



## Reducing flood risk on properties with streams

Did you know that if you have a waterway (river, creek or stream) running through your private rural or urban property, as the landowner you are responsible for keeping it clear of blockages and obstructions. These can lead to nuisance flooding for you and your neighbours during a storm event, if not maintained.

Blockages or obstructions may include vegetation, pest plants, rubbish, fallen trees or timber, earth and stone.

### How to reduce flood risk on properties with a waterway:

- Regularly check your stream for debris that may affect its flow and remove obstructions – private companies are available if it is unsafe for you to do this
- Plant the banks of your stream with native plants that lay flat in a storm to strengthen them and reduce erosion
- Fence the stream for safety and to prevent livestock eroding the stream banks – use a fence type that allows water to flow through instead of creating a barrier

### How to prepare for a storm:

- Clear any debris from gutters
- Clear drains, cesspits, and grates
- Bring pets inside and move livestock to higher ground
- Keep streams free from rubbish and obstructions that stop their flow
- Report fallen trees, blocked drains or debris on public property to Auckland Council on 09 301 0101.

### From your garden to the sea

Remember all streams eventually flow to the sea. Any debris that goes into your waterway may flow down to neighbouring properties and then onto your local beach.

**For more information about private streams visit [aucklandcouncil.govt.nz](http://aucklandcouncil.govt.nz)**

