After Bank Stabilization

What You Can Do

- The simplest action for a landowner is ***in***action; **do not mow within 5 *or more* feet of the top of the bank**. (see diagram, reverse page) This creates a buffer strip.

- Another action is **planting long-rooted plants** along the top of the bank creating a buffer strip that is **5 or more feet wide**. Native plants work well. Use shorter plants for a view area.

Established vegetated riprap

www.dnr.state.wi.us

What *NOT* to Do

Do Not Disturb the stabilized area.

Do not landscape the slope as a garden.

Remember, **Less Care is Best!**

Coon Creek Watershed District may fund bank stabilization at these levels:

Level 1: **District Cooperator**: the District may fund 100% of the repair cost of an eroded or failed streambank with landowner buy-in for the implementation of on-site preventive practices adjacent to the creek/ditch.

Level 2: the District may fund 80% of the repair cost of an eroded or failed streambank if an appropriate best management practice adjacent to the creek/ditch is *not* desired by the property owner.

Level 3: If the property owner desires a bank stabilization remedy that is different from the bank protection method determined by staff and approved by the Board, the District may cost share on the bank stabilization project up to 100% of the cost of the method recommended to the Board, provided the landowner applies for a permit, the permit application is approved by the Board based on compliance with the District rules, and ability to maintain access to the ditch for future maintenance. In such cases, the cost sharing will be on a reimbursement basis upon request of the property owner, a copy of the contractor's invoice for the project, and a final inspection by the District.

Coon Creek Watershed District

Mission

To manage groundwater and surface water drainage systems to prevent property damage, maintain hydrologic balance, and to protect water quality for the safety and enjoyment of citizens and the preservation and enhancement of wildlife habitat.

Coon Creek Watershed District

WATER IQ #4

BANK STABILIZATION PROJECTS

Fourth in a Water Information Quest (IQ) Series by Coon Creek Watershed District

Tel: 763.755.0975

12301 Central Ave. NE
Suite 100
Blaine, MN 55434

Before Bank Stabilization

The creek/ditch banks on your property have severe erosion that needs to be stabilized. If not stabilized, the erosion will continue to pollute the creek/ditch, and you may have property loss.

Causes

Erosion is a natural process that shifts soil downstream from the sides and bottom of creeks/streams. It can be caused by :

- Rainfall
- Obstacles in the creek/ditch
- Ice
- Streamflow
- Changes in land use

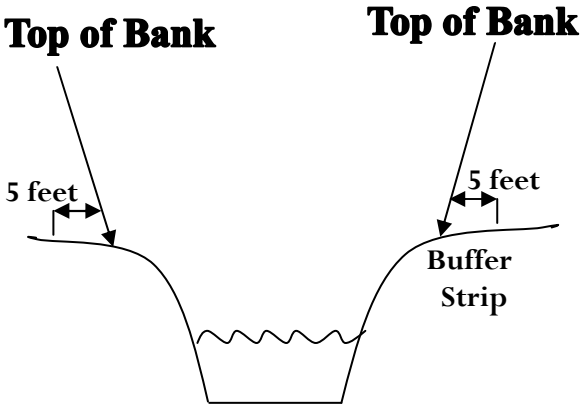
Additionally, development often removes vegetation from the sides and top of the bank and replaces it with turf grass.

When turf is constantly mowed, its roots stay short. Without longer roots holding the soil, erosion can happen more easily.

Less Care is Best!

Please,

- **Do Not Mow within 5 feet of the top of bank**
- **Do Not Clear Vegetation near the creek/ditch**
- **Please leave the bank undisturbed**



What will Happen

1. The District Engineer has a customized design for your bank stabilization project.
2. We will discuss the project design and enlist your cooperation in person.
3. When the ground is frozen, expect heavy equipment to cross your yard to work on the bank.
4. The site and your yard will look torn up for a growing season.
5. Don't Worry! If used, the seed mix and live stakes will grow. These plants are chosen for their deep roots and adaptability to such sites; they will look natural.

Bank Repair Options

With your cooperation, Coon Creek Watershed District (the District) will stabilize the banks. Several options exist:

- **Vegetative Buffer Strip** is a width of vegetation that provides a transition between different land uses. Widths vary depending on the function and topography of the buffer. Generally, the steeper the slope, the wider the buffer strip.
- **Vegetated Riprap** is an example where normal riprap methods are used, however plants are inserted between the rock spaces to provide a vegetative covering including willow or dogwood shrubs.
- **Armoring,** sometimes called Riprap is a blanket of appropriately sized stones, fitted to the slope and shape of the shoreline. It is used where long-term durability is needed with no practical way to use vegetation in the design.
- **Reconstruction** is used to rebuild the slope of the bank by bringing in backfill. This is the most costly technique.

Please post this on your refrigerator with this side fully open.

Flip this over when stabilization is done.