

Riparian Areas

Where land and water meet

Riparian areas are where terrestrial and aquatic ecosystems meet. These areas are found along lake shores, wetlands, and stream banks. They produce varieties of water-tolerant trees, shrubs and grasses. Riparian areas are critical in maintaining balance and water quality of a waterbody since they trap sediment, filter water, reduce erosion and flood risk, and maintain biodiversity.



Healthy shorelines are critical in keeping our lakes clean and healthy. Healthy shorelines rich in native plants provide many benefits and functions.

5 Key Benefits of a Healthy Shoreline

- 1) **Maintains Good Water Quality** by filtering polluted runoff before it enters the water, reducing over-abundant algal blooms
- 2) **Reduces Flood Risk** by slowing the velocity of surface runoff before it enters the water
- 3) **Creates Wildlife Habitat** by providing food and shelter for land and aquatic organisms
- 4) **Reduces Erosion** by plants immense underground root networks that hold soil in place
- 5) **Maintains / increases Property Values** by reducing negative impacts that can hinder a property's aesthetic appeal and recreational opportunity