

E: Defining a Streambank

The diagram below provides a visual definition of the extent of a streambank. The distance from the Mean High Water Line (MHWL) to the end of the bank as defined in codes and for the use of programs depends on the slope of the bank.

For slopes of less than 45° , which are those that have a vertical rise of no more than one foot per horizontal foot traveled (what is known as a 1:1, or 100% slope), the bank is defined as extending for no more than 50 feet horizontally from the edge of the watercourse.

For slopes greater than 45° (those that have a rise-to-run ratio of greater than 1:1, or 100%), the streambank extends to the crest of the slope or the first notable break in the slope.

