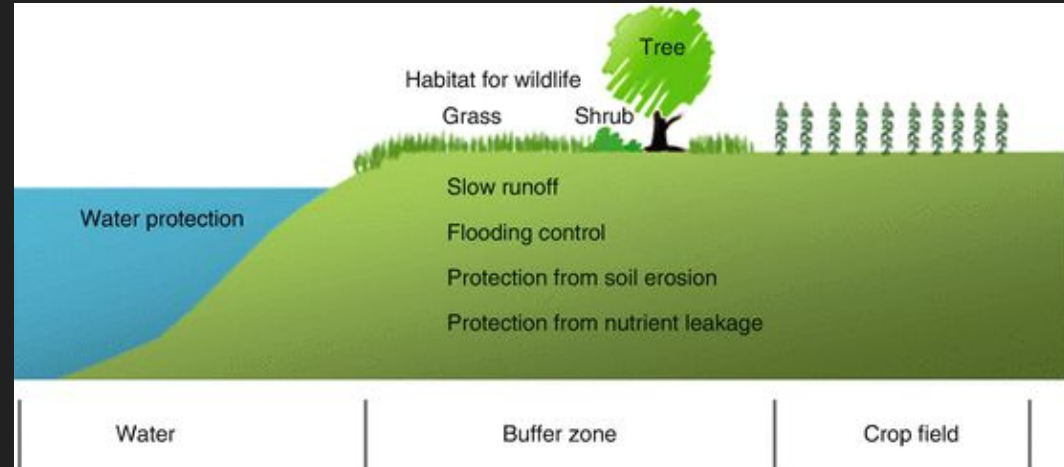


Shoreline Management

Brody Erickson

Buffer Zone

A buffer zone is shoreline vegetation that covers up to 50-70% of your lakeshore property and is all natural.



How do you create a buffer zone?

You can create a buffer zone. Look around your lake and note how nature works to minimize erosion on healthy, more natural shorelines. What types of wild-flowers, grasses, trees, and shrubs do you see in your area? Then determine how much of your lakeshore to naturalize, keeping in mind how much you need for lake access, swimming areas, docks, and dock storage areas. Talk to your neighbors, share ideas, and coordinate efforts to increase habitat and natural shorelines.

How do you prevent shoreline erosion?

You can prevent shoreline erosion by maintaining native vegetation because they have deep roots and you can get rid of any non native plants that are there and think of what yard waste you have and the traffic on the soil.



What are the benefits of having vegetation on the shoreline?

Some benefits would be that there would be a less erosive impact of raindrops. Removes nutrients in runoff which would degrade water quality. Binds and strengthens the soil column with deep, dense roots which prevent and reduce the likelihood of bank or slope failure. Provides diverse fish and wildlife habitats . Provides privacy and helps screen shoreland development. Provides natural and aesthetic views. Reduces erosion by protecting the banks against wave energies.

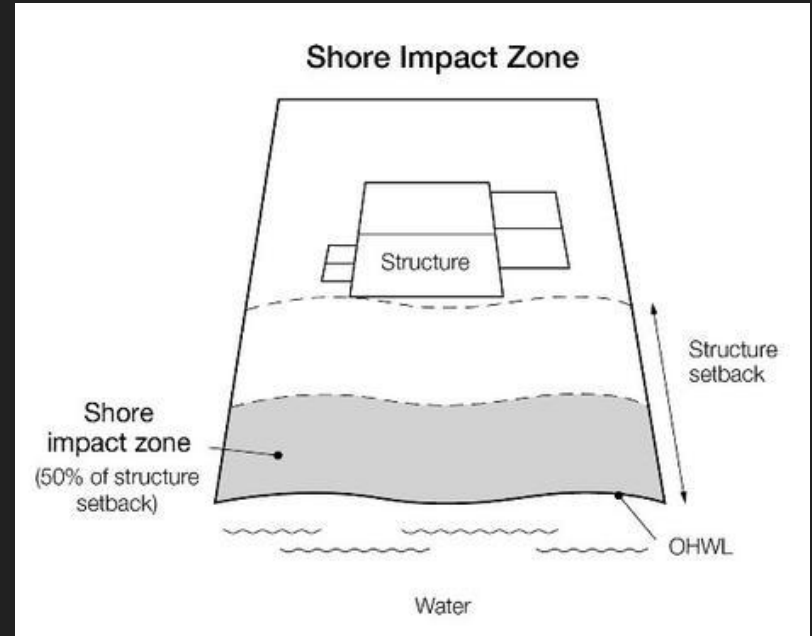
What are some good examples of plants?

Some good examples of plants would be the native ones you have around the lake. The best would be the ones with long roots to help erosion and strengthen up the soil.



What is the shore impact zone?

Shore Impact Zone is one-half the distance of the building setback; for agricultural land uses, the zone is 50 feet. Bluff Impact Zone includes the bluff and land within 20 feet from the top. When building something the Building Elevation must be a minimum of 3 feet above the highest known water elevation.



What other steps can you take to help keep a healthy lake and shoreline?

Protect the health of the vegetation growing on your property. Invasive species tend to spread rapidly. Learn to identify the most common invasive species. Invasives should be removed, but replanting native species may be needed to protect shorelines from erosion. Use herbicides that are labeled for an aquatic site or use a more precise method of application, like a wick applicator or a cotton glove over the top of a chemical resistant glove to apply the product only to those plants you want to control. Leave vegetation in place to screen structures, vehicles or other facilities as viewed from the water. • Consider leaving dead or diseased vegetation in place as they may be important for songbirds and other wildlife. Most importantly, leave an area of native plants between the house and the shoreline area. Limit the removal of trees and shrubs. If you have been mowing near the shoreline, simply discontinue that practice to allow growth of native plants or restore and replant with native flowers, shrubs or trees.