



Quinte
CONSERVATION

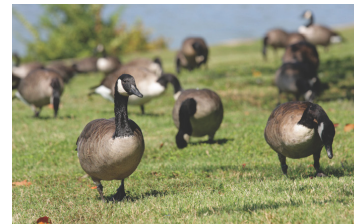
Restoring Your Shoreline



- ✓ **Maintain Water Quality:** Plants slow the rain water (runoff) from our properties and roads; It is then absorbed into the soil layer where nutrients and pollutants can be filtered out.
- ✓ **Reduce Erosion:** The roots hold soil in place and protect shorelines from slumping and washing away. Plants reduce the severity of wave and ice action from water currents and they reduce the boat wake - protecting shorelines from damage.
- ✓ **Create Wildlife Habitat:** Over 70% of land-based wildlife and 90% of aquatic life depend on shorelines for some part of their life.
- ✓ **Discourage Canada Geese:** Plants on a shoreline create a visual and physical barrier deterring Canada Geese.
- ✓ **Help Lower Impacts of Flooding:** Plants slow rain water moving down the land (runoff) and allow it to be absorbed into the soil layer.
- ✓ **Protect Property Value:** Shoreline plants protect from unsightly erosion and loss of shoreline. Plants help to protect from wind or water damage and poor water quality.



An eroding shoreline.



Canada geese grazing on a waterfront lawn.



Great blue heron.

The appeal of waterfront views and access are important. Consider maintaining views and access routes when planning your shoreline.

Planning For Your Shoreline

Assess your property

- How do you use your shoreline? How do you access it? Do you see any soil erosion concerns? Where is your septic system? Are there any septic concerns?
- How does the water flow down your property? Walk your property and look for high water lines. Identify any erosion concerns, planting can sometimes resolve those.
- Determine your soil type, soil moisture, and amount of sunlight. Which areas are low, wet and prone to flooding? Which areas are high and dry? This will help to determine which species will have most success. Look for what is already growing and adjacent to your property.

** Tip: print a map of your property using Google Maps, apply the satellite imagery layer, and use this as a basis for your shoreline plan.*

Planning your planting

- Decide on the size of your buffer. You can start small and expand later.
- Mark access routes to the water to ensure these remain open and accessible.
- Mark out where you want to plant. Consider placing low growing plants in areas where you want to maintain views, and placing larger shrubs and trees along the edges of your property to help define property boundaries, maintain privacy and maintain views to the water.
- Plants can be planted directly into existing sod or in areas with controlled sod removal.

Choosing Your Species

- Select native plants appropriate for your site conditions (soil, sunlight, etc.). Generally, shoreline species are ones that can tolerate average to moist soils.
- Consider flowering or fruit bearing plants for maximum wildlife benefits.
- Check what is already growing locally, as these will do best.
- Decide how many to plant. Shrubs can be planted about 1 metre apart, and trees should be no closer than 2.4 metres. Wildflowers and grasses can be planted 20-30 cm apart. Remember to consider mature plant height and width when spacing plants.



A planted garden-style shoreline with Ontario wildflowers, trees and shrubs.



Minor shoreline erosion that can be resolved with plantings.



A staked no-mow zone to be planted with wildflowers, shrubs, and trees.



A natural shoreline buffer enhanced with wildflowers.



Sketch your waterfront property, mark your property's features, buildings, access routes, etc. Mark desired locations for your plants. Consider placing large species to the edges.

SITE CONSIDERATIONS:

Soils Conditions (clay, sand, loam)

Light Levels (full sun, part shade, full shade)

Moisture Levels (wet, average, dry)

**Tip: look for evidence on the landscape of a high water line.*



A shoreline planted with Ontario wildflowers and flowering shrubs.



Naturalize your shoreline while maintaining views and access points.

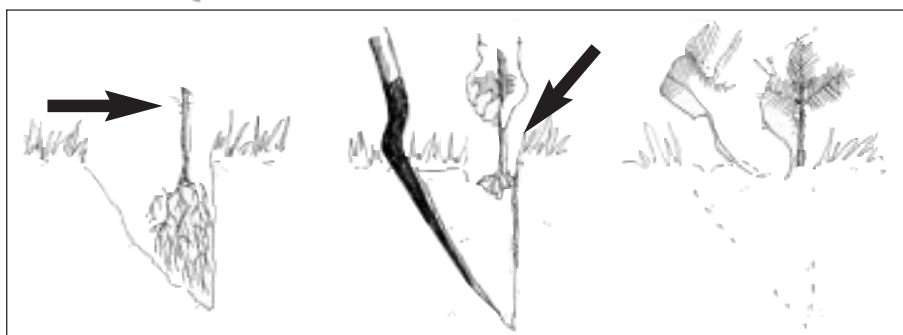
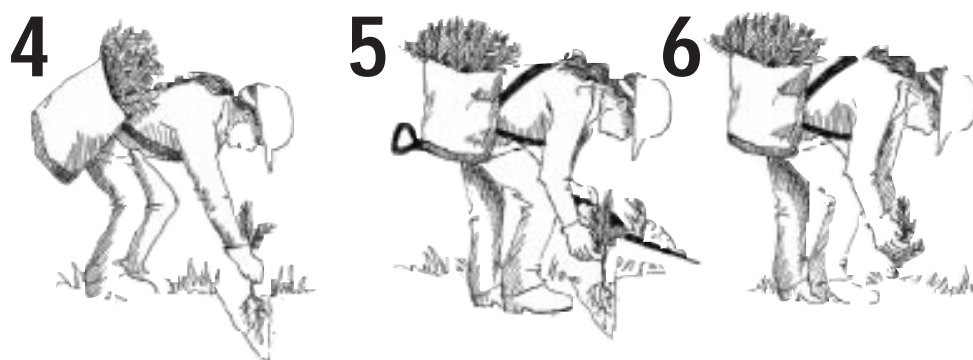
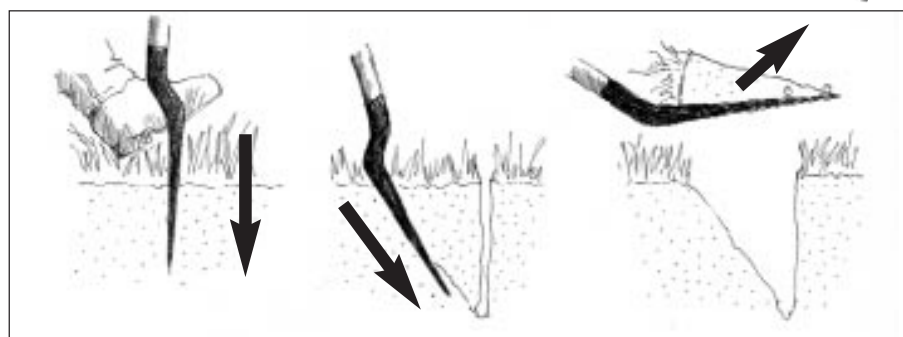
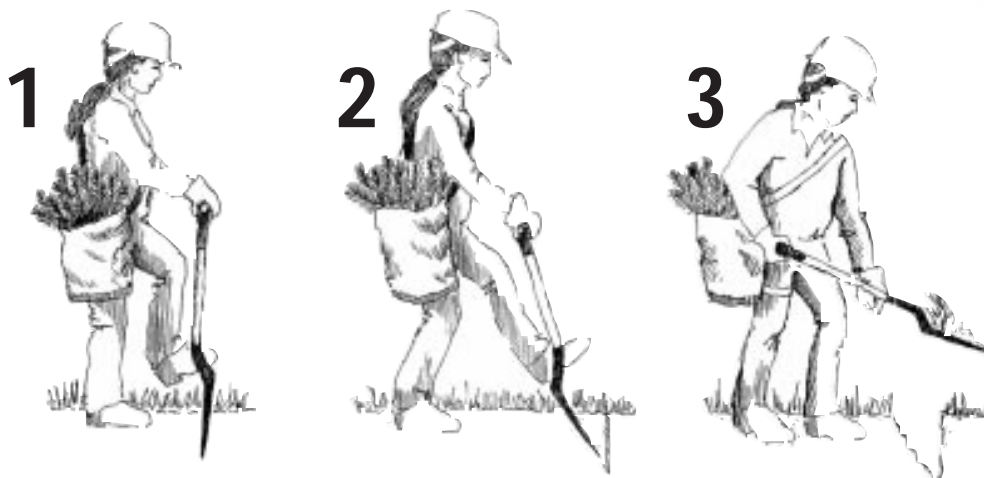
HOW TO PLANT

Figures 1-3 : Prepare a planting hole by removing a "wedge" of soil. Dig one side of hole straight down.

Figures 4-6 : Place roots in the planting hole. Spread soil around the roots ensuring good contact. Tamp the soil around the base of the seedling with your toe.

Your time and effort in advance planning and preparation will give your tree planting project the best chance for success. Your reward will be a lifetime of enjoyment and benefit from your trees.

Practical advice and assistance on tree planting, site preparation and tending is available through your local office of the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources.



For more information contact:

LandOwner Resource Centre

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Healthy Waterfronts Checklist

- ☐ Pump your septic every 3 to 5 years.
- ☐ Address any shoreline erosion issues.
- ☐ Stop mowing and allow the shoreline to become natural.
- ☐ Avoid fertilizer application on lawns.
- ☐ Enhance the shoreline by planting native tree, shrubs and wildflowers.
- ☐ Identify non-native invasive species, and control them if possible.
- ☐ Leave woody debris for habitat.
- ☐ Choose an environmentally friendly dock.
- ☐ Install eavestroughs and direct downspout to a rain barrel or garden.
- ☐ Minimize outdoor lighting.
- ☐ Always refuel your boat with care.
- ☐ Watch your boat's wake, it can cause erosion.
- ☐ Become a citizen scientist. Collect and submit data. Visit www.ontarionature.org

NOTES:

Common Shoreline Plants of Southern Ontario

Dry, Upland

Trees

- Balsam Fir
- Sugar Maple
- White Birch
- White Ash
- White Spruce
- Red Pine
- White Pine
- Black Cherry
- White Oak
- Red Oak
- Burr Oak

Shrubs

- Serviceberry
- Chokeberry
- Grey Dogwood
- Common Juniper
- Creeping Juniper
- Ninebark
- Chokecherry

- Fragrant Sumac
- Staghorn Sumac
- Red Elder
- Swamp Rose

Grasses and Wildflowers

- Canada Anemone
- Heath Aster
- New England Aster
- Helen's Flower
- False Sunflower
- Switchgrass
- Black-Eyed Susan

Wet, Lowland

Trees

- Red Maple
- Silver Maple
- Black Ash
- Green Ash

- Tamarack
- White Cedar
- Eastern Hemlock
- Balsam Poplar

Shrubs

- Speckled Alder
- Silky Dogwood
- Red Osier Dogwood
- Sweet Gale
- Bebb's Willow
- Pussy Willow
- Shrub Willow
- Sandbar Willow
- Slender Willow
- Steeplebush
- Common Elderberry
- Meadowsweet
- Highbush Cranberry
- Nannyberry

Grasses and Wildflowers

- Canada Anemone
- Swamp Milkweed
- Canada Blue-Joint Grass
- White Turtlehead
- Water Willow
- Canada Wild Rye
- Boneset
- Joe-Pye Weed
- Closed Gentian
- Helen's Flower
- Cardinal Flower
- Giant Bur-Reed
- Prairie Cordgrass
- Common Vervain
- Blue Flag Iris
- Marsh Marigold
- Swamp Candles
- Monkey Flower
- Golden Alexander

Native Plant Suppliers

Friends of Lemoine Point

c/o Cataraqui Region Conservation Authority
1641 Perth Road, PO Box 160
Glenburnie, ON
(613) 546-4228
lemoine@cataraquieregion.on.ca

Golden Bough Tree Farm

900 Napanee Road, PO Box 59
Marlbank, ON
godenbough@lks.net
www.goldenboughtrees.ca

Natural Themes

219 Maybee Road
Frankford, ON
(613) 398-7971
bea@naturalthemes.com
www.naturalthemes.com

Peterborough Green-Up

378 Aylmer Street North, Unit 4
Peterborough, ON
(705) 745-3238
greenp@greenup.on.ca

Prosperity Acres

266 Harmony Road
Corbyville, ON
(613) 477-1908
www.prosperityacres.com

Weese Tree Preservation

112 Park Drive, RR # 1
Bath, ON
(613) 352-5988
info@weesetreepreservation.ca
www.weesetreepreservation.ca

Disclaimer: This directory of contractors is for informational purposes only and is not intended to provide specific endorsement.

With changing land use and development along waterways, natural vegetation is often removed and landowners may face undesirable consequences including excess algae in surface water, loss of land due to erosion, and mess created by unwanted geese. This can reduce valuable aesthetic appeal and recreational opportunities of shoreline properties.

To help landowners address these common concerns, Quinte Conservation has partnered with lake associations across our watersheds to deliver the Seedlings for Shorelines Program. This program encourages landowners to enhance shorelines by planting native trees, shrubs, and wildflowers by offering free seedlings to create or re-establish shoreline buffers of native vegetation on properties across our region. Contact us for more information on current programs available to landowners.

For More Information

For information on programs and connections to landowner resources, visit www.QuinteConservation.ca

Other Resources

Ontario's Invading Species Awareness Program - www.invadingspecies.com

Evergreen Native Plant Database - www.nativeplants.evergreen.ca

Watersheds Canada - www.watersheds.ca

Ontario Federation of Cottagers' Associations - www.foca.on.ca

Citizen Science Programs - www.ontarionature.org

Bay of Quinte Remedial Action Plan - www.bqrap.on.ca

For advice, information, and connections to landowner grant programs contact:

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Education and Stewardship Coordinator
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613-354-3312 Napanee

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