

Vegetation - The Roots of the Solution

The riparian areas of streambanks and shorelines are glued together by a diversity of plants with strong, deep root systems, especially those of woody plants.



Riparian vegetation reduces horsepower by slowing water down through friction. A five centimeter deep rootmat resists erosion up to 20,000 times better than bare soil streambanks or shorelines.



Deep rooted sedges glue together the riparian area of this small, low gradient stream.

As the percentage of roots in streambanks and shorelines increases, erosion decreases.