

## Glossary: Words to Know

**Erosion:** a gradual wearing away by ice, running water or wind.

**Groundwater:** water that flows or seeps downward and saturates the soil.

**Pollution:** the dirtying of any part of the environment, especially with waster material.

**Riparian Buffer:** a strip of grass, shrubs or trees along the banks of a river or stream.

**Runoff:** something that runs off, such as rain that flows from the land to the stream.

**Sediment:** earth, stones, etc., deposited by water, wind or ice.

## Where I got my information:

Image on the cover: <http://www.trc.govt.nz/transforming-taranaki-the-programme>

Image for Step One: [http://www.glogster.com/eunicea/geography/g-6mspp025p1gl8kcp9i1h3a0?old\\_view=True](http://www.glogster.com/eunicea/geography/g-6mspp025p1gl8kcp9i1h3a0?old_view=True)

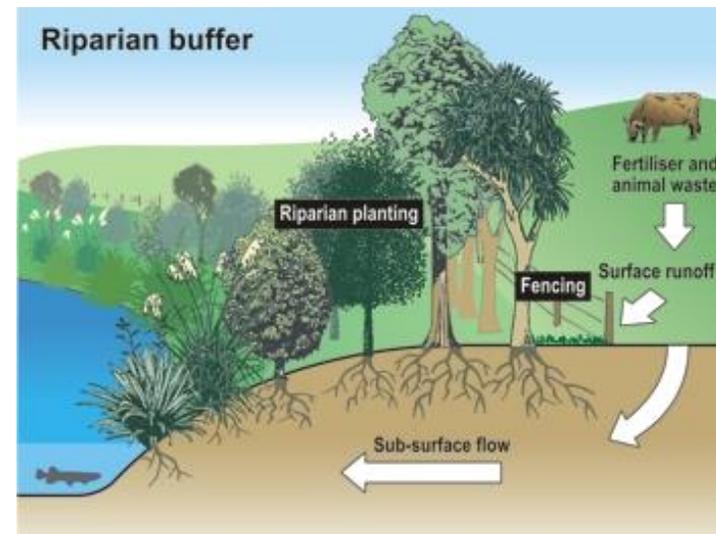
Image for Step Two: <http://extension.missouri.edu/p/AF1009>

Image for Step Three: <http://www.vtnews.vt.edu/articles/2014/10/100114-cnre-agroforestryworkshop.html>

Also, I read the fact sheet No. 1, **Introduction to Riparian Buffers for the Connecticut River Watershed**, in the series *Riparian Buffers for the Connecticut River Watershed*, published by the Connecticut River Joint Commissions.

Glossary definitions came from the 1979 edition of Intermediate Dictionary by E.L. Thorndike and Clarence L. Barnhart. Published by Scott, Foresman and Co., Glenview, IL.

# A Guide to Riparian Planting



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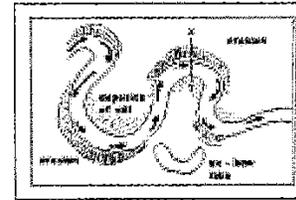
Grade 3

# Important Facts

1. A riparian buffer is a strip of grass, shrubs, or trees along the banks of a river or stream.
2. Riparian buffers can filter out pollution before it gets into the water.
3. Riparian buffers can slow down the water running into a river or stream. This can help to prevent a flood.
4. The roots of the plants in the riparian zone help to hold the soil in place. Without a riparian buffer, the soil will wash away or erode.
5. A riparian buffer made up of trees is better than a buffer made up of grass because it catches more sediment. Too much sediment is bad for the animals in the water. Fish need the water to be clean and cold. Trees provide shade to cool things off, and they filter the sediment to keep the water clean.

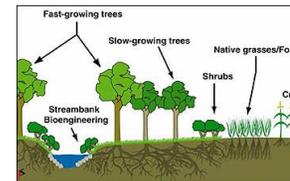
## How to Make a Riparian Buffer

### Step One



Choose the spot. Find a place by the river or stream where there are no or few plants present. You can plant very young trees which will grow bigger over time and eventually provide a lot of shade for the animals in the water.

### Step Two



Plan your buffer. How wide you make the planting area depends on how big the water channel is and what the land is like around it. If you have a steep slope by the water, you need to plant a wider buffer (more than 35 feet wide).

### Step Three



Plant! Now it is time to get a shovel and dig a hole big enough for the root ball of the plant. When the hole is big enough, put the roots of the plant in the hole. Cover the roots well with soil. Don't forget to water it!