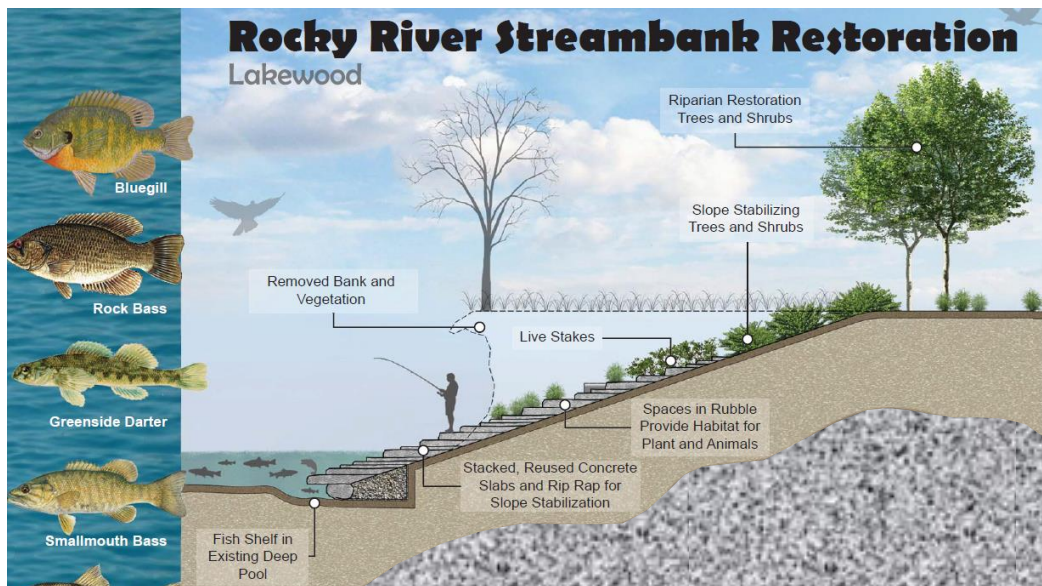


# FACT SHEET 2017



## PROBLEM: UNVEGETATED RIVER BANKS

- Unvegetated banks along the riverbanks threaten the water quality of river and destabilize slopes. The constant erosion of sediment into the river decreases the fish habitat and increases pollutants in the water causing murky water. Likewise, with no root structure to hold the soil in place, the banks toe erodes and causes the bank to destabilize and losing valuable land.



## WHY IT MATTERS

- A stable streambank creates healthy habitat for fish
- Increased vegetation, shoreline diversity, and decreased erosion produce a robust environment for wildlife.
- Added vegetation increases habitat diversity.
- Shade produced from the new vegetation reduces air temperature, cooling the stream to a tolerable condition for fish life.
- The fish shelf and spaces between the rocks produce opening where fish and invertebrates can rest.
- Tree roots secure the bank edge, helping to reduce erosion and sediment loading from the river, resulting in a more productive fish habitat.