

Saline County SWCD
(618) 252-8621 ext. 3
Streambank Stabilization Restoration Project



Above: Pictures of scouring on a streambank. This stream bank is on the edge of an 80 acre field with row crops being taken into the creek by erosion.

Saline County has assisted several landowners in the streambank stabilization program. This is a cost share program provided through the state cost share program for fields with erosion problems which are located adjacent to creeks and/or streams.

Streambank erosion is a natural process that occurs in all streams as water flows through the channel and wears away soil and rock. This is a common resource concern seen in waterways through the state resulting in degraded water quality, unstable structures, and increased flood risks impacting landowners, communities and watersheds both environmentally and economically. Streambank erosion has become a serious threat to land, water, plant and animal resources. Leaving eroding streambanks untreated can cause loss or damage to buildings, roads, wildlife habitat, farmland and other property.

Advantages of installing streambank stabilization practices:

- Stabilizes eroding banks and reduces down-stream sedimentation.
- Low cost, in terms of materials, installation and maintenance.
- Can be installed at any time when water levels are low enough to allow construction.
- Enhances self establishment of native vegetation in a very short time after construction.
- Will enhance or improve aquatic habitat by increasing diversity.
- Provides for minimal disturbance of existing vegetation on the streambank.

Below: You can see rock having been placed and the sides of the banks pulled back to discourage erosion. A field border strip could be an added benefit to discourage this from re-occurring.

