

## MILLS RIVER PARTNERSHIP

# LIVE STAKING: A GUIDE

## What Is It?

Cuttings from trees planted into the stream bank to stabilize soil structure



## Sourcing

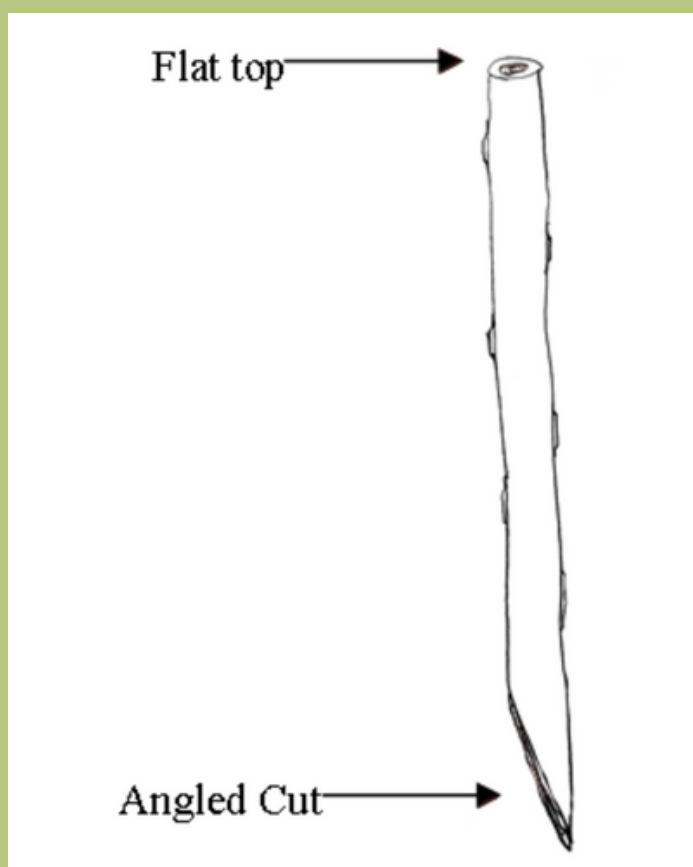
Stem cuttings are taken from dormant trees. They can be harvested on your own property or purchased cheaply at a local nursery

Live stakes will eventually grow into new trees, establish a root network in the stream banks and help prevent further soil loss.

# How To: Live Staking 101

To harvest, cut branches that are roughly 1/2 to 1 & 1/2 inches in diameter in 2-3 foot lengths.

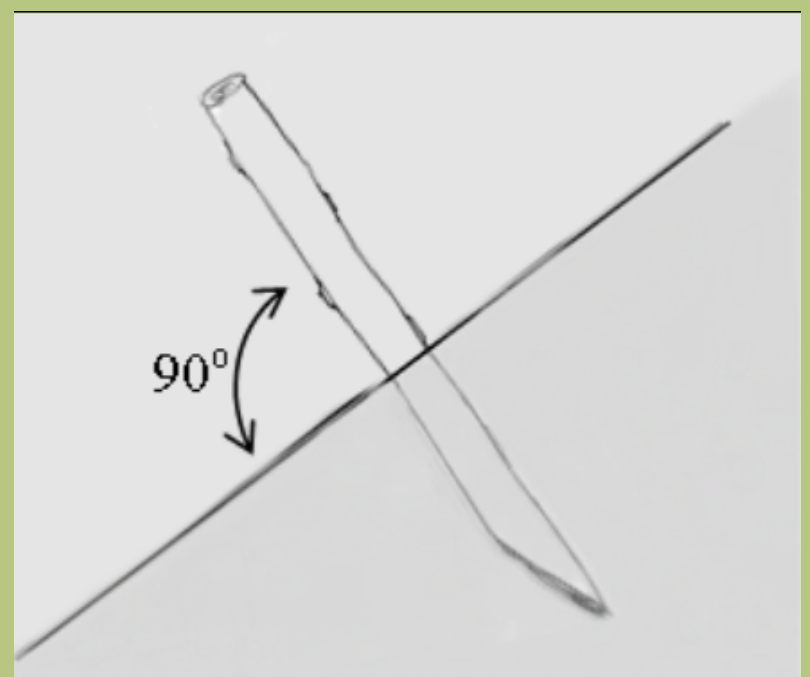
Cut at an angle.



Plant at a 90 degree angle with at least half and up to 2/3 in the soil. Ensure proper orientation; nodes should be facing up.



Best to plant fresh. Cut in dormant season. Keep in bucket of water or near water source if not planting right away.

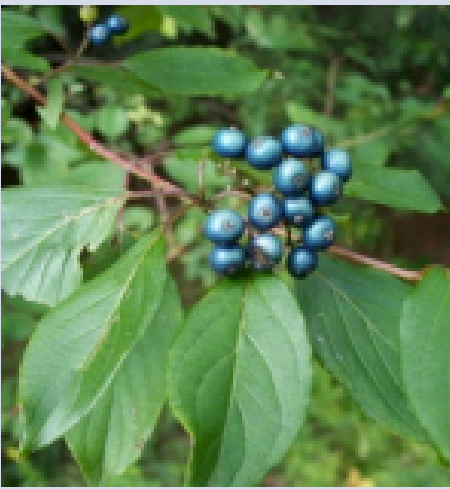
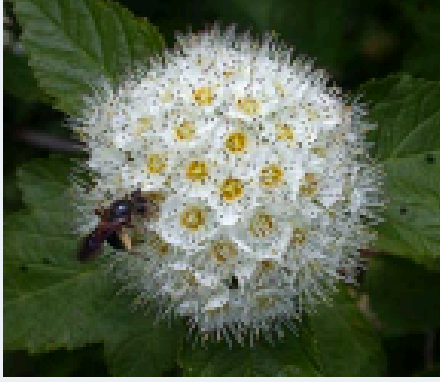




Starting at river's edge, plant 3 ft apart. Stagger the second row to create a triangular formation. Do not plant more than 4 to 6 feet away from the river to ensure access to moisture.



Photo from Foggy Mountain Nursery

# LIVE STAKING VARIETY EXAMPLES

Botanical Name Common name	Size	Description (Blooms / Fruit / Stems)	Notes	Photo
<i>Cornus amomum</i> Silky dogwood	Height: 6-12ft Spread: 6-12 ft	<b>Blooms:</b> showy, yellowish white cymes 2.5" across. May - June <b>Fruit:</b> showy blue clusters in fall <b>Stems:</b> burgundy winter interest	Attracts birds, tolerates deer, will tolerate close to full shade, may spread to form thickets, twigs and undersides of leaves have fine "silky" hairs	
<i>Physocarpus opulifolius</i> Ninebark	Height: 5-8 ft Spread: 4-6 ft	<b>Blooms:</b> yellowish-white, flowering May to June <b>Fruit:</b> drooping clusters of reddish fruit <b>Stems:</b> peel like cinnamon, providing winter interest	Attracts pollinators, grows well in rocky soil. May be cut down to the ground in winter to rejuvenate shrub.	
<i>Cephalanthus occidentalis</i> Buttonbush	Height: 5-12ft Spread: 4-8ft	<b>Bloom:</b> showy, fragrant, white <b>Fruit:</b> showy round ball <b>Stems:</b> gnarly winter interest	Attracts butterflies Sun to part shade. can tolerate standing water.	
<i>Sambucus canadensis</i> Elderberry	Height: 5-12ft Spread: 5-12 ft	<b>Bloom:</b> White, showy, fragrant, June to July <b>Fruit:</b> Showy, edible <b>Stems:</b> bumpy lenticels	Attracts birds, butterflies, berries edible for human consumption.	
<i>Salix sericea</i> Silky Willow	Height: 10-12ft Spread: 8-10ft	<b>Bloom:</b> small greenish yellow April to May <b>Fruit:</b> splits open when dry <b>Stem:</b> thin and smooth	Rapid growth. Host plant for the caterpillars of the Acadian hairstreak butterfly	