

Riverbanks



Many New Zealanders have a riverside property. Planting of riverbanks can minimise erosion, assist in water quality, provide areas for wildlife to live and create an attractive and special part of your garden.

There are some points to consider with riverside planting including choosing plants that can withstand wet feet or occasional flooding and choosing plants with good root structure to control erosion. Existing trees may need to be retained due to council regulation (ie, poplars and willows) and clearing of weeds before starting (check with your chemical supplier for suitable sprays) is recommended.

Riverside areas can be referred to as 'riperian' or 'riverine' areas.

Below is a list of plants to consider. Note that other plants can be used higher up on the riverbank, where flooding/wetness may not be a problem. In those areas you can either keep the planting 'natural' or introduce a 'garden' theme.

Plant Suggestions for riverbanks

◆ = will take flooding or very wet feet

Grasses

Botanical Name	Common Name
<i>Anemanthele lessoniana</i>	Bamboo Grass
<i>Carex coriacea</i>	Sedge
<i>Carex solandrii</i>	Sedge
<i>Carex trifida</i>	Sedge
<i>Carex secta</i> ◆	Sedge
<i>Chionchloa flavicans</i>	Tussock Grass
<i>Cortaderia spp</i> ◆	Toetoe
<i>Dianella nigra</i>	NZ Blueberry
<i>Juncus spp</i> ◆	Rush

Groundcovers

Botanical Name	Common Name
<i>Aceana spp</i>	Bidibidi
<i>Asplenium bulbiferum</i>	Hen & Chicken Fern
<i>Blechnum capense</i>	Kio Kio Fern
<i>Coprosma prostrata</i>	Coprosma (mat)
<i>Elatostema rugosa</i>	Parataniwha
<i>Fuchsia procumbens</i>	Prostrate Fuchsia
<i>Gunnera prorepens</i>	
<i>Pratia angulata</i> ◆	Panakenake

Shrubs

Botanical Name	Common Name
<i>Coprosma propinqua</i> ♦	Mingimingi
<i>Coprosma robusta</i>	Karamu
<i>Hebe stricta</i>	Koromiko
<i>Jovellana</i> spp	
<i>Leptospermum</i> hybrids	Manuka
<i>Machaerina sinclairii</i> ♦	Broad Sedge
<i>Phormium cookianum</i> ♦	Mountain Flax
<i>Phormium tenax</i> & hybrids ♦	Flax
<i>Pseudowintera colerata</i>	Pepper Tree

Trees

Botanical Name	Common Name
<i>Agathis australis</i>	Kauri
<i>Alectryon excelsa</i>	Titoki
<i>Aristotelia serrata</i>	Wineberry
<i>Beilschamedia tawa</i>	Tawa
<i>Carpodetus serratus</i>	Marbleleaf
<i>Cordyline australis</i> ♦	Cabbage Tree
<i>Cyathea dealbata</i>	Ponga
<i>Cyathea medullaris</i>	Mamaku
<i>Dacrycarpus</i> ♦	Kahikatea
<i>Dacrydium cupressinum</i>	Rimu
<i>Dicksonia squarrosa</i>	Wheki
<i>Fuchsia excorticata</i>	Tree Fuchsia
<i>Griselinia littoralis</i>	Broadleaf
<i>Hoheria</i>	Lacebark
<i>Kunzea ericoides</i>	Kanuka
<i>Laurelia novae-zelandiae</i>	Puketea
<i>Leptospermum</i> ♦	Manuka
<i>Melicytus ramiflorus</i>	Whiteywood
<i>Nothofagus</i>	Beech
<i>Pennantia corymbosa</i>	Kaikomako
<i>Pittosporum eugenoides</i>	Lemonwood
<i>Plagianthus betulinus</i>	Ribbonwood
<i>Plagianthus divaricatus</i> ♦	Shore Ribbonwood (Salt water)
<i>Podocarpus totara</i>	Totara
<i>Prumnopitys ferruginea</i>	Miro
<i>Prumnopitys taxifolia</i>	Matai
<i>Pseudopanax arboreus</i>	Fivefinger
<i>Rhopalostylis sapida</i>	Nikau
<i>Schleffera digitata</i>	Pate
<i>Sophora microphylla</i> ♦	Sth Island Kowhai
<i>Sophora tetraptera</i>	Kowhai
<i>Weinmannia racemosa</i>	Kamaha

For further information contact:

Local Council
Department of Conservation
Local Fish and Game Council