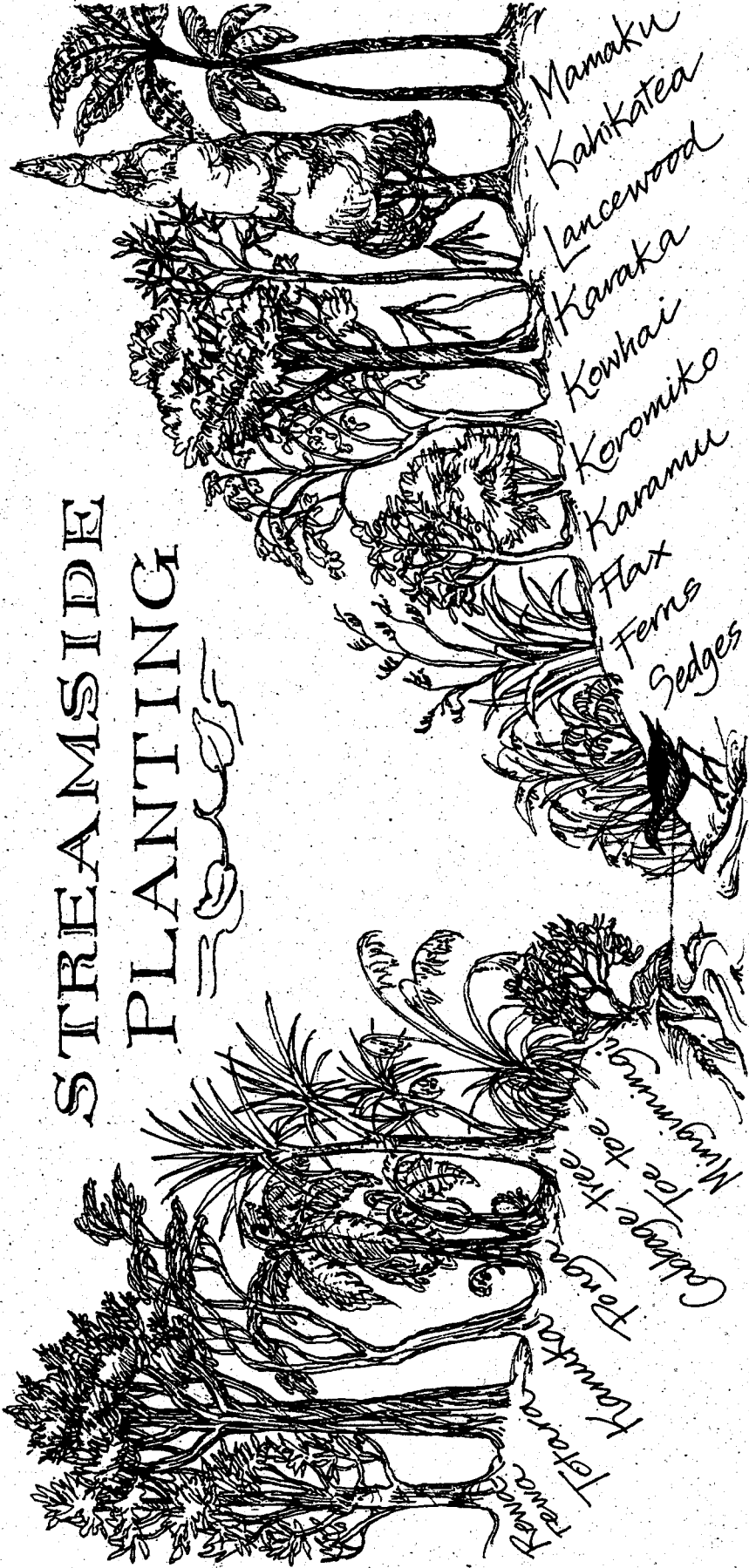


STREAMSIDE PLANTING



YOUR STREAM : A LIFE SUPPORT SYSTEM

Your local stream sustains the life of many plants, birds, insects and animals. For some the stream is a larder, for others a home, for humans it's a place to play and relax. Your stream is part of a growing network of green and watery places connecting people and places, coast with city, home with wilderness.

WHY PLANTING BESIDE YOUR STREAM IS A GREAT IDEA

- Plants hold the soil together - preventing bank collapses.
- Plants absorb and filter excess water and limit flooding of your property.
- Plants shade the water, lowering the water temperature. This is good for the 'critters' who live in or by the stream.
- Planted banks keep the weeds back and reduce weed spread via the waterway.

HOW TO PLANT

Clear weeds from around your planting site. Dig a hole deeper and larger than the root bundle and put compost in the hole. Place the plant in the hole, fill the hole with soil and press soil gently around the plant, then water. Put mulch (compost, bark chips etc.) around but not touching the plant to help control weeds.

WHEN TO PLANT

Plant in autumn or spring or on cloudy or cool days.

WHAT TO PLANT WHERE

- By the stream edge:
1. plant sedges, grasses and a few cabbage trees. This enables you to keep a view of the stream and enables easy access to it or
 2. if you have room, extend planting to a band 2 metres wide from the stream edge back. Plant sedges, grasses and cabbage trees densely. 5-10m from the stream plant shrubs and small trees e.g. kowhai, and ponga. 10m from the stream edge plant taller trees like rewarewa, and karaka.
- Pioneer plants such as sedges, grasses, flax, toetoe, karamu and cabbage trees should be planted first, as they are good at getting started in bare ground or where there is only grass or weeds. Look at the site, choose plants which would grow there naturally.

WHY PLANT NATIVES

Because they belong here, are adapted to conditions here, and they need less care. Some birds eat mainly native berries, seeds, and nectars. They need native plants.

NEED SOME ADVICE?

Phone 839 0400. Ask for more detailed information or for a free planting guide.



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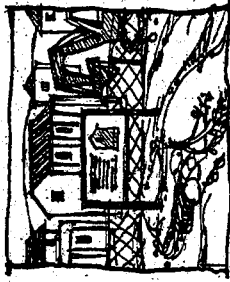
SLIP SLIDING AWAY

...facing erosion problems?

The Problem?

Development

Clearing plants and trees by streams makes the land vulnerable to erosion by wind, rain and flood water.



What to Do!

- Keep as much vegetation as you can on building sites especially if they are near a stream.
- If you do clear an area replant it as soon as possible.
- When you disturb the ground use a silt fence or earth bund to filter the silt.

Rubbish

Rubbish, including shopping trolleys, plastic containers, bottles etc. gets dumped in our streams. This blocks the stream and the water flow eats into the stream banks.



- Organise a clean-up! Ask friends, family and neighbours to help you.

Stormwater

The impact of stormwater falling from a pipe or outlet gouges away the stream bed.



- Avoid piping streams - use plants to filter and control water flow - planting costs less and reduces flooding and erosion.
- Or put some boulders below the pipe flow to break up the impact of the water.

Weeds and Willows

Plant pieces clog streams, forcing water to flow around the blockage. This causes banks to collapse. Water is a great seed and weed carrier. Weeds often get whooshed downstream, and washed up on banks further down where they simply re-establish.



- Keep the stream banks weed free.
- Get rid of those tenacious weeds, especially ginger and japanese honeysuckle! Ph 839-0400 for a special ginger bag you can put out with your rubbish.
- Herbicide is the most effective treatment for the worst stream side enemy - the willow. Phone 839-0400 for advice on controlling weeds safely.

Animals

Cattle trampling in swampy, boggy areas around stream edges causes subsidence and pollution.



- Fence off the stream or create a planted buffer between the stock and stream.
- Provide water from a pond or trough.



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For more information or advice about erosion, planting and landscaping please phone 839-0400.

