

DOING THE RIGHT THING FOR OUR LAKES AND RIVERS

Shoreline Buffers: Good for Your Lake. Good for You.

What can you do to help keep your lake healthy? Actually, quite a lot. One of the best things you can do is create (or keep) a strip of natural vegetation – a shoreline buffer – along the length of your frontage. Shoreline buffers can help limit the effects of development on our lakes. If everybody had one, our lakes would be cleaner and more beautiful. You might be surprised at all the good a shoreline buffer can do.

Good for your lake and the environment

- Protects the water by filtering runoff containing silt, salt, chemicals, fertilizer and other pollutants.
- Slows runoff, letting water soak into the ground instead of flushing straight into the lake.
- Helps keep waves and runoff from eroding the shoreline.
- Improves near-shore habitat for fish and other water creatures.
- Provides a haven for mammals, birds, reptiles, amphibians and insects – a sanctuary for wildlife.

Good for you and your property

- Saves time you would otherwise spend mowing and trimming more lawn.
- Gives you extra privacy and helps muffle the noise of boats and personal watercraft.
- Discourages messy pests like geese and non-native plants like purple loosestrife.
- Helps make the lake more attractive to home buyers, and so makes your property more valuable.

It's far easier and cheaper to protect your lake from harm than to clean it after it's been damaged. Plan your shoreline buffer this year.

One in a series of articles sponsored by the Oneida County Lakes and Rivers Association (www.oclra.org). For more information, contact Bob Martini at 715-282-5896 or email to webmaster@oclra.org. OCLRA encourages the use and distribution of this material by lake associations, their members, and other parties concerned about water quality.

Did you know...
A shoreline buffer
as little as 30 to 35
feet wide can make
a big difference in
protecting your lake
from pollution.

OCLRA

ONEIDA COUNTY
Lakes and Rivers Association