

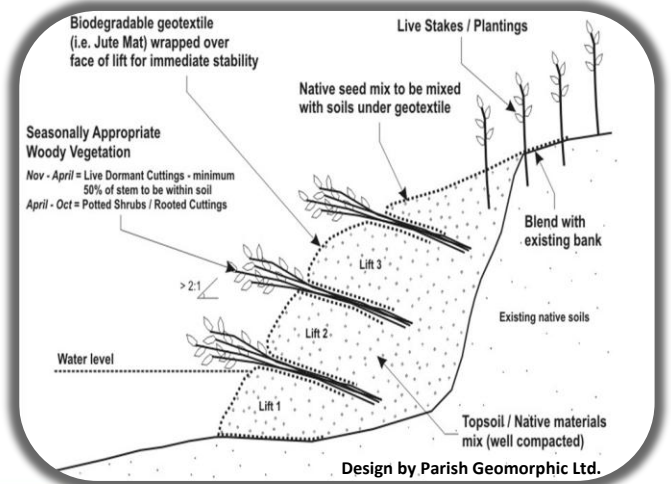
Bank Stabilization

Black River

Eroding banks cause inputs of sediment to the river; excessive sediment in the river damages critical fish habitat and negatively impacts water quality. The loss of vegetation on the shore reduces shade and can cause an increase in water temperature. Stabilization of banks and establishment of bank vegetation improves the health of the watercourse.



A concerned landowner contacted us about his Black River property; the combination of a bend in the river and a steep bank comprised primarily of sand and loam made this bank susceptible to heavy erosion.



The loads of sediment being introduced to the river from bank erosion cause negative impacts on fish habitat and water quality. To prevent this damage and stabilize the bank, a technique known as *live brush layering* was used.



Photo by Nick Kuiper, R&M Construction

Bank material was layered with cuttings of native shrubs which will grow and establish root systems that help hold the bank together.



Photo by Nick Kuiper, R&M Construction

As the material was built up, a less steep bank was created. This was a BIG project that required lots of people and heavy equipment!



The more gently sloping bank, along with the establishment of bank vegetation and root systems, makes this bank much more stable and less susceptible to erosion.

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- Community Stream Steward Program
- Lake Simcoe Clean Up Fund
- Ontario Species at Risk Stewardship Fund
- Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority
- Ontario Wildlife Foundation
- Landowner

