

## Time Lines

Winter cover crop planting reduces nutrient leaching and prevents soil compaction. Nitrogen fixing cover crops can also enhance soil fertility.



Conduct all road recontouring and grading during the dry season, if possible. Excavation in the winter promotes surface erosion that can be washed into nearby streams.

## Containment



Not OK



Very Good

Never place pumps or generators out in the open or on bare ground. Build an enclosed shed or appropriate out building and make sure to have a liner or leak proof system to prevent a fuel spill.

## Water Storage

You want to have enough water storage so that you can stop withdrawing water from the stream in summer. Prevent overflow with a float valve.



Calculate a water budget so you know how much storage you need. Store water as high on your property as possible to reduce pumping and save energy .

# Making Your Property Watershed Conscious



## Slow It, Spread It, Sink It



Water bar and out-slope your road . Roads with ditches increase peak storm flows. Road runoff deflected into a vegetated landscape promotes groundwater recharge. If your road runs through a meadow, armor culvert outlets to prevent gully formation.



## Forest Health



Thinning small trees in the forest on your land reduces fire risk, improves water availability for trees left standing, and can increase stream flow and water supply. Improving forest health also reduces pest and mold populations.

## Biochar



Woody biomass from fuels reduction projects can be turned into biochar. Added to the soil, biochar can help retain moisture and nutrients. Make sure to charge biochar in compost tea or it will absorb nutrients. You can make biochar by stacking limbs and lighting the pile from the top. When the flame turns from yellow to blue, put out the fire and you have biochar.

## Remediation



Creating a bioswale below a garden where there is potential runoff with excess nutrients remediates a problem and increases groundwater storage. It also increases soil moisture and creates an ideal site for an orchard or for other plants.