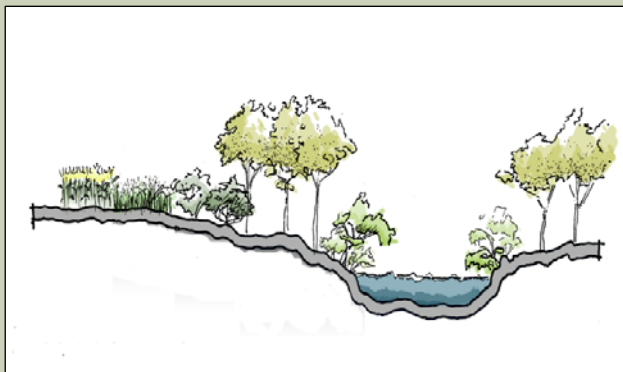


# KEYSTONE Celebrates Earth Day

As the world celebrates Earth Day, we are proud to announce our latest efforts in environmental **stewardship** at Keystone Foods. Working with Bell Engineering and Biological Systems Consultants, our division has recently updated our nutrient management plan to **better protect local water resources**. Nutrient management involves examination of the soil, vegetation and irrigation on the farm to determine a **suitable balance for the environment**. Based on this examination and on-going monitoring, we can better manage the farm to ensure that **natural resources are conserved and protected**.



Buffer Zone Diagram  
Source: UK Agriculture Extension

One form of protection we are implementing is called a **“buffer zone.”** Buffer zones are strips of thicker vegetation including grass, shrubs, and trees bordering streams, springs, and other waterways. These densely vegetated zones act as a filter for nutrient runoff, while providing wildlife habitat. The land directly adjacent to streams is very important to water quality. On the farm, we have dedicated over 40 acres as buffers zones to ensure **sustainability for our company, our environment, our community, and our future**.

