RIPARIAN SITES ARE USUALLY adjacent to rivers and waterways with soils often containing clay, high amounts of organic matter and/or saturated sand. Examples: River and streambanks or damp floodplains of rivers and streams.
SITE PREPARATION

Eradi cate existing vegetation by having a licensed spray technician apply an approved herbicide, such as glyphosate (Rodeo®), triclopyr (Garlon® 3A) or a similar aquatic herbicide formulation, to control undesirable vegetation, such as multiflora rose, honeysuckle and woody species. CAUTION: Some persistent species, such as purple loosestrife, phragmites, Japanese knotweed or reed canarygrass, may need multiple applications of glyphosate or triclopyr. Perennial weeds not addressed before establishment will be difficult to remove later. Before seeding, excess dead vegetation should be removed, turned under or burned if conditions permit. Newly constructed riparian sites should be seeded as soon after construction as possible.

GROWING SEASON MAINTENANCE

FIRST GROWING SEASON

› Whenever canopy height (overall vegetation) reaches 16”-24”, use a brush hog mower or string trimmer to trim the meadow to a height of 8”. A lawn mower is not recommended as the mower height will be too low and native seedlings will be killed. Trimming will reduce competition by fast-growing weeds for sunlight, water and nutrients needed by slow-growing perennial natives.
› If bioengineering materials were used on the site, mowing should be above the new growth of these materials. Trimming should cease by mid-September.
› Problem weeds should be hand pulled or spot sprayed with an approved herbicide, such as Roundup®, Rodeo® or Garlon 3A®. Be particularly vigilant about controlling invasive vines, such as bindweed, mile-a-minute and Japanese hops. These are more easily pulled when they are young rather than after they have had two to three months of growth. Be equally vigilant about controlling other invasive species, such as autumn olive and Japanese knotweed.
SECOND & SUBSEQUENT GROWING SEASONS

› Prior to new spring growth reaching a height of 2” (e.g., shortly after forsythia or redbud blooms), trim any material standing from the previous year close to the ground (approximately 2”). This will allow the soil to warm more quickly, which will stimulate the emergence and growth of native seedlings and reduce the likelihood of the meadow being invaded by shrubs.

› If bioengineering materials were used on the site or seed of shrubs/trees were part of the mix, the site should not be trimmed after the establishment year.

› Problem weeds should be hand pulled or spot sprayed with an approved herbicide, such as Rodeo® or Garlon® 3A. If you did not plant vines or spiny plants as part of your mix, be vigilant about controlling them. These are more easily pulled when they are young rather than after they have had two to three months of growth. Examples include bindweed, blackberry, multiflora rose, mile-a-minute and Japanese hops. Be equally vigilant about controlling other invasive species, such as autumn olive and Japanese knotweed.

SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES - SECOND GROWING SEASON

› If you notice a heavy infestation of ragweed or foxtail in the second growing season, trim the meadow to a height of 8”. Trimming should cease by mid-September.

GENERAL MAINTENANCE

› Grassy weeds or persistent perennials can re-establish in these soils. Monitor and control weeds by hand pulling or spot spraying.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>RIPARIAN SITES SEED MIXES</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ERNMX-154</td>
<td>Floodplain Mix</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ERNMX-178</td>
<td>Riparian Buffer Mix</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Mix formulations are subject to change without notice depending on the availability of existing and new products. While the formula may change, the guiding philosophy and function of the mix will not.