

Exploring the water's edge: shoreland habitat, biodiversity, and restoration opportunities

Lakeshore habitat restoration training – Moon Beach Camp - July 16-17th, 2014



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UW Extension Lakes /

Wisconsin Lakes Partnership







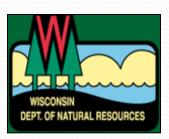


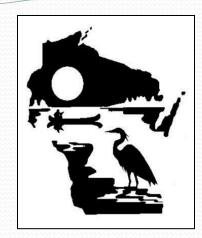


The Wisconsin Lakes Partnership

- Google UWEX lakes
- http://www.uwsp.edu./cnr/uwexlakes/
- http://www.wisconsinlakes.org/
- http://www.dnr.state.wi.us/
- Lake Tides... The Lake Connection
- Lake List
- CBCW
- CLMN









Talk outline





Shoreline habitat

What/where is it? Why does it matter? Who does it support?

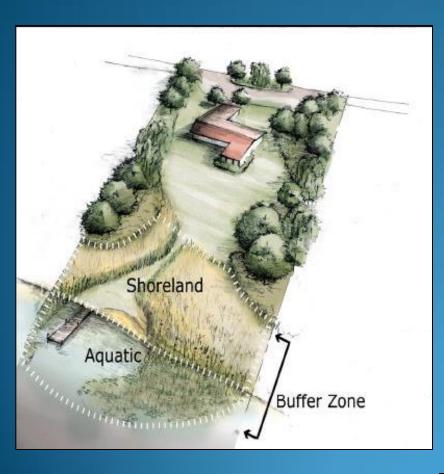
Shoreland biodiversity

Restoration opportunities

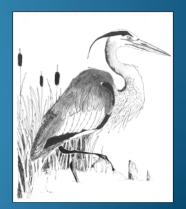
Q & A



It's all about HABITAT!



- Interface between land and water -- area adjacent to lakes/streams.
- Links together the world of water with the terrestrial uplands.
- Essential habitat plants and animals—corridor between uplands and lowlands as well as between habitats along the shore.
- Important for water quality protection and other functions.



Importance/functions of the land-water interface—the water's edge habitat zones



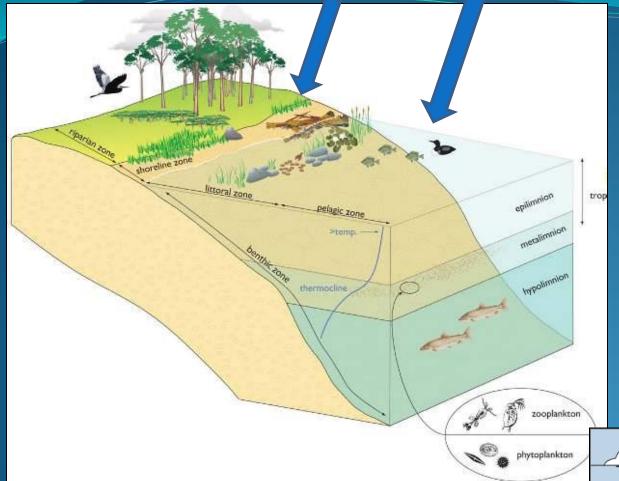
- Help clarity by holding sediment in place.
- Take up nutrients that would be used by algae.
- Shelter for wildlife.
- Wildlife food and nesting areas.
- Can help reduce erosion and runoff.
- Spawning beds in sedges /emergent plants for fish.



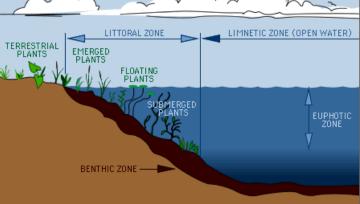
90% of all lake life is born, raised and fed in the area where land and water meet.



Shallow zone / littoral zone

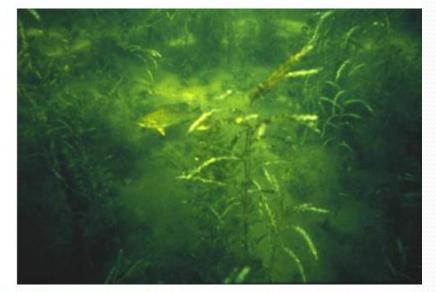


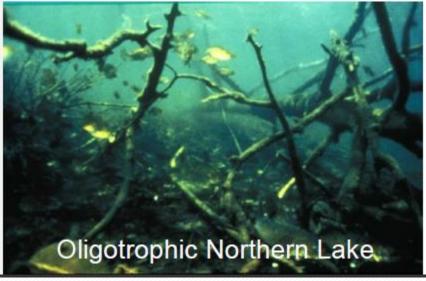
- The land and water ecotone facilitates movement of food into and out of lakes.
- Shoreland and littoral zone habitats act as the "skin" of a lake, nurturing biodiversity of all kinds.
- The littoral zone is the near shore area where sunlight penetrates all the way to the sediment and allows aquatic plants (macrophytes) to grow.



LAKE LITTORAL ZONE

- Functions
 - Intercepts Nutrients
 - Refuge from Predators
 - Nursery for Fish







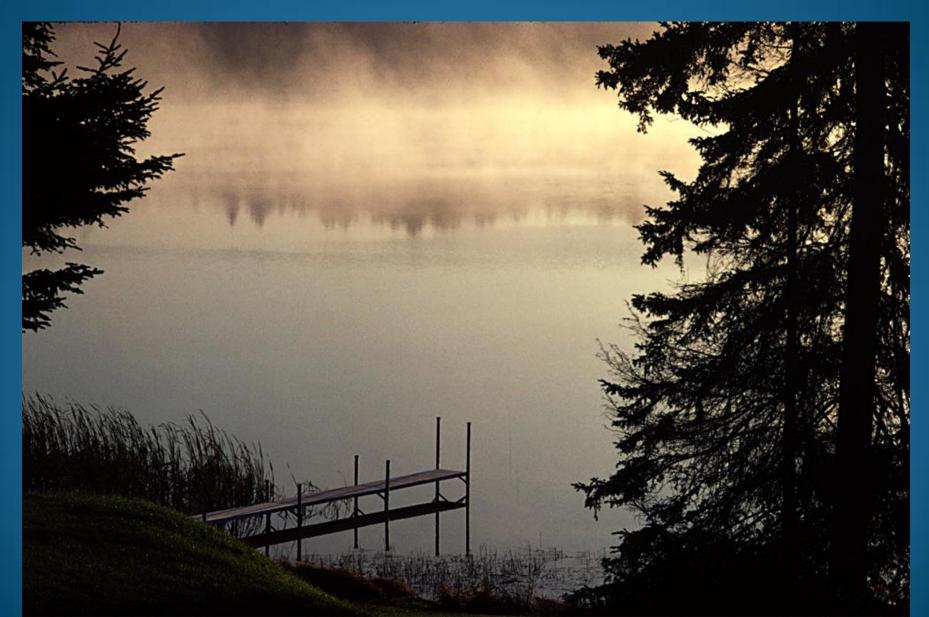
AQUATIC PLANTS

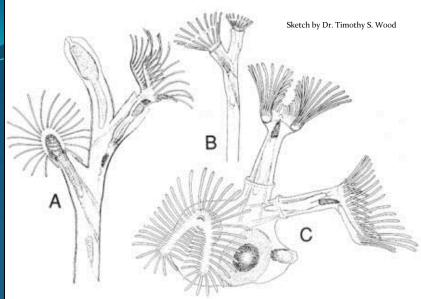
- Habitat
- Energy Dissipation





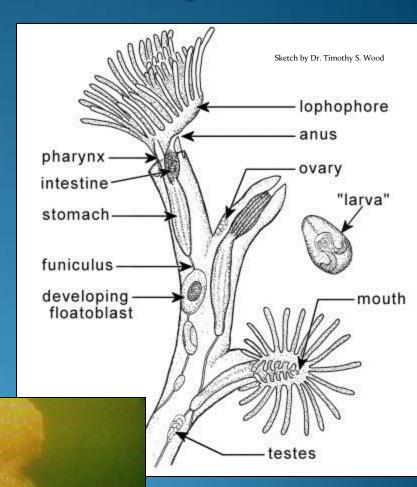
Let's walk down to the dock and see what's along the water's edge...







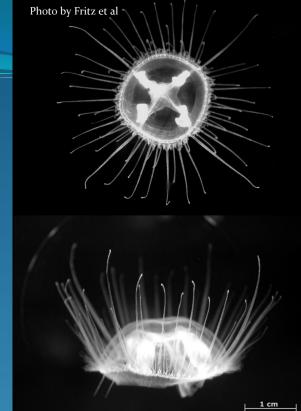
Bryozoans

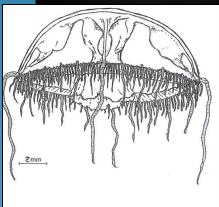


Jellyfish (Craspedacusta sowerbyi)





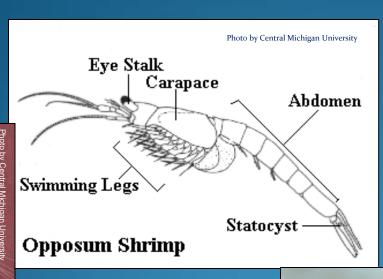






Sketch by R. W. Pennak

Freshwater opossum shrimp (Mysis relicta)











Frogs, treefrogs and toads



Northern Cricket Frog (Acris crepitans) METALLIC 'GICK-GICK' NOISES (mid-May)



Spring Peeper (*Pseudacris crucifer*)
RISING PEEP (late-March)



Cope's Gray Treefrog (*Hyla chrysoscelis*) FAST, HARSH, BUZZING TRILL (early May)

<u>Toads</u> – live in forests around lakes/ponds



Eastern American Toad (*Bufo americanus*)
TRILLING (April)



Eastern Gray Treefrog (Hyla versicolor)
BLAAT



Boreal Chorus Frog (*Pseudacris maculata*) RISING "CREE-EE-EEK"/COMB (mid-March)

Frogs, treefrogs and toads toads

<u>True frogs</u> – live in forests around lakes/ponds



American Bullfrog (*Lithobates catesbeianus*)
DEEP "BUR-RUM"/FOG HORN -GUIN(mid-May)



Green Frog (*Lithobates clamitans*)
"CLUNG-CLUNG-CLUNG"/BANJO TWANG (mid-May)



Pickerel Frog (*Lithobates palustris*) LOW-PITCHED, SNORE-LIKE CROAK (April)



Photo by Robert Hay, WDNR

Photo © Dan Nedrelo

 $Wood\ Frog\ (Lithobates\ sylvaticus)$ CLUCKING CROAKS/QUACKING DUCK (late-March)

Northern Leopard Frog (Lithobates pipiens) LOUD, BROKEN SNORE/BALLOOON RUB (late March)

Mink Frog (Lithobates septentrionalis)
LOW-PITCHED CROAKS/DISTANT HAMMERING

Photo © A.B. Sheldon

Redback Salamander (Plethodon cinereus)

Salamanders



Four-toed salamanders (Hemidactylium scutatum)



Tiger Salamander (*Ambystoma tigrinum*)



Spotted Salamander (*Ambystoma maculatum*)

Central Newt (Notophthalmus viridescens





Mudpuppy (Necturus maculosus)

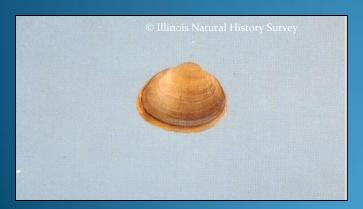
Common mussels and clams



Floater (Pyganodon grandis)



Fatmucket (*Lampsilis siliquoidea*)



Fingernailclams and Peaclams (Musculium, Pisidium, and Sphaerium-Family Sphaeriidae)



Threeridge (Amblema plicata



Threehorn wartyback (Obliquaria reflexa)

Photo © June Tveekrem

Lake emerald (Somatochlora cingulata)

Dragonflies



Lake darner (Aeshna eremita)



Widow skimmer (*Libellula luctuosa*)



Common pondhawk (Erythemis simplicicollis) eating a pearl crescent



Twelve-spotted Skimmer (Libellula pulchella)



Common whitetail (Plathemis lydia)



Common baskettail (*Epitheca cynosura*)



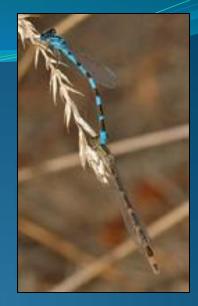
Damselflies



Powdered dancer (Argia moesta)



Violet dancer (Argia fumipennis violacea)



Alkali Bluet (Enallagma clausum)



Amber-winged spreadwing (Lestes eurinus)



Boreal bluet (Enallagma boreale)



Marsh bluet (Enallagma ebrium)

Turtles



Photo by Bob korth, UWEX

Eastern Spiny Soft shell (*Apalone spinifera*)



Common Snapping Turtle (Chelydra serpentina)

Painted Turtle (Chrysemys picta)



Copyright, Jeff LeClere

Common garter snake (Thamnophis sirtalis)

Photo @A.B. Sheldon

Smooth greensnake (Opheodrys vernalis)

Snakes



Western foxsnake (Elaphe vulpina)



Red-bellied snake (Storeria occipitomaculata)



Northern watersnake (Nerodia sipedon)

White admiral (Limenitis arthemis)

© A W Thomas

Canadian tiger swallowtail (Papilo canadensis)

Butterflies



Bronze copper (*Lycaena hyllus*)



Viceroy (*Limentitis archippus*)



Mourning cloak (Nymphalis antiopa)



Dorcas copper (Lycaena dorcas)

Brown-fruited rush (Juncus pelocarpus)

Photo by Susan Knight, WDNR

Aquatic plants-very soft water



Least waterwort (Elatine minima)





Pipewort (Eriocaulon aquaticum)

Aquatic plants-soft water



Large-leaved pondweed (Potamogeton amplifolius)



Fern pondweed (Potamogeton robbinsii)





Water lobelia (Lobelia dortmanna)



White-stemmed pondweed (Potamogeton praelongus)

Quillwort (Isoetes sp.)

Slender pondweed (Potamogeton pusillus)

Aquatic plants-hard water



Waterweed (Elodea canadensis)



American eel grass (Vallisneria americana)



Northern water-nymph (Najas flexilis)

Water beggar's-tick (Megalodonta beckii)

(C) Paul Skawinski, 2009

Coontail (Ceratophyllum demersum)

Aquatic plants-very hard water



Flat-stemmed pondweed (Potemogeton zosteriformis)



Comb pondweed (Stuckenia pectinata)



White water crowfoot (*Ranunculus aquatilis*)



Fries' pondweed (Potamogeton friesii)



llinois pondweed (*Apalone spinifera*)

Amelanchier arborea – downy Juneberry



Acer rubrum - red maple



Tilia americana - basswood)

Upland plants-trees



Prunus serotina - wild cherry



Abies balsamea – balsam fir



Betula alleghaniensis – yellow bircl



Quercus rubra - red oak

Aronia melanocarpa – black chokeberry



Sweet fern (Comptonia peregrina)

Upland plants-shrubs



Diervilla lonicera – northern bush honeysuckle



Hazelnuts (*Corylus sp.*)



Vaccinium angustifolium – early low blueberry



Prunus virginiana --chokeberry



Giant water bug (Lethocerus americanus)

Copyright (c) justmeLisa, 2006 http://davesgarden.com/members/justmeLisa/ Unauthorized Use Prohibited

Water scorpion (Ranatra fusca)

Aquatic insects



Water boatman (Sigara sp.)



Water strider (Aquarius remigis)



Northern casemaker caddisfly (Nemotaulis hostililis)



Backswimmer (Notonecta sp.)





Beetles

oto by Tom Murra

Predaceous diving beetle (*Dytiscus sp.*)





Water lily beetle (Galerucella nymphaeae)



Large whirligig (Dineutus sp.)

Common loon (Gavia immer)

Water birds

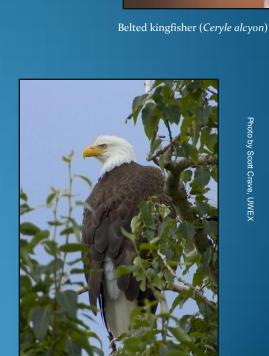
Photo by Scott Crave, UWEX



Osprey (Pandion haliaetus)







Bald eagle (Haliaeetus leucocephalus)



Great blue heron (*Ardea herodias*)



Bluegill (*Lepomis macrochirus*)



Fishes-small

Fathead minnows (Pimephales promelas)



Burbot (Lota lota)



Iowa darter (Etheostoma exile)



Green sunfish (*Lepomis cyanellus*)



Rock bass (Ambloplites rupestris)



all images © Engbretson Underwater Photography



Northern pike (Esox lucius)



Common carp (Cyprinus carpio)



Small mouth bass (Micropterus dolomieu)



Muskellunge (*Esox masquinongy*)



Black bullhead (Ameiurus melas)



Walleye (Sander vitreus

Fishes-large



Large mouth bass (Micropterus salmoides)



Lake sturgeon (Acipenser fulvescens)



Big-mouth buffalo (Ictiobus cyprinellus)

Beaver (Castor canadensis)



Small mammals North American river otter (Lontra canadensis)





Star-nosed mole (Condylura cristata)



Long-tailed weasel (Mustela frenata)



Snowshoe hare (Lepus americanus)





Muskrat (Ondatra zibethicus)



Short-tailed weasel (Mustela erminea)



Fisher (Martes pennanti)

Ø.E.J.Peiker

White-tailed deer (*Odocoileus virginianus*)

Large mammals



Bobcat (Lynx rufus)



Moose (Alces alces)



Black bear (*Ursus americanus*)

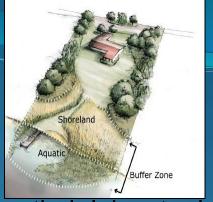


Grey fox (Urocyon cinereoargenteus)



Red fox (Vulpes vulpes)

One other critter— People!



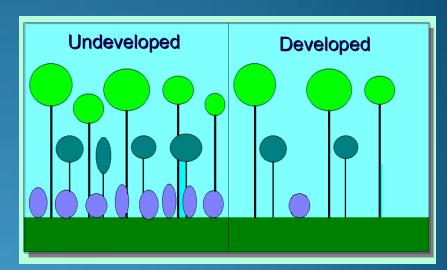


- In many places, people were loving their lakes to death with development—"death by a thousand cuts"
- Research findings got people and lake groups around Wisconsin rethinking what is best for lakes?
- Lake residents and organizations, natural resource agencies, tribal entities, energy companies, and businesses like resorts and restaurants all have embraced the idea of restoring shoreland buffers
- Large investments by DATCP and WDNR grants have gone toward shoreline and littoral zone habitat protection and conservation

Development pressures have changed our lakes

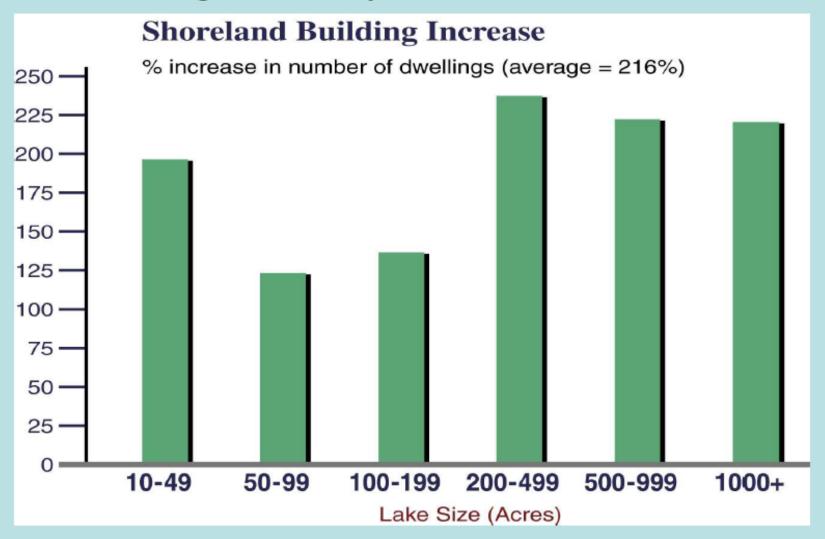
Affects include:

- wildlife diversity decline;
- water quality degradation;
- less vegetation—especially less shrub and ground layers & woody habitat along shore;
- more lake users on the water;
- 'death by a thousand cuts' w/ population growth and housing density rise
- more impervious surfaces on the average lot

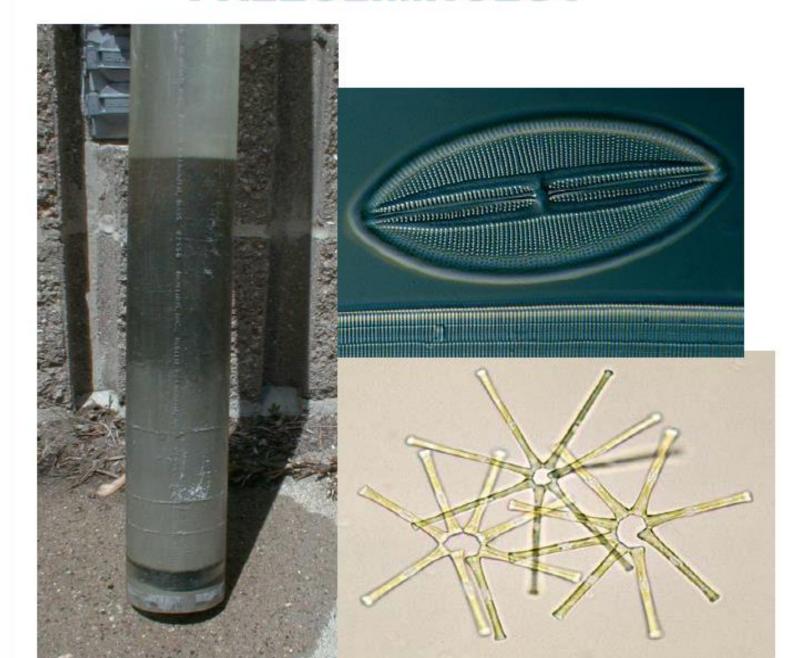




Housing Development Since 1965



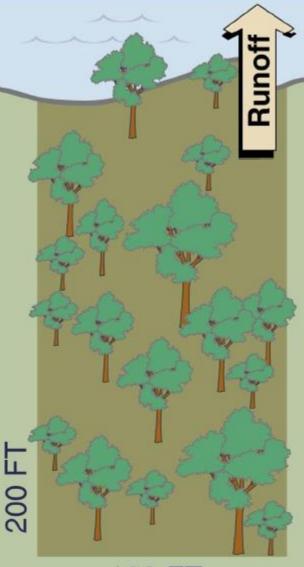
PALEOLIMNOLGY





Undeveloped - Apr.-Oct. phosphorus/sediment runoff model

- maple-beech forest
- 6% slope to lake
- sandy loam soil



100 FT

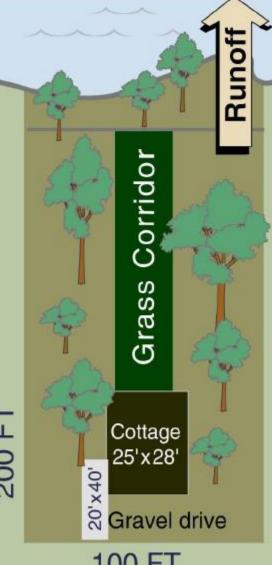
IMPACT ON LAKE (April - Oct.)

- 1,000 ft³ runoff to lake
- 0.03 lbs. phos. to lake
- 5 lbs. sediment to lake



1940s development – Apr.-Oct. phosphorus/sediment runoff

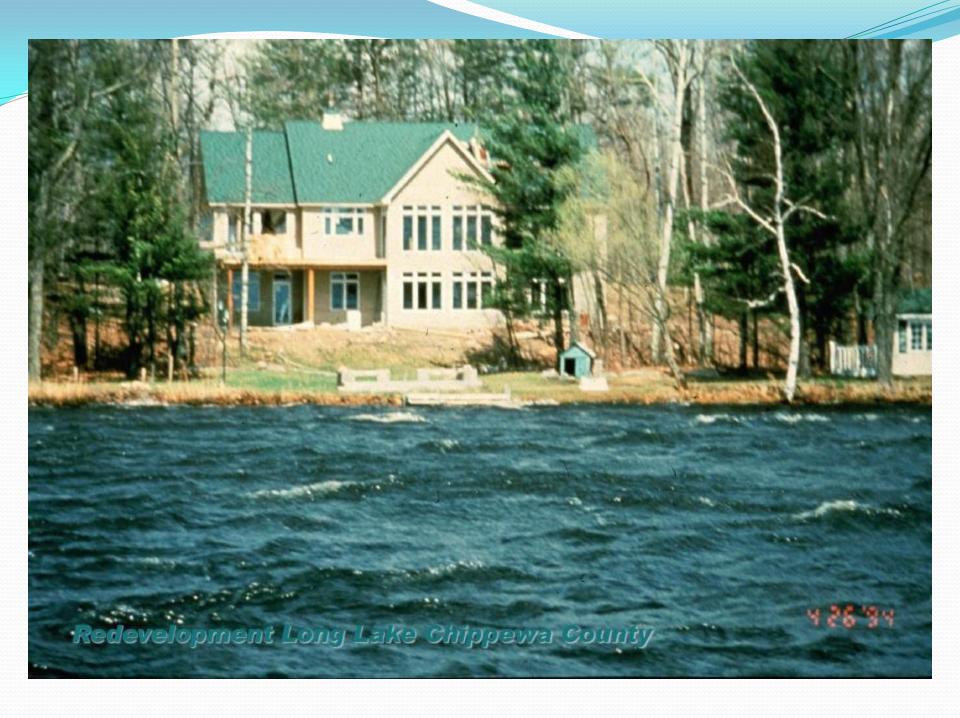
- maple-beech forest
- 6% slope to lake
- grass corridor 20'-wide
- cottage 700 ft² perimeter
- gravel drive 800 ft²
- 35'-wide buffer strip



IMPACT ON LAKE (April - Oct.)

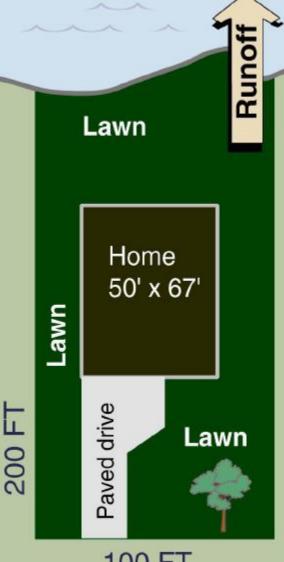
- 1,000 ft³ runoff to lake
- 0.03 lbs. phos. to lake
- 20 lbs. sediment to lake

100 FT



1990s development — Apr.-Oct. phosphorus/sediment runoff

- maintained lawn, soil graded
- 6% slope to lake
- home 3,350 ft² perimeter
- paved drive 770 ft²

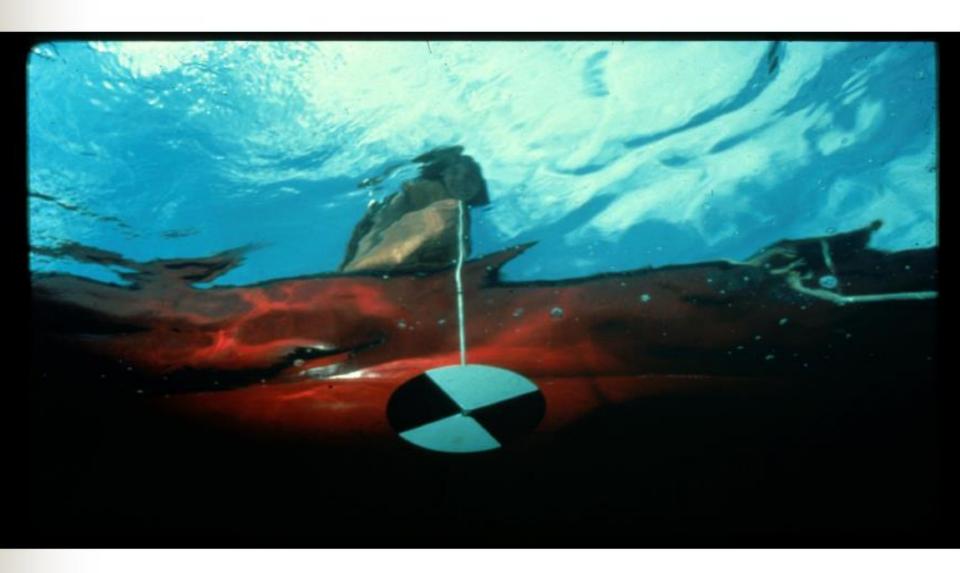


IMPACT ON LAKE (April - Oct.)

- 5,000 ft³ runoff to lake
- 0.20 lbs. phos. to lake
- 90 lbs. sediment to lake

100 FT

LOSS OF WATER CLARITY



NUISANCE ALGAE BLOOMS



FISHERIES DEGRADATION





Aquatic Invasive Species







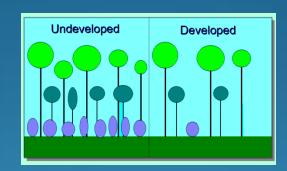


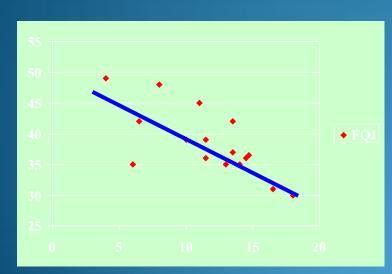


Various research over the last decade has helped illuminate the affects of development



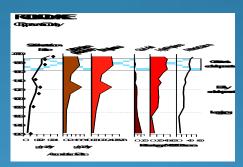
(Lindsay et al. 2003)





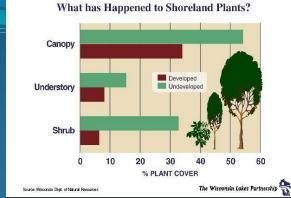
Dwellings/km shoreline

Hatzenbeler et al.(2004)

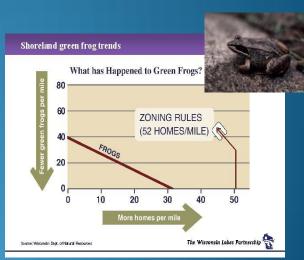








(Elias et al. 2003)



(Woodford et al. 2002)



Lake shore erosion

- Slumped banks
- Root wads exposed
- Rilling
- Receding shoreline





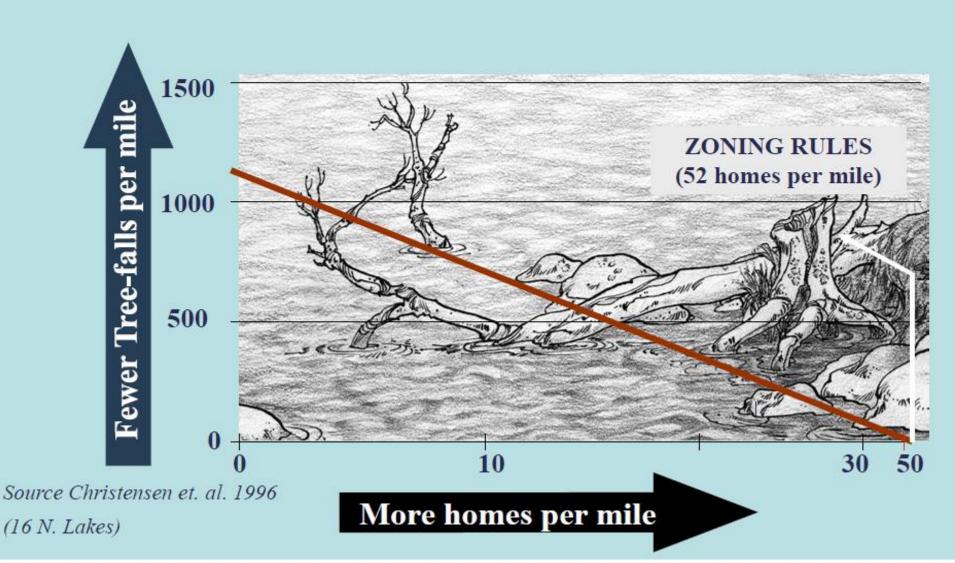




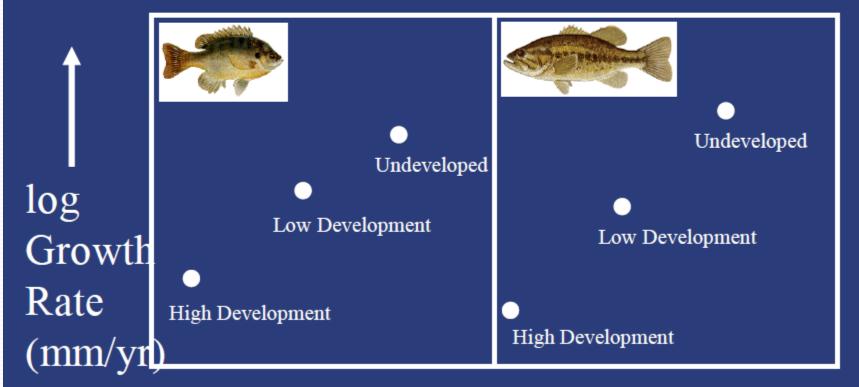




Woody Habitat in Littoral Zone



Fish grow ~3X faster in lakes with lots of woody habitat



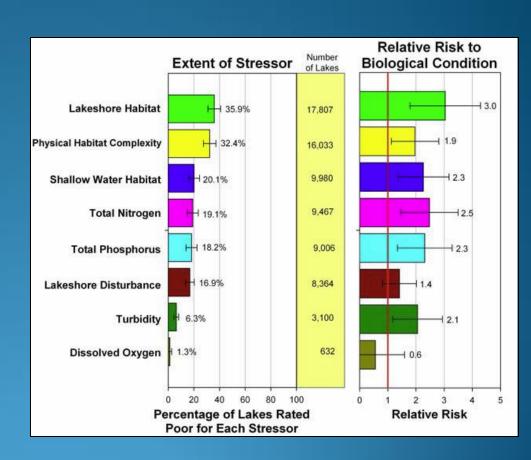
Woody Habitat (no./km)

From Schindler et al. 2000



National Lakes Assessment (NLA)

- •First-ever baseline study of the condition of the nation's lakes.
- •The latest in a series of surveys of the nation's aquatic resources.
- •Unbiased estimates of the condition of natural and man-made freshwater lakes, ponds, and reservoirs greater than 10 acres and at least one meter deep.
- •A total of 1,028 lakes were sampled for the NLA during summer 2007, representing the condition of about 50,000 lakes nationwide.



"Neatniks" to Ecologically Sound Landscapes





A neat and tidy landscape reflects well on a property owner, while native landscapes are often perceived as messy.

Using conventional design elements and ecological knowledge property owners can take pride in creating healthy, ecologically diverse habitats that conserve water, save energy and sequester carbon.

our tools... do not suffice for the oldest task in human history – to live on a piece of land (water) without spoiling it" Aldo Leopold

Types of revegetation

1. Protection of intact buffers

- No serious erosion problem
- Native vegetation present
- Diversity of structure
- Shoreland buffer requirement met

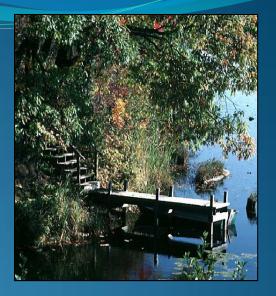
2. 'No mow' > natural colonization /

recovery

- Native elements present including seed bank
- Turf grasses not well established
- Areas screened from view
- Discourage trampling
- Look for opportunities to see results and promote

3. Accelerated Recovery

- Turf grass well established
- No native plants present
- Exposed soil
- Lots of traffic
- Sand beach maintained
- Quick results wanted







Defining shoreland buffer restoration

Practice that uses native trees, shrubs, and groundcover, along with natural and biodegradable materials (biologs, delta-lock bags, sediment logs, soil lifts, woody material, etc.), to reduce lakeshore erosion and improve aquatic and wildlife habitat quality.





Shoreland buffer restorations can be considered a successful management practice if they:

- Reduce surface water and nutrient run-off
- Reduce shoreline bank erosion
- Increase native plant abundance and diversity
- Improve wildlife habitat quality
- Increase wildlife abundance and diversity



Types of revegetation

1. Protection of intact buffers

- No serious erosion problem
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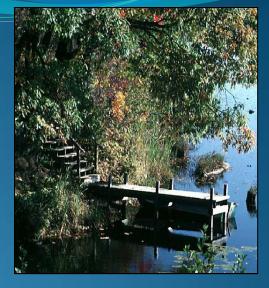
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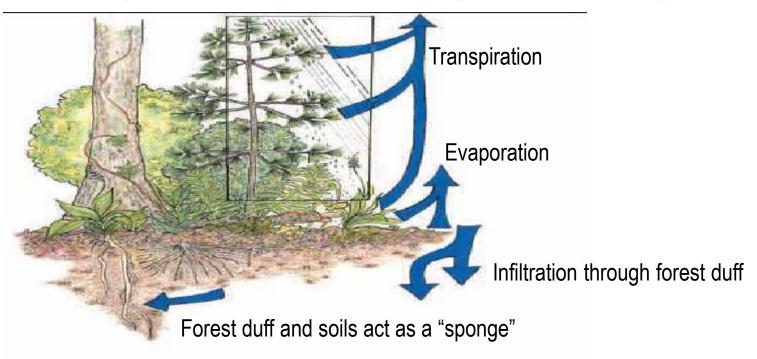
3. Accelerated Recovery

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- Quick results wanted





Importance of layered vegetation



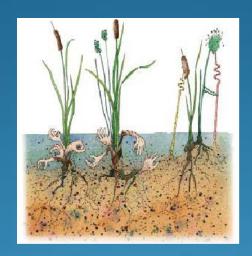
Roots stabilize soils preventing erosion and allow plants to pump up water back into the atmosphere (transpiration)





Vegetation-the roots to the solution

The riparian areas of shorelines are glued together by a diversity of plants with strong, deep root systems, especially those of woody plants.

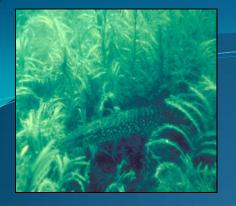












Steps in the process > identify and discuss the goals and objectives for the site

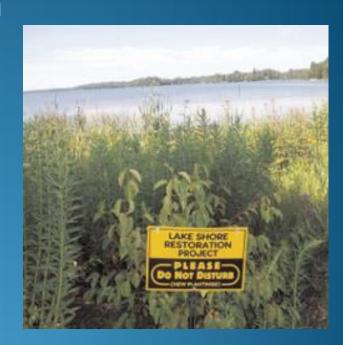
- View corridor (30 ft. viewshed), recreational uses, wildlife support
- Access points along shoreline including docks, walkways, beach area, storage, etc.
- Wildlife impacts (muskrats; deer; etc.)
- Enhance existing native plants at the site / no mow areas
 vs. accelerated recovery
- Aesthetics: natural, wild ("untidy") look versus a more landscaped feel ("tidy")
- What the neighbors will think? Talk w/ them @ the project
- Exotic species control
- Attaining proper WDNR / county zoning permits



Steps in site plan design

The first step in designing a site plan is to inventory and map existing:

- Trees and shrubs
- Areas of native forbs, sedges and grasses
- Structures
- Relevant landscape features



Work to address landowner concerns

- View corridor (30 ft. viewshed)
- Access points along shoreline including docks, walkways, beach area, storage, etc.
- Wildlife impacts (muskrats; deer; etc.)
- Enhance existing native plants at the site / no mow areas
- Aesthetics
- What the neighbors will think? Talk w/ them @ the project
- Exotic species control
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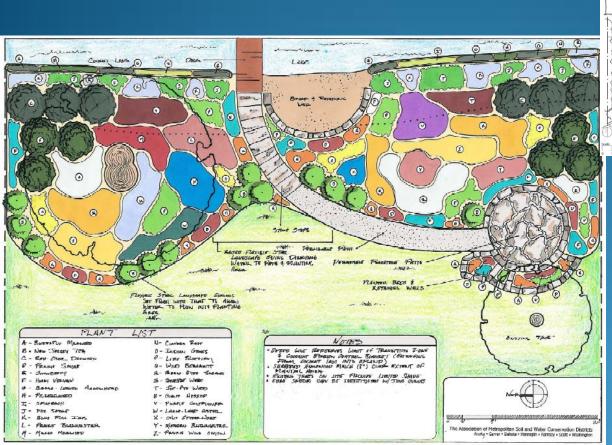
Typical questions to ask:

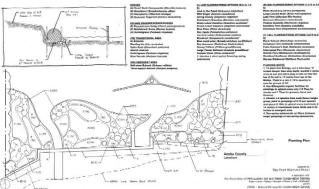
- 1. What end product does each family
- 2. member envision for the shoreline?
- 3. What is the property's drainage pattern?
- 4. Where are the areas of heaviest use
- 5. Recreation (types; # of people) etc.
- 6. Pet and children areas?
- 7. Where is the viewing corridor?
- 8. Structures near the water?

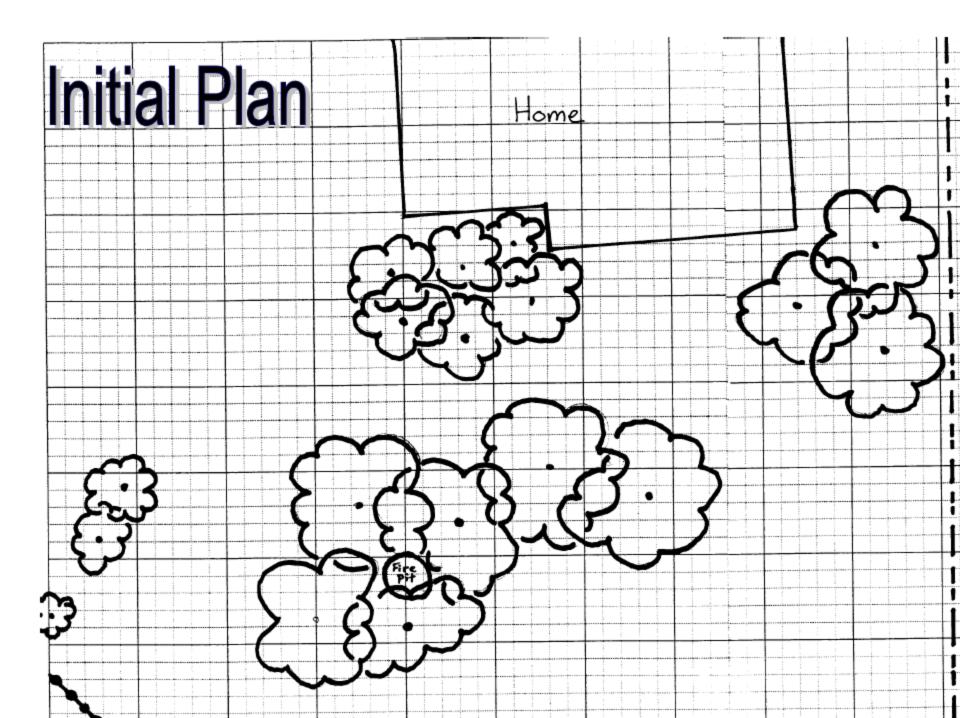


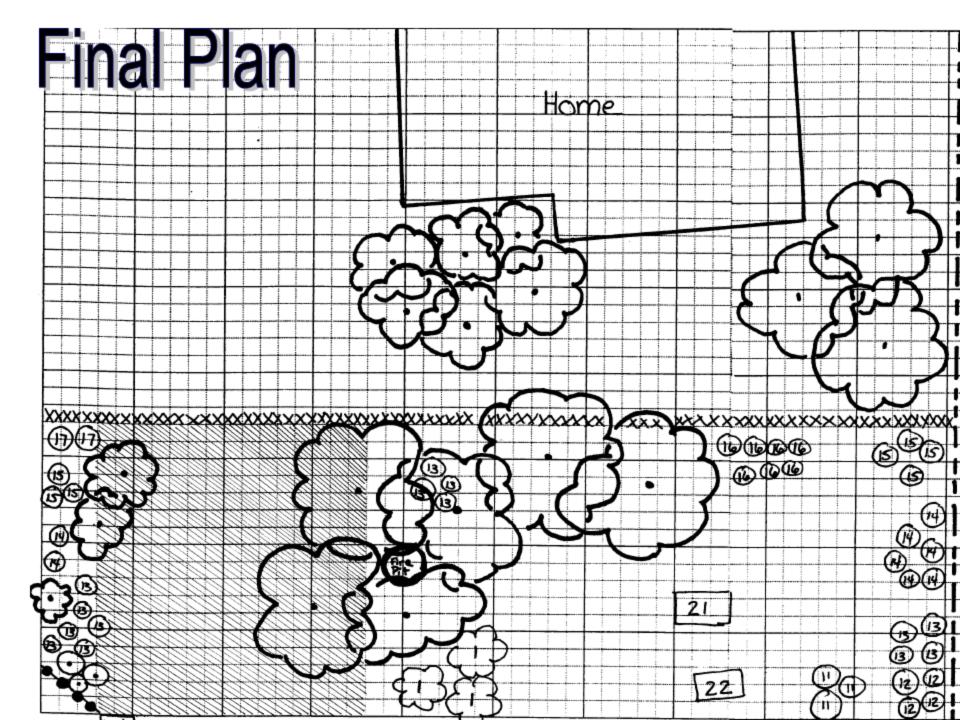
Plan

Motics: Responsibility of Landowner to contact Sopher-Une-Call # (651) 454-6063 for locates of understoand research









- Black Plastic
- Soil tilling
- Herbicides



Site preparation





Reference sites

Find an undisturbed area of your lake similar to your soil, moisture and light conditions and investigate it:

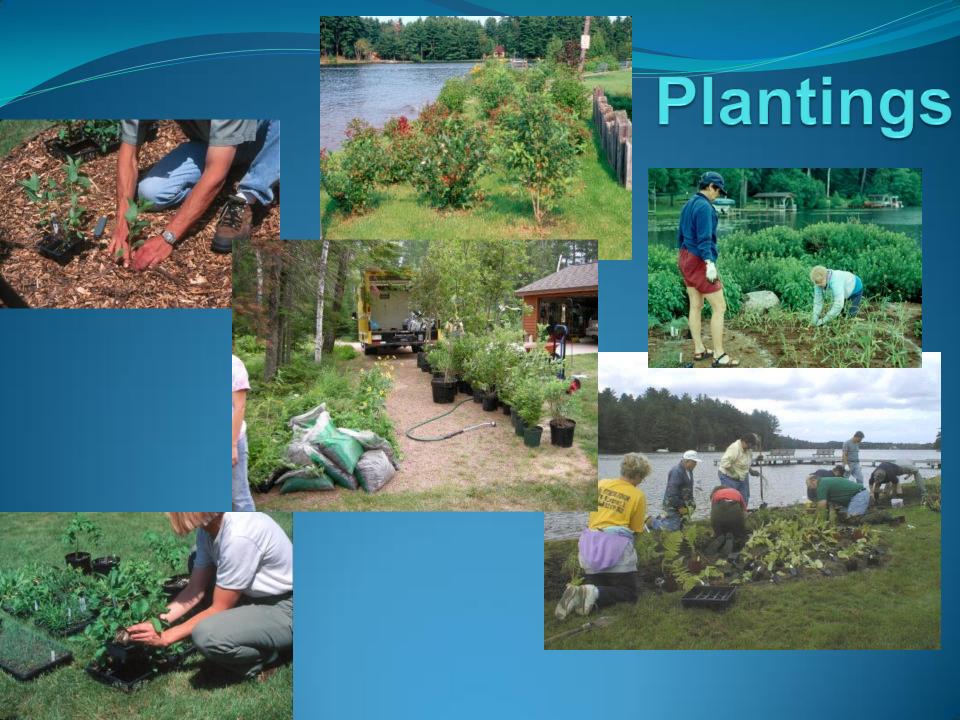
- What kinds of native trees, shrubs, wildflowers are there?
- What densities are these plants found in at the site?
- Look to mimic what you see there in your revegetation efforts

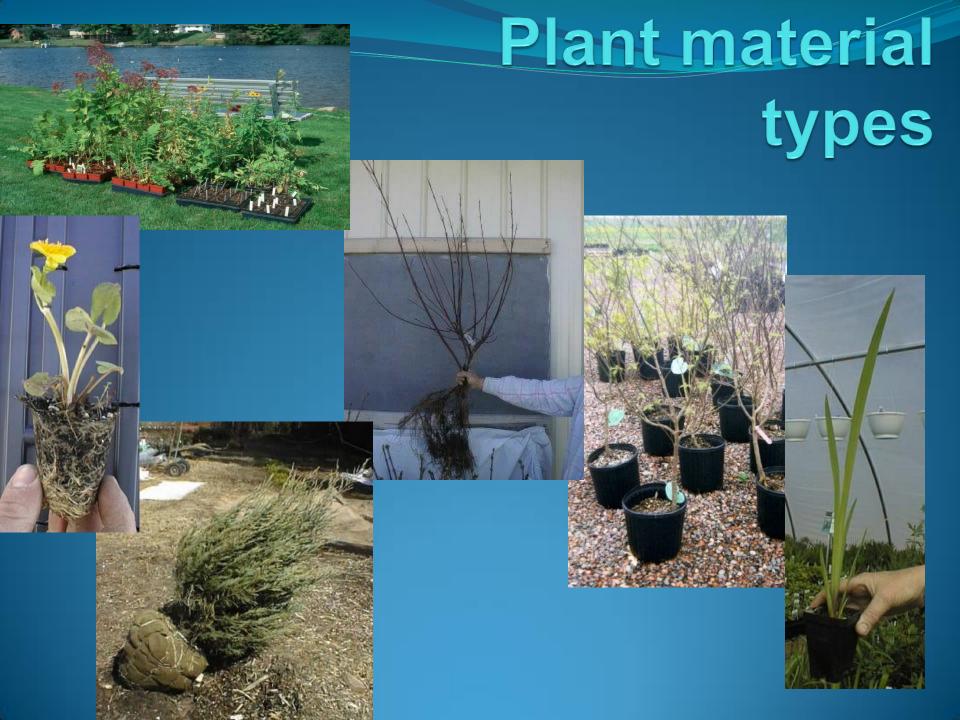
Implementing a plan

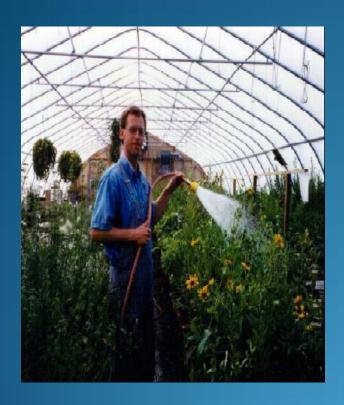
Revegetation:

Three tiers of vegetation: trees, shrubs, and groundlayer—wildlfowers, sedges, grasses, ferns









Plants from a nursery

- Special orders plan well in advance
- Determine origin / propagation method
- DO NOT use imported plants

Native plants

- Conservation of local genetic diversity
- Ability to provide food and shelter for native wildlife
- Improved health and vigor—climatically at home
- Increased survival rates for your plantings—save \$
- Reduced maintenance costs





Watering-dah

Need to water plantings initially > 4-6 weeks; 1-2 " per week





Deer/rabbit protection

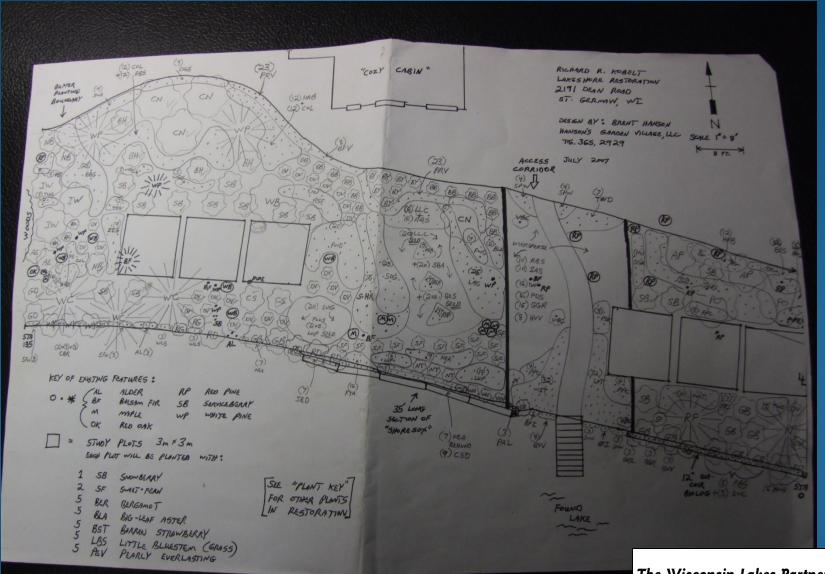








Planting plan – it may be all you need



Shoreland restoration & other videos:

< http://www.extension.umn.edu/Shoreland/videos/index.html >



Shoreland Restoration: A Growing Solution

Outlines why natural shorelines help protect water quality and wildlife habitat, and introduces how shoreland property owners can restore natural functions to their shorelines. (15:30)

Keeping Our Shores: Shoreland Best Management Practices

Introduces best management practices that shoreland owners can use to protect the water quality in a lake or river, including shoreline filter strips, proper septic maintenance, and appropriate lawn care practices. (15:20)

Plant choices > work horse species

What are they? Typically these plants have traits we admire for shoreland <u>habitats</u>:

- Penetrating, deep roots.
- Prolific seeders that pioneer into disturbed ground before weeds and invasive species arrive.
- Many also have rhizomatous, fibrous, and/or clump forming root systems that minimize erosion.
- Most have wildlife habitat benefits of one sort or another too, such as providing nesting material, food, and cover.
- They are tolerant of variability in site conditions for moisture, water depth, soil type, and light.
- They can also be propagated efficiently and in a cost effective manner by nurseries specializing in native plant material production.







Ten Common Themes of Effective Shoreland Restorations

- Partnerships Get it Done
- 2. Funding Can Take Many Forms
- 3. Plans Matter
- 4. Use Ecological Design Principles
- Landowner Values are Met
- 6. Maintenance is Required
- Address Erosion Control Concerns
- 8. Communication
- Involve the Lake Community
- 10. Take an Adaptive Approach





LEAVING A LEGACY



Thanks for all you do toward leaving a legacy of healthy lakes!







Questions?

Thanks for all you do toward leaving a legacy of healthy lakes!





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"our tools... do not suffice for the oldest task in human history – to live on a piece of land (water) without spoiling it" Aldo Leopold