



**MPWMD
Carmel River
restoration work
1983-2001**

**Seven miles of river bank
replanted with vegetation**

**53,112 willow and
cottonwood cuttings
planted along river banks**

**611,880 feet of irrigation
systems installed to
establish plantings and
maintain vegetation**

**More than 135,000 cubic
yards of river material
moved to create stable
channels**

**31 fish pools excavated to
provide steelhead habitat**

114,295 steelhead rescued

**1,050 tires removed and
recycled**

**855 cubic yards of trash
removed**

River Myth #4: fact & fiction

Clearing the riverbed would prevent floods.
It is impossible to "vacuum" the riverbed of all obstructions. Removing all organic debris would remove nutrient sources, destroy aquatic habitat, and could actually cause erosion by altering stream flow. Each year, MPWMD removes non-organic material from the river, such as car tires, metal and plastic debris.

- Advise you on how to safely remove non-native vegetation.

- Help you obtain permits from different agencies.
- Advise you on the addition of riparian plants and irrigation systems.
- Supply free willow and cottonwood cuttings.

Contact the Monterey Peninsula Water Management District before making streambank alterations to ensure that you are taking the most effective action to protect yourself, your neighbors and the river—we're here to help!

Services for river-front residents

Here are just some of the services that MPWMD staff biologists, hydrologists, engineers and maintenance workers provide to landowners near the Carmel River:

- Analyze the condition of your riverbank and that of your neighbors'.
- Evaluate your property's flooding and erosion potential, and suggest preventive measures.
- Use historic photographs and flood elevation models to predict future problems.
- Provide information on safely pruning vegetation to create view windows.
- Design neighborhood river restoration projects.



Each year, MPWMD clears the river bottom of debris that can cause erosion and degrade riverbank and water quality.

- Provide "how-to" guides on streambank planting and water-wise landscaping.
- Help you find information in our library of public documents and reports pertaining to the river.
- Remove flood debris and other flow obstructions.
- Maintain the "Erosion Potential Hotline" with updates on streamflow: 658-5678.

For assistance, please call the Carmel Valley Field Office at 659-2543.



**Monterey Peninsula
Water Management District**

Main Office: 658-5600
5 Harris Court, Bldg. G, Monterey, CA 93940

*For river-related questions call
Carmel Valley Field Office: 659-2543
Talbott Building, Carmel Valley Village*

*For updates on streamflow conditions call
Erosion Potential Hotline: 658-5678*

*For flood or erosion emergencies call
Monterey County Office
of Emergency Services: 755-5010*

*Visit the District website at
www.mpwmd.dst.ca.us*