

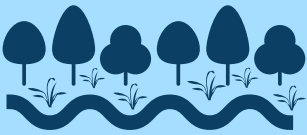
ARE YOU

SHORESMART?

USE THIS CHECKLIST TO ADOPT BEHAVIORS AND TAKE ACTIONS THAT WILL HELP KEEP YOUR SHORELINE AND OUR SHARED WATERS IN NORTHERN ST. LOUIS COUNTY HEALTHY.



At the Shoreline



- Allow my shoreline to remain as natural as possible.
- Create or maintain a buffer strip of native plants along my shoreline.
- Retain ice ridges along my shore.
- Allow for natural debris such as rocks and fallen trees that create habitat for native wildlife to accumulate as much as possible.
- Prune trees for a better view instead of removing them.

Yard or Acreage



- Test soil to determine plant nutrients needed before applying fertilizer to my lawn and garden.
- Minimize the use of fertilizers and pesticides.
- Keep as much native habitat intact as possible on my property.
- Use rain barrels and/or rain gardens to slow down and filter rain water.
- Consider a "forest stewardship plan" to manage my forested land.
- Prevent yard and pet waste from reaching the water.

On the Water



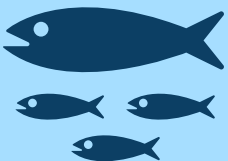
- Move fuel from any nearshore locations to secure sites away from my shore.
- Practice safe refueling and use fuel/oil absorbing pads in my boat bilge.
- Inspect boats and equipment before taking them to another water body.
- Use a 4-stroke motor.
- Drive slowly near shorelines because wakes erode shorelines.
- Will not throw fishing line or bait (including non-native earthworms) overboard.
- Will not use soap or shampoo in lakes or streams

Home or cabin



- Repair leaking pipes and dripping faucets.
- Eliminate the use of a garbage disposal.
- Use phosphate-free soaps and cleaners.
- Stagger laundry and dishwasher loads throughout the week.
- Pump my septic tank every 2-3 years or more often if needed.
- Carefully follow labels for use, storage, and disposal of all household products.
- Inspect my well regularly, test my well as recommended for my area, and seal any unused wells.
- Develop a site plan before beginning new construction. Carefully plan to reduce erosion, protect water quality, and preserve the natural character of my site.

AIS



- Learn to identify Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS).
- Learn who I can contact if I find AIS: www.dnr.state.mn.us/invasives/ais/contacts.html
- Inspect boats, docks, and other equipment coming out of the water for AIS.
- Decontaminate my boat, anchors, fishing & scuba gear, and other equipment.
- Follow "Clean, Dry, Drain" for boats and all other equipment moving between water bodies.
- Wait 30 days before putting a used dock or boat lift into a new water body.

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For more best management practices
for shoreline properties
visit us at
www.nslswcd.org