# HOW DO I GET STARTED ON MY SHORELAND RESTORATION?

The cost of a shoreland restoration can vary depending on the size and the types of plants and materials used. The Winnebago County Land & Water Conservation Department can provide technical support, and if the site is eligible, may offer cost sharing up to 70% for the installation of shoreland restoration projects.

Contact the Winnebago County Land and Water Conservation Department for any questions or to determine if your site is eligible for any type of funding.





### Winnebago County



### Land and Water Conservation Department

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## "A BRIDGE BETWEEN TWO WORLDS"

## HELP MAKE A DIFFERENCE BY PROTECTING WATER QUALITY AND CREATING WILDLIFE



## WHY PROTECT SHORELAND AREAS?

Owners of shoreland properties often bring with them the traditional landscaping ideas of a manicured lawn down to the water's edge. The idea of a "carpet of green" can be labor intensive and chemical dependant. Lawns themselves are not harmful, but they are generally a void for wildlife habitat. Over-fertilization also results in poor water quality.

A natural shoreline is a "bridge between two worlds". In other words, it is the transition (buffer) zone between land and water, which is the home to a large diversity of plants and animals. This buffer zone is also important in protecting water quality.



### BENEFITS OF SHORELAND RESTORATION . . . .

- Reduces shoreline erosion caused by wind and recreational boat traffic
- Vegetation acts as a filter strip which helps prevent lawn fertilizer and pesticides from reaching our lakes and streams
- Buffers reduce the acreage of lawn and time needed for mowing and lawn maintenance
- Vegetation along the shoreline creates a biological barrier to deter Canada Geese
- Shoreland buffers provide a seasonal array of colors, textures, aromas, and continual wildlife activity



#### WHY PLANT NATIVES?

- Native plants have an extremely deep root system
- These deep root systems are effective at stabilizing lake and stream banks and stopping erosion
- The deep root systems create more voids in the soil which help absorb rain runoff during storm events
- Once established, they require very little maintenance

