water quality.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
f. To trap herbicides before entering the stream.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
g. To trap fertilizers before entering the stream.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
h. To trap soil before entering the stream.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
i. To minimize downstream flooding.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
j. To create beneficial wildlife habitat.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
k. To produce income opportunities.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
l. To increase my hunting opportunity.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
m. To increase my fishing opportunity.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
n. To increase my bird watching opportunity.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
o. To increase my camping opportunity.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
p. To provide picnic areas for my family and friends.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
q. Other (please specify):	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8

**4. Have you previously been exposed to information about the benefits of having trees located along streams?**

\_\_\_\_\_ Yes

\_\_\_\_\_ No

**5. Are you interested in learning more about the potential benefits of having trees located along streams?**

\_\_\_\_\_ Yes

\_\_\_\_\_ No → (Skip to question #7)

**6. (If yes) How would you prefer to learn about the management opportunities for these areas?**

	Completely disagree	Disagree	Somewhat disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Somewhat agree	Agree	Completely agree	Do not know
a. On-farm demonstrations	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
b. Agricultural experiment station demonstrations	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
c. Producer field days	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
d. Personal visits to my farm by a resource professional	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
e. Newsletters	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
f. Print media (newspapers, magazines, etc.)	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
g. TV and radio programs	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
h. Technical publications and agency fact sheets	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
i. Electronic media (e.g. websites, YouTube, etc.)	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
j. Social media (e.g. Twitter, Facebook, etc.)	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
k. Direct mailings	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
l. Visiting agency offices (e.g. Extension, USDA, etc.)	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
m. Other (please specify):	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
n.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8

**7. What type of vegetation would you prefer in a streamside planting?**

- \_\_\_\_\_ Trees
- \_\_\_\_\_ Grass
- \_\_\_\_\_ Both trees and grass
- \_\_\_\_\_ Neither trees nor grass

**8. Several reasons are given for increasing interest in planting trees beside streams. How much do you agree or disagree with the following statements?**

Streamside tree plantings are more appealing when...	Completely disagree	Disagree	Somewhat disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Somewhat agree	Agree	Completely agree	Do not know
a. they include high-value trees for timber production.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
b. they include trees that have potential for specialty markets (e.g. nuts, fruit, decorative woody florals).	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
c. it is possible to make the tree plantings farmable (e.g. wide tree rows and crops between).	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
d. it is possible to graze the tree plantings.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
e. property taxes are reduced for areas planted to trees.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
f. there is financial assistance for planting trees.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
g. there is help (labor) to plant the trees.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
h. there is help (labor) to maintain the trees.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
i. trees with faster growth are included in the project.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
j. noxious weeds are not a concern.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
k. Other (please specify):	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8

**9. Currently, there are payment programs that assist with the costs associated with planting trees along streams. Are you familiar with these types of programs?**

\_\_\_\_\_ Yes

\_\_\_\_\_ No → (Skip to question #11)

**10. (If yes) How much do you agree or disagree with the following statements?**

	Completely disagree	Disagree	Somewhat disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Somewhat agree	Agree	Completely agree	Do not know
a. There is too much “red tape” involved with these types of programs.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
b. There are too many restrictions on use of the land.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
c. Program eligibility is too strict.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
d. The sign-up process is too complicated.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
e. Program payments are too low.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
f. Design requirements are too strict.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
g. Contract lengths are too short.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
h. Contract lengths are too long.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
i. Challenges exist in working with offices that deliver the program.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
j. I do not want to participate in any type of government program.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
k. Other (please specify):	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
l.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8

**11. Are you interested in participating in a government payment program to establish trees along the stream on your farm?**

Definitely uninterested	Uninterested	Somewhat uninterested	Neither uninterested nor interested	Somewhat interested	Interested	Definitely interested	Do not know
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8

**Please briefly explain the reason(s) for your answer (e.g. over-regulation, concern about privacy, unaware of program existence, too small of an area, time commitment, not sure how to proceed, interested in learning more about program requirements, etc.):**

**12. How important or unimportant are each of the following items for your farming operation?**

	Completely unimportant	Unimportant	Somewhat unimportant	Neither important nor unimportant	Somewhat important	Important	Completely important	Do not know
a. Being a good steward of the land.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
b. Generating as much income from the farm acreage as possible.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
c. The appearance of the farming operation.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
d. How others view my farming methods.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
e. Installing conservation practices where needed.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
f. Controlling erosion.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
g. Water quality protection.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
h. Providing wildlife habitat.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
i. Leaving the land in better shape than I found it.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8



**13. A conservation practice is any type of technique or measure used to protect or improve natural resources and environmental quality. Have you installed any type of conservation practice(s) on the farm in the past?**

\_\_\_\_\_ Yes

\_\_\_\_\_ No → (Skip to question #15)

**14. (If yes) What type of conservation practice did you install?**

	<u>Type of Conservation Practice</u>			<u>Conservation Payment Received?</u>	
	yes	no	→ (if yes) →	yes	no
a. Grass waterways	yes	no	→ (if yes) →	yes	no
b. Grass filter strips	yes	no	→ (if yes) →	yes	no
c. Terraces	yes	no	→ (if yes) →	yes	no
d. Windbreaks	yes	no	→ (if yes) →	yes	no
e. Riparian forest buffers	yes	no	→ (if yes) →	yes	no
f. Other (please specify):			→ (if yes) →	yes	no

## About You

**15. What is your age?** \_\_\_\_\_ years

**16. What is the highest level of formal education that you have completed?**

\_\_\_\_\_ Some high school

\_\_\_\_\_ High school diploma or GED

\_\_\_\_\_ Some college

\_\_\_\_\_ Completed a 1-2 yr degree (e.g. Associates or Technical Certificate)

\_\_\_\_\_ Completed a 4 yr degree (e.g. B.A. or B.S.)

\_\_\_\_\_ Some graduate school

\_\_\_\_\_ Completion of advanced degree (e.g. M.S. or Ph.D.)

**17. Are you currently farming?**

\_\_\_\_\_ Yes

\_\_\_\_\_ No → (Skip to question #20)

**18. How many years have you been farming?** \_\_\_\_\_ years

**19. Do you consider farming as your primary occupation?**

\_\_\_\_\_ Yes

\_\_\_\_\_ No

**20. For your whole operation, how many acres:**

do you farm that you <b>own</b> ?	_____ acres
do you <b>lease</b> to others for farming?	_____ acres
do you <b>rent</b> from others for farming?	_____ acres

**21. Do you make the decisions for the portion of the farming operation that you own?**

\_\_\_\_\_ Yes

\_\_\_\_\_ No

**22. How long have you and your family been involved with the farming operation?**

\_\_\_\_\_ 10 yrs or less (2004-present)

\_\_\_\_\_ 11-25 yrs (1989-2003)

\_\_\_\_\_ 26-50 yrs (1964-1988)

\_\_\_\_\_ 51-75 yrs (1939-1963)

\_\_\_\_\_ 76-100 yrs (1914-1938)

\_\_\_\_\_ more than 100 yrs (prior to 1914)

**23. How important or unimportant are each of the following reasons for owning the farming operation?**

	Completely unimportant	Unimportant	Somewhat unimportant	Neither important nor unimportant	Somewhat important	Important	Completely important	Do not know
a. As a main source of income.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
b. To keep the property in the family.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
c. The enjoyment of working in a rural environment.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
d. Farming is my profession.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
e. To pass the farm on to my heirs.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
f. For wildlife habitat.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
g. As an investment property.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
h. For recreation purposes.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
i. Other (please specify):	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8

**Thank you for taking the time to complete this questionnaire. Your assistance in providing this information is very much appreciated. If you feel we have overlooked an important issue related to trees along streams or would like to make other comments, please feel free to do so in the space provided below.**

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