

## Slippershell *Alasmidonta viridis*

**Habitat Preference:** Creeks and the headwaters of large rivers in sand, mud, or fine gravel. Slippershells require clean, clear water.

### Threats:

- Runoff from agricultural fields that add nutrients or silt to waterways.
- Alterations to the natural flow of rivers or creeks such as dams.
- Channelization

### Habitat Improvement Guidelines:

- Implement proper upland management such as contour farming and other soil erosion control methods.
  - Create buffers along water bodies to filter nutrients and sediment out of runoff before it reaches waterways.
  - Establish large shade trees such as oaks and cottonwoods along stream corridors.
  - Limit grazing, cows and pigs can destabilize banks and directly crush mussels.
- Install riffles or other fish habitat components.
- Cease channelization.
- Limit new construction of dam structures and remove existing dam structures when feasible.
- Create fish passageways over existing dams.



Photo Courtesy Illinois Natural History Survey  
<http://www.inhs.uiuc.edu/>