

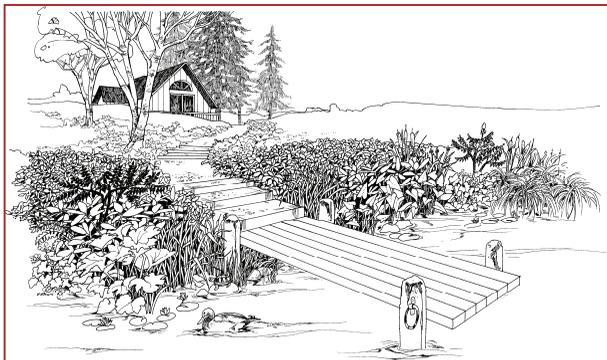
Planning Your Lakeshore

- ☉ Create an outdoor room with defined boundaries and features of interest.
- ☉ Avoid large empty spaces that feel uncomfortable.
- ☉ Frame your view of the lake by placing taller features on the sides and shorter plants in the middle.
- ☉ Use curved lines that are more appealing than straight lines and sharp angles.
- ☉ Create a flowing transition of native vegetation between the lake and your manicured lawn. You should have at least a 30' buffer between the lawn and the lake.
- ☉ Use soft engineering to prevent or correct shoreline erosion.
- ☉ Nurture existing native plants that are present, or enhance the shoreline by planting native plants from a nursery.
- ☉ Preserve in-lake vegetation because it is critical for fish, wildlife, and water quality.
- ☉ Coordinate with your neighbors to create contiguous blocks of habitat and compatible landscaping.



Plant a Lakeshore Garden

We plant gardens around our homes and elsewhere in our yards, so why not near the lakeshore, especially if you have lawn right down to the lake edge? In part it is because non-native plants available at traditional nurseries don't thrive in the wet lakeshore environment. Use native plants to create lakeshore gardens that can range from formal to naturalized and can provide substantial benefit to wildlife and the lake.



Other Healthy Lakeshore Practices

- ☉ Make sure your septic system is up to code with all ordinances and is maintained in good working condition. Pump septic systems every three years at the minimum.
- ☉ Do not flush household cleaners, solvents, paint or pesticides down the drain.
- ☉ Practice water conservation in your home.
- ☉ Practice good lawn maintenance in the yard. Limit fertilizing as much as possible. Use zero-phosphorus fertilizers if you must fertilize. Don't use fertilizer within 50' of the lake.
- ☉ Keep grass clippings, leaves and pet wastes out of the water.
- ☉ Reduce your use of pesticides in the garden. Use native plants that usually do not require fertilizers.

Technical Assistance

Expert assistance is available to homeowners wishing to determine the best methods for managing their shoreline. Contact the Chisago Soil and Water Conservation District for assistance.

Permits

Contact the MN Department of Natural Resources for information on required permits for shoreline projects at <http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/permits/water> or call 763-689-7100. Permits may also be needed from cities/townships or watershed districts. Locate utilities before you dig (Gopher One-Call at 651-454-0002)

Additional Information

For more information on lakeshore landscaping, visit these resources:

<http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/shorelandmgmt/index.html>

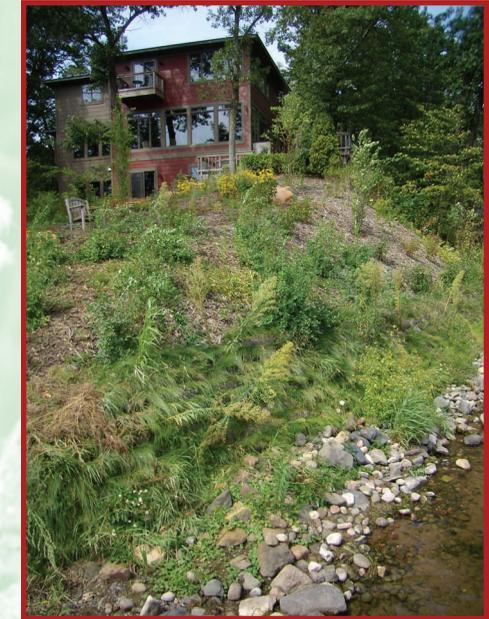
<http://clean-water.uwex.edu/shoreland/index.htm>

<http://www.sustland.umn.edu/related/water5.html>



Chisago Soil and Water Conservation District
38814 Third Avenue
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Chisago SWCD Brochure Series



☉☉ LAKESHORE LANDSCAPING ☉☉

Clean lakes start on-shore

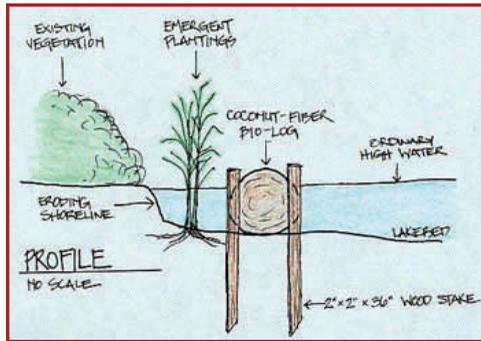


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Bringing Conservation to Chisago County

Why is Lakeshore Landscaping Important?

Healthy lakes have diverse plant communities, robust fisheries and accommodate recreation. The most important part of any lake is the near-shore area. The shoreline is critical for fisheries, water quality and the lake's overall ecology. Property values and lake enjoyment are closely tied to these same things. But the shoreline is also where our activities have the greatest impact on the lake. There are special landscaping approaches that are attractive and functional for the lake and the homeowner.



A major challenge of lakeshore landscaping is correcting or avoiding erosion. Soft engineering is a technique that uses deep-rooted native plants along with inert materials to help stabilize the shoreline. Soft engineering also incorporates the goals of fish and wildlife habitat, water quality and aesthetics into the solution. Examples of soft engineering include native plants, coconut fiber "biologs" that absorb waves while building shoreline and create a smoother shoreline, and erosion control blankets.



Why Should I Use Native Plants?

Most plants from traditional nurseries are adapted to upland areas. Native plants are adapted to lakeshore stresses, such as periodic flooding and drought. They have deep root systems that prevent erosion and encourage water infiltration, which helps clean the water before it enters the lake. Native plants are also beneficial to wildlife and can attract birds and butterflies. Depending on your preference, native plantings can look natural or formal.



Bottle gentian



Boneset



Swamp milkweed



Blue flag iris

Native Plants For Wet Sites

- Canada anemone *Anemone canadensis*
- Joe-pye weed *Eupatorium maculatum*
- Swamp milkweed *Asclepias incarnata*
- Monkey flower *Mimulus ringens*
- Cardinal flower *Lobelia cardinalis*
- Blue giant hyssop *Agastache foeniculum*
- Soft rush *Juncus effusus*
- Hardsetm bulrush *Scirpus acutus*
- Fringed loosestrife *Lysimachia ciliata*
- Sneezeweed *Helenium autumnale*
- Blue flag iris *Iris versicolor*
- Bottle gentian *Gentiana andrewsii*
- Golden Alexanders *Zizia aurea*
- Blue-eyed grass *Sisyrinchium campestre*
- Marsh marigold *Caltha palustris*
- Michigan lily *Lilium philadelphicum*
- Blue phlox *Phlox divaricarpa*
- Boneset *Eupatorium perfoliatum*
- Pennsylvania sedge *Carex pensylvanica*
- Blue joint grass *Calamagrostis canadensis*
- Culvers root *Veronicastrum virginicum*
- Turtle head *Chelone glabra*
- Fringed sedge *Carex crinita*
- Fox sedge *Carex vulpinoidea*
- Indian grass *Sorghastrum nutans*
- Prairie cordgrass *Spartina pectinata*
- Red osier dogwood *Cornus sericea*
- Nannyberry *Viburnum lentago*
- Highbush cranberry *Viburnum trilobum*

Native Plants For Moist to Dry Sites

- Wild columbine *Aquilegia canadensis*
- New England aster *Aster novae-angliae*
- Meadow blazing star *Liatris ligulistylis*
- Ironweed *Vernonia fasciculata*
- Canada tick trefoil *Desmodium canadense*
- Large-leaved aster *Aster macrophyllus*
- Purple prairie clover *Dalea purpurea*
- Stiff tickseed *Coreopsis palmata*



Wild bergamot

- Grass-leaved goldenrod *Euthamia graminifolia*
- Great blue lobelia *Lobelia siphilitica*
- Big bluestem *Andropogon gerardii*
- Smooth aster *Aster laevis*
- Black-eyed Susan *Rudbeckia hirta*
- Wild geranium *Geranium maculatum*



Butterfly weed

- Canada wild rye *Elymus canadensis*
- Butterflyweed *Asclepias tuberosa*
- Little bluestem *Schizachyrium scoparium*
- Side-oats grama *Bouteloua curtipendula*
- Wild lupine *Lupinus perennis*
- Hoary vervain *Verbena stricta*



Black-eyed Susan

- Prairie phlox *Phlox pilosa*
- Wild bergamot *Monarda fistulosa*
- Prairie smoke *Geum triflorum*
- Canada milk vetch *Astragalus canadensis*
- Large-flowered penstemon *Penstemon grandiflorus*
- Ox-eye *Heliopsis helianthoides*
- Silky aster *Aster sericeus*
- Zigzag goldenrod *Solidago flexicaulis*



Great blue lobelia

Native Plants For Shady Sites

- Marsh marigold *Caltha palustris*
- Pennsylvania sedge *Carex pensylvanica*
- Wild ginger *Asarum canadense*
- Jack-in-the-pulpit *Arisaema triphyllum*
- Wild columbine *Aquilegia canadensis*
- Wild geranium *Geranium maculatum*
- Flat-top aster *Aster umbellatus*
- Blue phlox *Phlox divaricarpa*
- Canada anemone *Anemone canadensis*
- Zigzag goldenrod *Solidago flexicaulis*
- Large-leaved aster *Aster macrophyllus*



New England aster

For more information on native plants, see the Chisago SWCD's "Native Plants" brochure.