

## The importance of the riparian vegetation

Why the riparian vegetation is so important for a river?

Because...

1. Riparian vegetation controls the **water temperature** by shading the water.
2. Very often, riparian vegetation is one of the most important **sources of organic matter** in the water.
3. Riparian vegetation increases the **river bed stability**.
4. Riparian vegetation provides terrestrial and aquatic **fauna habitat, food and refuge** from predators.
5. Riparian vegetation acts as a **buffer** between terrestrial activities and aquatic ecosystems.
6. Riparian vegetation has an important role in improving the **quality of water** entering in the river (for example, riparian vegetation filters some nutrients avoiding high concentrations of nutrients in the water).