




**General Riparian Vegetation Concepts**

**Riparian vegetation is important because:**

- It Stabilizes streambanks with extensive root systems.
- Shades the water
- Improves water quality
- Provides fish and wildlife habitat
- Builds streambanks by catching sediment



**General Riparian Vegetation Concepts**

**Plant species composition varies among adjacent riparian plant communities.**

**WHY?**



*These communities differ mainly in their ability to obtain water along the moisture continuum from the water surface to the uplands.*

**General Riparian Vegetation Concepts**

**What is the most complex and diverse site on which to establish plants in a riparian zone?**

**It is NOT the wettest site!**

**It is NOT the driest site!**

**It is the area with the most diverse hydrologic regime!!!**



