

Shoreline Plantings

Let nature do the work for you!



Lake Jane shoreline planting
Valley Branch Watershed District

Sit back, relax, and let nature care for your waterfront property. That's right - we're giving you permission to let your yard run a little wild.

Many people feel pressure to keep their yards tidy by mowing the grass down to the water's edge, building retaining walls or removing shrubs and tall grasses.



Big Carnelian shoreline planting
Carnelian-Marine-St. Croix Watershed District



Lake Josephine shoreline planting
Blue Thumb - Rice Creek Watershed District

In reality, a buffer of native plants including flowers, grasses, shrubs and trees is easier to maintain, helps to prevent erosion and keeps the water cleaner.

Why plant your shoreline?

Deep-rooted plants, shrubs and trees:

- ✿ Stabilize shorelines and streambanks
- ✿ Reduce pollution to lakes, rivers and streams
- ✿ Discourage geese from congregating
- ✿ Attract birds and butterflies
- ✿ Provide habitat and shade for fish
- ✿ Never need mowing, fertilizer or pesticides
- ✿ Help stop algae and aquatic weeds from growing



Learn more about shorelines at
www.BlueThumb.org

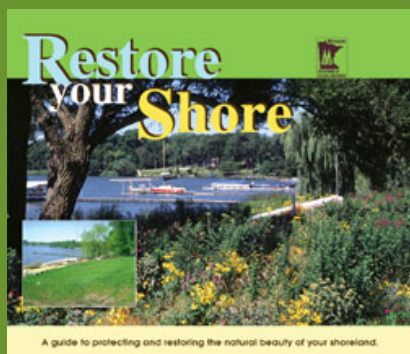


St. Croix River
Washington Conservation District



Find shoreline planting information at www.BlueThumb.org. The site includes a how-to video, planning packet, project cost calculator and planting blueprints.

Learn more and order an instructional CD ROM at www.dnr.state.mn.us/restoreyourshore



Live in Washington County?

Get free design advice and \$\$ for shoreline projects, raingardens and native habitat plantings.

651-275-1136 x.35 or mnwcd.org/cleanwater

Shoreline Plantings

Love living on the water a little more!



Long Lake shoreline planting
Brown's Creek Watershed District

Unlike turf, native vegetation requires no mowing, watering or chemical applications.



Hoary vervain, yellow coneflower
and black-eyed susans - Blue Thumb

The plants' roots prevent lakeshore erosion and streambank slumping.



Lake Josephine shoreline planting
Blue Thumb - Rice Creek Watershed District

You can still have a dock or trail to the water while keeping the rest of your shoreline in a natural state.



Big Carnelian shoreline planting
Carnelian-Marine-St. Croix Watershed District

The wider the native plant buffer the better, but even a small buffer is better than nothing.



Monarch butterfly on rough blazingstar
Blue Thumb

Native plants clean polluted runoff and provide fish, bird and wildlife habitat.



St. Croix River
Washington Conservation District

Less polluted runoff means less algae and safer water for fishing and swimming.