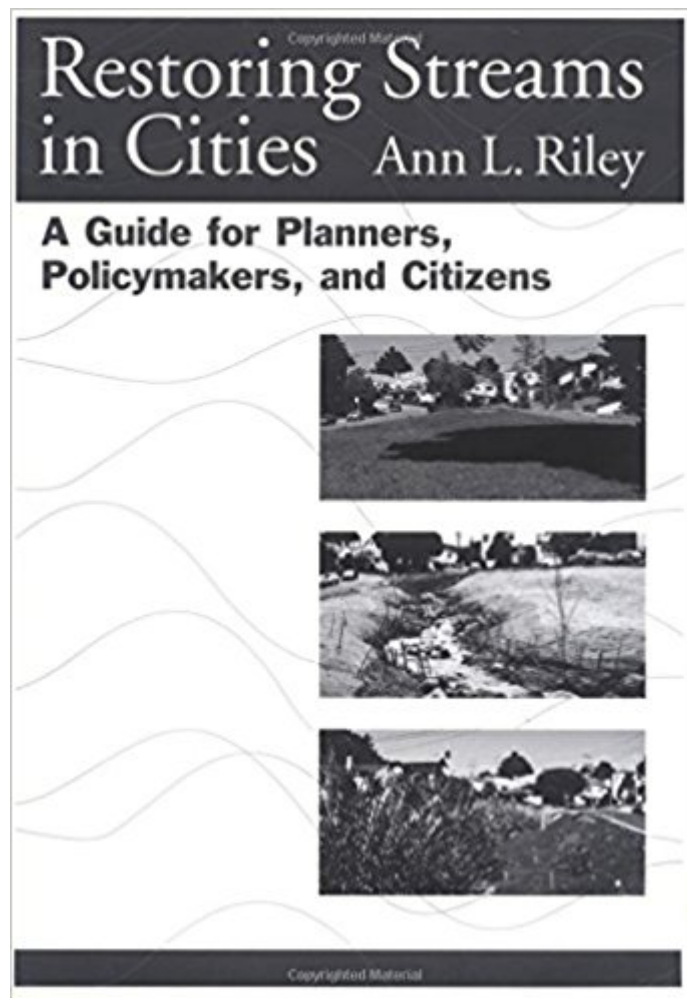




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# Restoring Streams In Cities: A Guide For Planners, Policymakers, And Citizens



## Synopsis

Ann L. Riley describes an interdisciplinary approach to stream management that does not attempt to "control" streams, but rather considers the stream as a feature in the urban environment. She presents a logical sequence of land-use planning, site design, and watershed restoration measures along with stream channel modifications and floodproofing strategies that can be used in place of destructive and expensive public works projects. She features examples of effective and environmentally sensitive bank stabilization and flood damage reduction projects, with information on both the planning processes and end results. Chapters provide: history of urban stream management and restoration; information on federal programs, technical assistance, and funding opportunities; and in-depth guidance on implementing projects: collecting watershed and stream channel data, installing revegetation projects, protecting buildings from overbank stream flows.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Ann L. Riley is executive director of the Waterways Restoration Institute, where she works on the design and installation of stream restoration projects. She is involved in the evaluation of national water policy for the National Research Council, the Institute for Water Resources, and federal task forces. A Video Tour of Ecological Restoration Techniques Led by Anne Riley (Video documentary - 61 min) is available from [www.urbanstreamrestoration.com](http://www.urbanstreamrestoration.com).

The title to this review says it all. The chapters were unendurably long, the sections weren't

arranged very well, and you'd be better off staring at a pile of charcoal than trying to tell what's in any of the images. That being said, the author knows the topic, but this textbook would have benefited from a layout expert--someone who knows half-screening, how to apply chapter/section/sub-section styles so the reader can tell where they are in the book, and how to break the text into smaller, bite-sized chunks. After each chapter, I understood the material, but I felt like I had just finished a marathon.

This unique book is a comprehensive and detailed guide to how to go about restoring streams that have been degraded by channelization, excessive erosion or sedimentation, and undergrounding into storm drains. It covers everything from how to form Friends groups and develop public support through engineering and design choices. As an educated citizen without specialized training in engineering, I found it highly readable; the concepts are presented thoroughly but without excessive jargon. The author is a cofounder of the Urban Creeks Council of California and the Coalition to Rescue Urban Waters.

Excellent information. Anne writes about how to work with residents, business owners and politicians to help restore waterways...Very helpful, so much so I bought another copy in case anyone wanted to borrow it since I got Anne to autograph mine.

This book does an adequate job of generally presenting information in non-technical fashion for planners, policy makers, and citizens as related to stream restoration in cities. It is simplistic and fairly straight-forward reading for the layman interested in this topic. On page 128, there is a diagram showing "factors influencing stream erosion and sedimentation" which appears to be attributed to Mr. E W Lane in an American Society of Civil Engineers professional journal dated 1955. However, a closer inspection of this particular journal article by interested readers should reveal to them that the figure shown in Riley's book in reality doesn't actually appear in the journal itself; although the diagram's concepts themselves are given in the journal article. So the question remains, WHO ACTUALLY DREW THE DIAGRAM in Riley's book and WHY WEREN'T THEY PROPERLY RECOGNIZED IN IT? And HOW MANY OTHER MIS-LEADING OVERSIGHTS are possibly contained in the book? From a hydraulic and hydrologic technical and design stand-point, this book appears weak and I feel that citation problems like I previously mentioned are inexcusable and not acceptable for a published book. Thus my average rating of it.

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