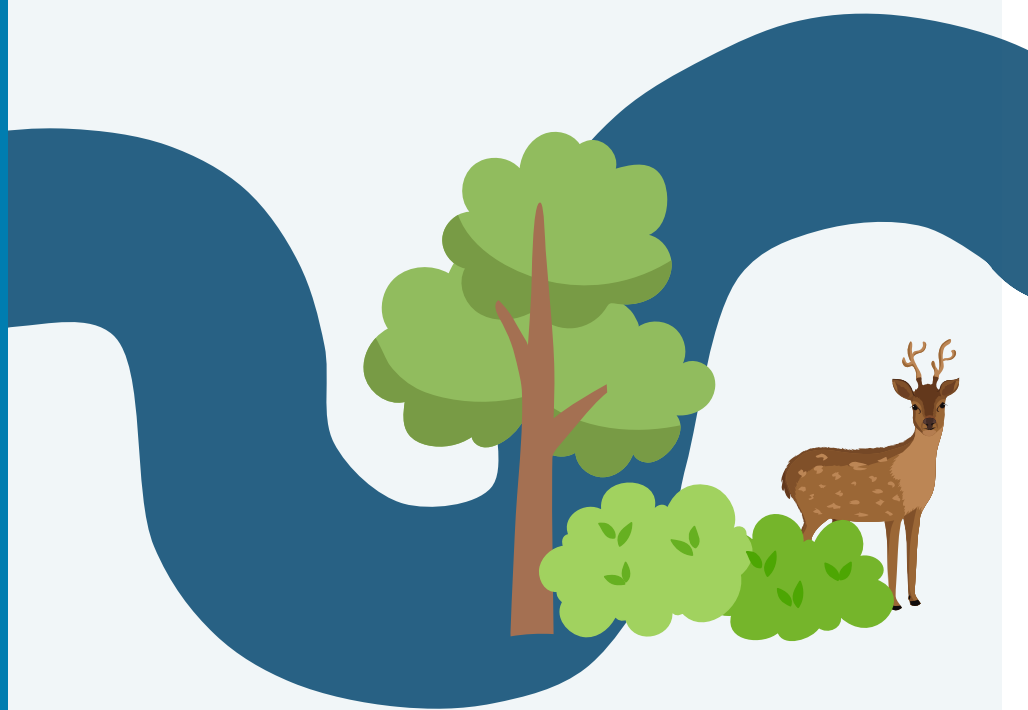




Benefits of Riparian Areas



Wildlife Corridors provide connectivity for wildlife to travel between habitats

Woody Debris within stream channels provides habitat for amphibians and insects that serve as food for fish. Large woody debris provides refuge for juvenile salmon, shapes the flow of water in the channel and can provide streambank stability.

Trees provide shade that keeps water cool for fish. Standing or fallen decaying trees (wildlife trees) provide insects that birds love to eat, denning locations for bears, caches for squirrels and offer great perches for birds, such as bald eagles.

Streamside Vegetation contributes to shade and protective cover for fish, drops leaves and insects into the water which become food for fish and provide nutrients to the stream. Plant roots contribute to streambank stability and can help absorb water during times of heavy rain and prevent soil from eroding away.

Flood Mitigation. Healthy riparian areas absorb excess water during heavy rains, reducing the risk of floods -- such as the ones that destroyed bridges in Cliff Gilker Park in 2021.

Drinking Water. Some wetlands and streams contribute directly to the replenishment of aquifers used for drinking water. It's important to keep these natural assets healthy and working.

Contact planning@scrd.ca prior any work within or near a riparian area.