



Some Native Plants for Lakescaping

Wet - Sun



Marsh Milkweed
Asclepias incarnata

Ht: 36" Flower: Purple Bloom: June-August
Habitat: Full sun to part shade. Wet to moist soils.

Fox Sedge
Carex vulpinoidea



Ht: 24" Flower: Green Bloom: May-June
Habitat: Full sun to part shade. Wet to moist soils.



Joe Pye
Eupatorium maculatum

Ht: 36" Flower: Purple Bloom: July-September
Habitat: Full sun to part shade. Wet to moist soils.

Canada Anemone
Anemone canadensis



Ht: 24" Flower: White Bloom: May-June
Habitat: Full sun to part shade. Wet to moist soils.



Soft Rush
Juncus effusus

Ht: 36" Flower: Brown Bloom: July-August
Habitat: Full sun to part shade. Wet to moist soils.

Green-headed Coneflower
Rudbeckia laciniata



Ht: 48" Flower: Yellow Bloom: July-September
Habitat: Full sun to part shade. Wet to moist soils.



Fringed Sedge
Carex crinita

Ht: 36" Flower: Green Bloom: May-June
Habitat: Full sun to part shade. Wet to moist soils.



Golden Alexanders
Zizia aurea

Ht: 36" Flower: Yellow Bloom: May-July
Habitat: Full sun to part shade. Wet to moist soils.

Boneset
Eupatorium perfoliatum



Ht: 36" Flower: White Bloom: June-August
Habitat: Full sun to part shade. Wet to moist soils.

Additional Information

Gregg Thompson
Restoration Specialist
(763) 434 2030 x15
metroswcd@isd.net

Shawn Tracy
Restoration Specialist
(763) 434 2030 x16
Shawn.Tracy@anokaswcd.org

www.bluethumb.org

www.dnr.state.mn.us

www.shorelandmanagement.org

www.dnr.state.wi.us

The Association of Metropolitan
Soil and Water Conservation Districts

Anoka - Carver - Dakota - Hennepin
Ramsey - Scott - Washington



Some Native Plants for Lakescaping



Narrow-Leaf Coneflower
Echinacea angustifolia

Ht: 24" Flower: Purple Bloom: July-August
Habitat: Full to part sun. Moist to dry soils.



Butterflyweed
Asclepias tuberosa

Ht: 24" Flower: Orange Bloom: June-September
Habitat: Full to part sun. Moist to dry soils.



Northern Blazing Star
Liatris ligulistylis

Ht: 36" Flower: Purple Bloom: July-August
Habitat: Full to part sun. Wet to dry soils.



Big Bluestem
Andropogon gerardii

Ht: 72" Flower: Purple Bloom: July-September
Habitat: Full sun to part shade. Moist to dry soils.



Prairie Coneflower
Ratibida pinnata

Ht: 48" Flower: Yellow Bloom: July-October
Habitat: Full to part sun. Moist to dry soils.



Indiangrass
Sorghastrum nutans

Ht: 60" Flower: Amber Bloom: July-September
Habitat: Full sun to part shade. Moist to dry soils.

Upland -



Lakescaping

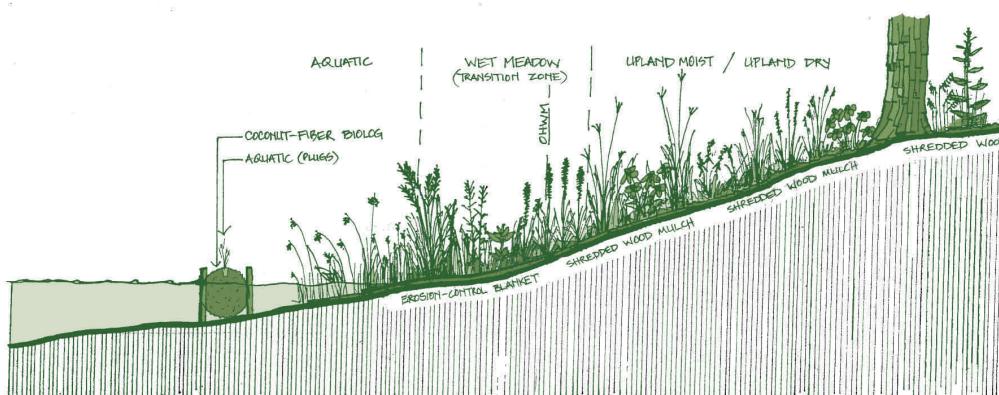
Lakescaping is the planting and/or maintaining of dense native vegetation along the shoreline to protect the shoreline and the waterbody. This native plant "buffer" is useful in filtering the overland runoff that enters waterbodies and helps manage other environmental problems such as erosion, providing wildlife habitat and restoring the shoreline's original structure and ecological function. Some benefits of native lakescaping include:

- ⌚ Deep-rooted native plants stabilize soil to prevent erosion during both high water and low water events.
- ⌚ A diverse mix with wildflowers is greatly beneficial to wildlife in providing food and habitat.
- ⌚ Fish favor diverse, natural shorelines.
- ⌚ Long-term maintenance of native plantings is much less than for lawns or formalized gardens.
- ⌚ Native plantings with high diversity are more resistant to drought, flood, insects and disease than a single type or low diversity planting.
- ⌚ Vegetation taller than 18-24" discourages nuisance geese.



Planning

- ⌚ Map your property. Note topography, buildings, existing vegetation and other features.
- ⌚ Determine areas of high use such as beaches, docks, fire pits, etc.
- ⌚ Design your buffer to encompass about 75% of the less used shore frontage and extend 25' back from the water's edge.



- ⌚ Determine if any areas are experiencing erosion problems. If so, contact a lakeshore specialist for help developing appropriate solutions.
- ⌚ Choose a variety of native perennials for your buffer, depending on soil, moisture and light conditions. Include at least 50% grasses and sedges to provide good root structure, soil cover and support for flower stems.

- ⌚ Contact the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources and your city or township for information on required permits.



Site Preparation

- ⌚ Locate any buried utilities in the area (Gopher One-Call - 651 454 0002).
- ⌚ Remove the existing non-native vegetation by using a sod-cutter, smothering with heavy black plastic for several months, or applying a herbicide such as Round-Up®.
- ⌚ If invasive species are present (purple loosestrife, reed canary grass, etc.) you may need to make several herbicide applications to ensure proper control.
- ⌚ Place erosion control blanket on any areas with bare soils or that are below the ordinary high water level (as defined by the MN DNR).
- ⌚ Spread 2-3" of shredded hardwood mulch over the upland planting areas down to the ordinary high water level.
- ⌚ Some lakes and ponds may require a temporary wave-break to be placed in front of aquatic plants. Contact a lakeshore specialist to find what's appropriate.



Planting

- ⌚ Seedlings can be planted from mid-May to mid-September. Summer plantings may require frequent watering.
- ⌚ Plant seedlings 12 - 18" apart with more flood tolerant species toward the bottom and drought tolerant species toward the top.
- ⌚ Plant species in large clusters to provide more visual impact.



Maintenance

- ⌚ Ensure that your planting receives at least one inch of water per week for the first 2 months. If watering is needed, give your plants one or two good soakings per week, rather than frequent "misting".
- ⌚ Your lakeshore buffer will require regular "garden planting" maintenance for the first two years while plants establish, and periodic maintenance from then on.
- ⌚ Weed your lakeshore planting once a month, paying special attention to any invasive species such as purple loosestrife and reed canary grass. Leaving plant tags next to your plugs or purchasing a plant ID book may help in determining which plants are undesirable.
- ⌚ Dead plant material can be left standing through winter, to cut down in spring. Many native species have strong stems and will stay standing even after a snowfall - providing wildlife habitat and visual interest during the winter.