## **Eleanor Mattice**

Riparian areas need to be restored and maintained across our nation to protect this precious resource. Try to make BMPs for ag around surface waters consistent throughout agencies so producers know what to expect about water quality from one agency to the other. We must compensate producers for lost income from allowing riparian buffer zones to do their ecological function. Farmers should be financially assisted to restore buffer vegetation. Ag producers that degrade riparian should be educated on BMPs. If they continue to not use BMPs along waterways, they should be fined. If they still refuse to use buffers along streams and rivers then iminent domain should be used to obtain the riverside land for the restoring our rivers' buffers for the good of all. Water is life!