



Streamside and Wetland Restoration Benefits

By planting native trees, shrubs and other plants along streams and wetlands in place of bare ground or non-native plants like blackberries you are having the following effects:

- Streamside trees and native plants create shade that keeps rivers from warming and improves survival of salmon.
- Old trees fall into the stream providing protection for young salmon, trout, and other fish and aquatic wildlife.
- Removing invasive plants like blackberries, reed canary grass, and purple loosestrife allows native streamside vegetation like willow, alder, and red-osier dogwood to establish and thrive.
- Streamside areas and wetlands with a variety of native trees, shrubs, and other plants and without many invasive species are much more able to adapt to changing climate conditions.
- Removing trash reduces water pollution and makes these streamside areas more beautiful and accessible. Children will want to play in and spend more time along these creeks, streams, and rivers. Adults will also enjoy and appreciate these areas more because of the enhanced quality of life provided by nature.
- Trees and shrubs you plant pull carbon dioxide (CO₂, a “greenhouse gas”) out of the air, reducing the effects of climate change.

Sharing this environmental experience with your classmates, friends and family spreads the importance of these benefits for your community and environment.