

# 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

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.



Lake Josephine shoreline planting  
Blue Thumb - Rice Creek Watershed District

## 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](http://www.BlueThumb.org)



St. Croix River  
Washington Conservation District



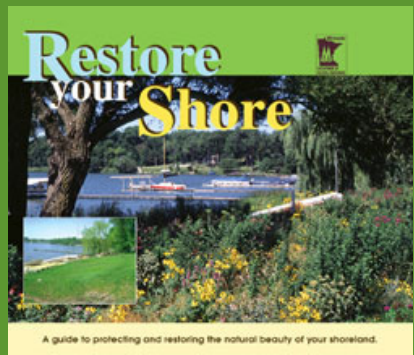


# Shoreline Plantings

Love living on the water a little more!

Find shoreline planting information at [www.BlueThumb.org](http://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](http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/restoreyourshore)



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.



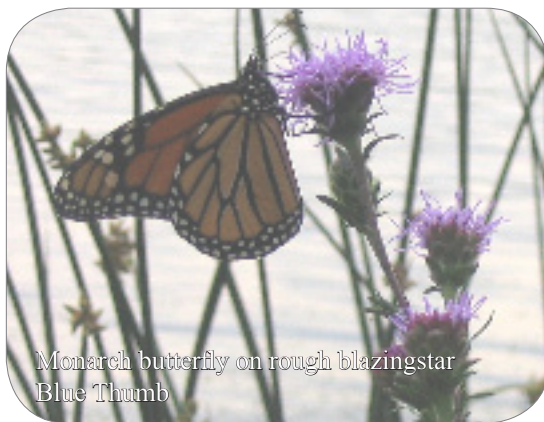
Big Carnelian shoreline planting  
Carnelian-Marine-St. Croix Watershed District

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

Live within the VLAWMO boundary?

Cost Share money is available for native habitat plantings, raingardens, and shoreline projects.

To learn more, go to [www.vlawmo.org](http://www.vlawmo.org)



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.