How can I restore my shoreline and is help available?

There are a few options to create a vegetated shoreline, and help is available. Consider one or more of these options:

1. **Natural Recovery-No Mow**
   Simply not mowing an area along the lake is an easy and cost effective way to establish shoreline vegetation.

2. **Accelerated Recovery-Do it yourself**
   Plant native trees, shrubs, grasses and/or wildflowers along your shoreline.

3. **Technical Assistance- Cost Sharing Help**
   We provide advice, design and financial assistance to restore your shoreline or fix erosion problems you may have.

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**“Washburn County Shoreline Restoration Program”**

The County Land and Water Conservation Department has funding available to help waterfront landowners.

**The Program Will:**

1. Pay up to 70% of all costs associated with re-establishing the native lakeshore vegetation (you pay 30%).
2. Provide expertise in designing a restoration plan to meet your needs and desires.
3. Provide assistance in the planning process.

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**Cost-Share Criteria**

To become eligible, landowners must sign a cost-share application and agreement prior to any installation.

Eligible costs include materials and labor for:
- Site preparation
- Seeding
- Planting plugs, shrubs, and trees
- Mulching
- Erosion control measures

**Program Requirements**

- Only NATIVE PLANTS may be used.
- $50.00 maximum per tree/shrub
- $4.00 maximum per plant plug
- $7.00 maximum on ferns
- $75.00 maximum on trees transplanted with a tree spade.
- $30.00 maximum per cubic yd of mulch.
- 30% of groundcover planting area must be a grass or grass-like plant.
- A cost estimate is included that will list the estimated hours for installing the restoration.
- $10.00/hour for landowner labor rate. (labor can help off-set the 30% cost-share)
What are the Benefits?

A vegetated shoreline helps protect the quality of the lake by:

1. Increasing infiltration of unwanted nutrients (phosphorus) that can lead to weed growth and algae blooms.
2. Decreasing the presence of geese where you recreate along the shore.
3. Improving habitat for fish and numerous species of wildlife.
4. Discouraging stands of invasive species from moving in.
5. Reducing runoff and soil erosion into the lake.
6. Providing recreational fun for current and future generations to enjoy.

For more information please contact:
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Shell Lake, WI 54871
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Email: landwtr@co.washburn.wi.us

*Photo credits: John Haack, Charlotte Shover, LWCD

90% of all lake life is born and fed in the area where land and water meet.

“Naturally vegetated shorelines promote healthy lakes”