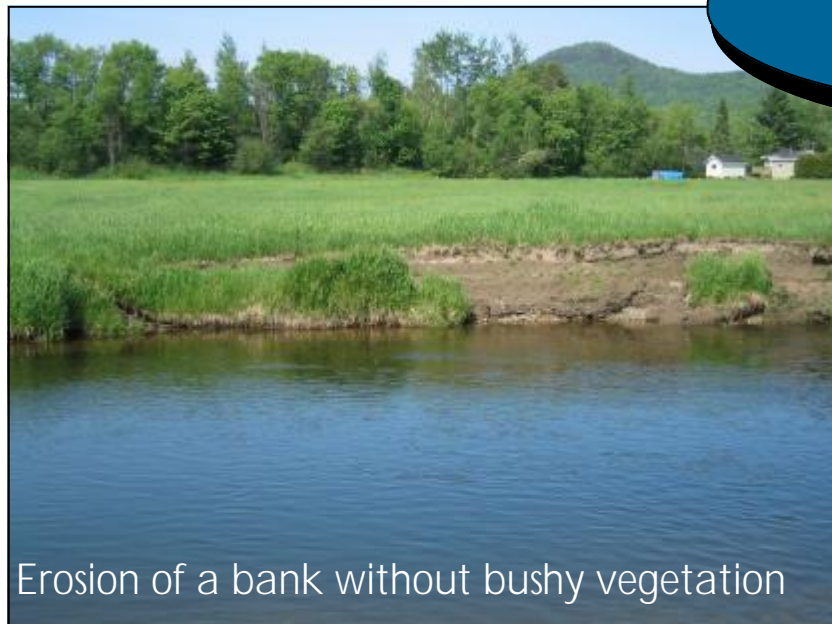


Fact sheet 3

Bank vegetation



Erosion of a bank without bushy vegetation

Is there a problem ?

Why vegetate ?

- ◇ Vegetation stabilizes shores because the roots hold the ground back.
- ◇ It reduces the watercourse sediment accumulation.
- ◇ The roots filter the water in the ground.
- ◇ The foliage protects against excessive water warm-up and the flowers smell
- ◇ Lakeside vegetation makes a good wildlife habitat.
- ◇ Low shrubs protect us from the wind and make a property beautiful.
- ◇ For a lot more reasons!!!

The biggest problem of banks is erosion. This situation causes difficulties to many shoreline residents because every year, some of them lose a part of land. Many people do not know about or do not preoccupy themselves about this problem. However, it does not only affect our property but also impacts the flora and wildlife. We need to act in order to avoid problems near the water. Removing existing vegetation accounts for an imbalanced environment. For example, removing cattails near the water gets rid of frogs. Once the frogs are gone, the number of mosquitoes increases since there are no more predators to eat them. The best way of avoiding problems is to let nature be, it knows what is best for itself and for us.

Let's change our habits

To avoid	Why	Our recommendations
Eliminating all vegetation and grass up to the shore	Naked shores cause ground erosion and increase water contamination.	Leaving the natural vegetation in its place and, if necessary, planting various indigenous species.
Planting exotic plants such as the purple loosestrife or the common water reed.	Certain exotic species do not adapt well to shoreline areas whereas others invade and eliminate indigenous flora and wildlife.	Choosing plants, low shrubs and trees that naturally live by the water.
Using toxic herbicides and insecticides.	Poisons local flora and wildlife and can occasion health problems.	Using natural recipes with less dangerous products.

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A source of solutions, a network for actions.

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Fact sheet 3

Bank Vegetation

There are solutions !

During a shoreline plantation, it is important to pamper our plants by respecting their humidity needs and by placing them at the right location. Generally, at the lower part of the bank, the ground is very humid and at the higher part of bank, the ground is drier.

Useful reference

Where to order:

Serre et pépinière Champlain
Saint-Sébastien
Rang de la baie

Pépinière Aiglon:
Plessisville
819-362-7570

Pépinière Belle Odorante
Saint-Jean-sur-Richelieu
450-346-9240

Pépinière du Domaine
Brigham
450-293-1339

Horticulture Indigo
Melbourne
819-826-3314
www.horticulture-indigo.com

How to plant:

Société de l'arbre du Québec
Réussir sa plantation
418-648-5699
www.sodaq.qc.ca

RAPPEL
Guide de renaturalisation
819-564-9426
www.rappel.qc.ca

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This fact sheet was designed in collaboration with the Ministère du Développement durable, de l'Environnement et des Parcs.



The delicate Arrowhead



The first part is located at the bottom of the slope, in the humid section. Here is what we can plant:

- { Speckled alder: low shrub 2 to 6m high, attracts many birds.
- { Black chokeberry: plant 1 to 2m high, nice white flowers and gorgeous foliage.
- { Winterberry: low shrub 2 to 4m high, red berries that attract the ruffed grouse and the cardinal.
- { Blue iris: nice violet and yellow flower, Québec floral crest.

- { Sweet gale: charming odorant low shrub 1 to 2m high which attracts the thrasher and the American robin
- { Reed phalaris: this plant cleans up the water, looks like hay.
- { Wild rice: this nice spear grass is food for wildlife
- { Arrowhead: nice plant with white flowers, less than 1m high and attracts many duck species.
- { Sandbar willow: low shrub 1 to 2m high with long and delicate leaves, best stabilizing plant.

The second part is located at the top of the slope, in the dry section. Here are the suggested plants:

- | Shadblow: low shrub 2 to 5m high, its fruits resemble little apples on which birds feed on.
- | Choke cherry: nice low shrub 2 to 5m, attracts 43 bird species
- | Twining honey suckle: low shrub 1 to 3m high, birds appreciate its red berries during the Fall season.
- | Lilac: low shrub 2 to 4m high that gives a sweet smell and attracts butterflies.

Meadowsweet like velvet !



- | Meadowsweet: plant with pink or white flowers, 1 to 2m high, attracts birds and butterflies, reproduces itself easily.
- | European red elder: low shrub 2 to 5m, resists winds and attracts the woodpecker, the American robin and many other birds.
- | Cranberry bush: low shrub 2 to 5m high, edible red berries, resists winds.
- | Virginia creeper: nice dark green tendril-climbing vine with blue berries and attracts 35 bird species including thrashers and warblers.

