

IS THE HEALTHY LAKES AND RIVERS GRANT PROGRAM RIGHT FOR YOU?

LEARN HOW YOU COULD GET REIMBURSED TO
SOLVE YOUR RUNOFF ISSUES AND CREATE
BEAUTIFUL NATIVE LANDSCAPING



HEALTHY LAKES AND RIVERS GRANT PROGRAM OVERVIEW

- PURPOSE: DNR PROGRAM TO HELP HOMEOWNERS PROTECT AND RESTORE THE HEALTH OF LAKES AND RIVERS
- 5 SIMPLE AND INEXPENSIVE BEST PRACTICES
- LLIA IS YOUR LOCAL SPONSOR
- GRANT PROGRAM WILL REIMBURSE UP TO \$1,000 FOR EACH BEST PRACTICE
- COST-SHARE FOR HOMEOWNERS OF 25%
- APPLY THIS YEAR FOR A PROJECT THAT YOU WILL START WORK ON NEXT YEAR

Fish Sticks



Native Planting



Diversion



Rock Infiltration



Rain Garden



FISH STICKS

- LARGE WOODY STRUCTURES ANCHORED TO SHORE THAT ARE PARTLY OR FULLY SUBMERGED
- CREATES FOOD, SHELTER, AND BREEDING AREAS FOR FISH
- SUITABLE IN BAYS AND SHORELINES LEADING TO AND FROM BAYS AWAY FROM PIERS, SWIMMING AREAS AND BOAT TRAFFIC



NATIVE PLANTING

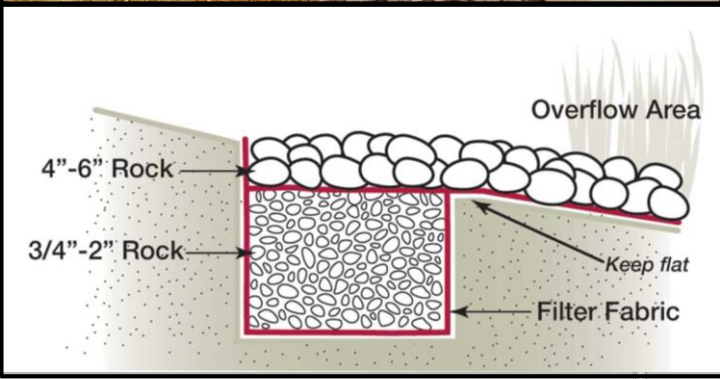
- REPLACE GRASS, BARE SOIL, OR EXISTING MATERIALS ALONG THE SHORELINE WITH NATIVE PLANTS
- VARIETY OF SAMPLE NATIVE PLANT PLANS TO PICK FROM
- PLANT NATIVE SPECIES AT THE WATER'S EDGE AND AT LEAST 10 FEET WIDE AND 350 SF TOTAL
- IMPROVES HABITAT, NATURAL BEAUTY AND PRIVACY, AND SLOWS RUNOFF
- NOT ELIGIBLE IN AREAS FOR SHORELINES WITH ROCK, RIPRAP, OR SHEET PILING



DIVERSION

- USE LOGS OR EARTHEN BERMS TO CREATE DIVERSION
- REDIRECTS RUNOFF TO AN AREA WHERE IT CAN SOAK INTO THE GROUND
- SUITABLE FOR MODERATELY STEEP PATHS AND BROAD DIPS ACROSS DRIVEWAYS
- MIGHT NEED MULTIPLE DIVERSIONS ON STEEPER SLOPES





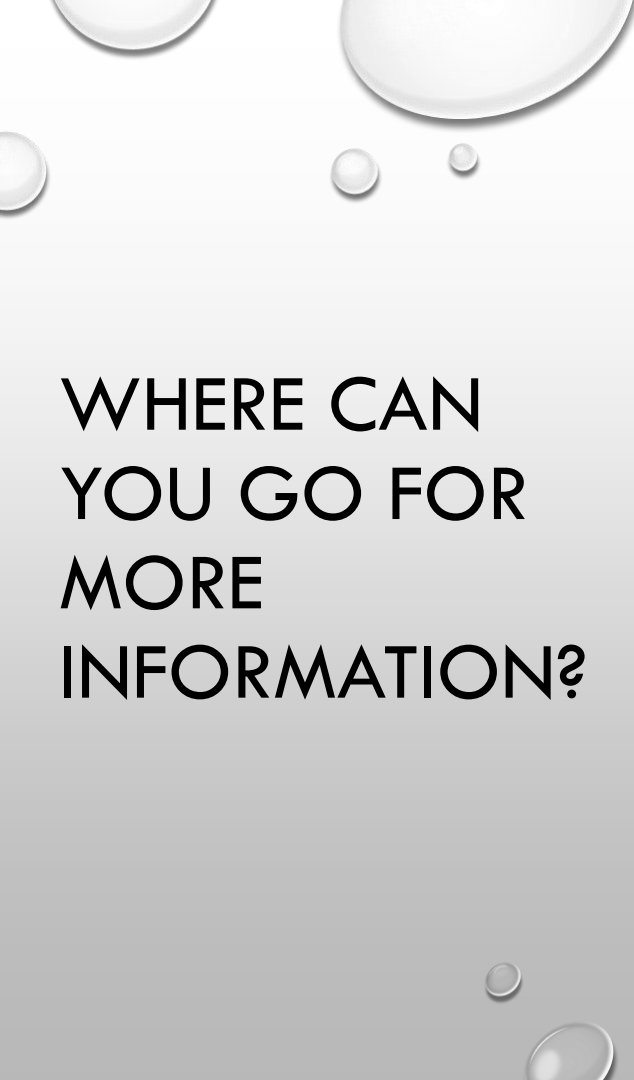
ROCK INFILTRATION

- AN EXCAVATED PIT OR TRENCH FILLED WITH ROCK THAT STORES WATER UNDERGROUND TO INFILTRATE INTO THE SOIL
- CAPTURES AND CLEANS RUNOFF
- SUITABLE ALONG ROOF DRIP LINES AND DRIVEWAYS AND PROVIDE SPACE FOR RUNOFF TO FILTER ITSELF
- WORKS BEST IF SOIL IS SANDY OR LOAMY



RAIN GARDEN

- SHALLOW DEPRESSION WITH LOOSE SOILS AND NATIVE PLANTS TO COLLECT AND CLEAN RUNOFF
- CREATES WILDLIFE HABITAT AND NATURAL BEAUTY
- SUITABLE FOR NATURALLY OCCURRING LOW SPOTS IN A YARD OR AN AREA WHERE DOWNSPOUTS CAN BE USED TO DIRECT RAINWATER INTO THE GARDEN
- A GRASSY SWALE OR DIVERSION PRACTICE MIGHT BE NEEDED TO REDIRECT RUNOFF INTO THE RAIN GARDEN



WHERE CAN YOU GO FOR MORE INFORMATION?

- LLIA LAKE PRESERVATION COMMITTEE
LLIAHEALTHYLAKES@GMAIL.COM
 - INITIAL CONTACT FOR INTERESTED HOMEOWNERS
 - PROVIDE DNR AND OTHER RESOURCES
 - WORK WITH HOMEOWNERS TO PREPARE GRANT APPLICATION
 - SUBMIT GRANT APPLICATION
 - DOCUMENT THE PROCESS
 - MONITOR PROJECTS
 - REIMBURSE HOMEOWNERS FOR ELIGIBLE PROJECT COSTS
 - SUBMIT REQUEST FOR REIMBURSEMENT REPORT TO WI DNR

- HEALTHY LAKES AND RIVERS WEBSITE
[HTTPS://HEALTHYLAKESWI.COM/](https://HEALTHYLAKESWI.COM/)

[ABOUT](#) ▾[BEST PRACTICES](#) ▾[GRANTS](#) ▾[RESULTS](#) ▾[RESOURCES](#) ▾

IMPROVE YOUR SHORELAND PROPERTY

Healthy Lakes & Rivers includes 5 simple and inexpensive best practices that improve habitat and water quality on your shoreland property. Check out the [best practices](#), supporting technical guidance, and other information to install a project on your own. Alternatively, the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources has competitive Healthy Lakes & Rivers [grants](#) for eligible applicants like local units of government, qualified lake or river organizations, and others who can [apply for funding](#) on behalf of shoreland property owners.

[Learn more about Wisconsin's Healthy Lakes & Rivers](#) >





NATIVE PLANTINGS



Brewer Dam Lake, Dodge County - Bill Fifer

MAINTENANCE



COSTS

- Range: \$480 – \$2400 (average = \$1140)
- Healthy Lakes & Rivers grant funding available: \$1000 per 350 ft² area

MATERIALS

- Black plastic or herbicide
- Native plants
- Bulb auger or hand trowel
- Mulch
- Watering equipment



POSSIBLY REQUIRED

(If using herbicides in or adjacent to the water's edge)

NATIVE PLANTINGS, a transition zone best practice, are template planting plans designed for a contiguous area of at least 350 ft². Each template has a corresponding list of native plants suited to the given soil conditions and function of the plan, including lakeshore, bird/butterfly habitat, woodland, low-growing, deer resistant, and bare soil area plantings.

PURPOSE

Native plantings improve wildlife habitat, slow runoff water, and promote natural beauty. Each template described above serves all of these functions to some degree, but one may be better than another given your property's unique site characteristics and areas of concern. For example, the bird/butterfly template includes flowers that attract these types of wildlife.

HOW TO BUILD

It may be necessary to work with your local land and water conservation department or a landscaper to design and/or install these plantings. Check with your local zoning department to determine if any permits are necessary. Planting specifications and densities follow Wisconsin Biology Technical Note 1: Shoreland Habitat.

Detailed guidance is found here: <http://healthylakesni.com>.

1. Find a location

350 ft² native plantings should begin, if possible, at the typical water's edge (i.e. Ordinary High Water Mark on a lake or the floodplain edge of a river), be at least 10 feet wide – parallel or perpendicular to the shore, and contiguous rather than planted in patches. The final shape and orientation to the water's edge are up to you. Choose an area of turf grass you wish to revert back to a more natural state or an already vegetated area you would like to augment. Try to choose a location in full or partial sun.

2. Determine soil type

It's important to understand what type of soil is in the planting location because that will determine which native plants can survive and thrive. The fact sheet links provide tools and guidance to help determine your soil type. Most of the template plans have two plant lists – one for moister soils and one for drier soils.

PROJECT TIMELINE

SITE PREP
6 WEEKS - 6 MONTHS

INSTALLATION
1-2 DAYS

MAINTENANCE
2 YEARS

PROJECT END
3 YEARS
Ongoing weeding may be necessary in subsequent years.



3. Choose your template and design shape

By planning your 350 ft² native planting on paper first, you will be able to create the best appearance possible and you will understand how the practice will function and fit into your landscape.

4. Choose your plant list

Native plants are used because they are best adapted for our climate and provide ideal habitat for our wildlife. The 350 ft² native planting templates include a mixture of grasses, sedges, wildflowers, ferns, shrubs, and trees, depending on the desired function and site's soil type (i.e. dry, medium, moist, or wet).

5. Lay out the planting

Lay out the shape and boundary of the 350 ft² native plantings based on your design. Before you start digging, contact <http://www.diggershotline.com/>.

6. Prepare the site

Removing lawn grass is critical to native planting success. The 2 most common ways to do so are with herbicide and black plastic. Black plastic may be preferential to herbicides, especially if you are near the water, which may require a chemical control permit for herbicide use. If you already have some native plants growing, you might consider removing weeds and planting among what is already growing. The designs provided in the fact sheet links assume you are removing lawn grasses and starting from scratch. Site preparation, including controlling invasive species, is eligible for grant funding. Lay mulch or wood fiber blanket down prior to planting. This will conserve moisture and reduce weed growth within the planting area. Wood chips (2 inches deep), straw, or fallen leaves (each 3-4 inches deep) may be used as mulch.

7. Plant

Follow the design specifications by placing your plants in the approximate positions described in the template plan. Step back and look at the 350 ft² native planting area. Plants should be spaced about 1.5 feet apart from each other. When ready use a hand trowel, bulb planter, or bulb auger drill bit attached to an electric drill to plant them. If grant funded, the 350 ft² native planting must be in a contiguous area. In other words, the plants cannot be put into the ground in patches.

8. Water and critter-proof the plants

Good water techniques and maintenance are the keys to native planting success. Be ready to water them as soon as they are in the ground and to continue to water them daily for the first few weeks or until the plants are well established. Once plants are established, water only if prolonged dry periods occur. If grant funded, watering is required.

A temporary fence or animal deterrent sprays may be necessary in areas prone to deer browse, rabbits, and other critters. Fencing specifications are found in the 350 ft² Native Planting Best Practices Manual. If grant funded, fencing may be required depending on geographic location.

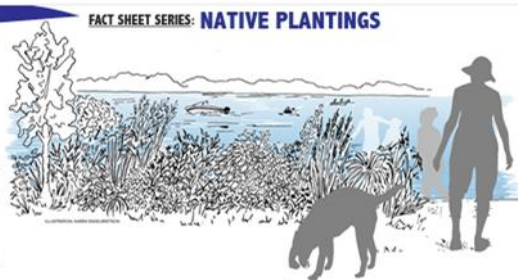
MAINTENANCE

- Water the plants a minimum of 1 inch per week and more during dry periods for 1-2 years.
- Become familiar with weeds and invasive species, in particular, and remove them frequently.
- The standing dead plants may be left in place through the winter for wildlife cover and food and then cut back when new spring growth emerges.
- Native plantings must remain in place according to local zoning specifications if within the vegetation protection area (i.e. buffer).
- The 350 ft² native planting must remain in place for 10 years if Healthy Lakes & Rivers grant-funded.

LINKS

Healthy Lakes & Rivers Website – <http://healthylakesni.com>
Controlling Runoff and Erosion on Your Waterfront Property: A Guide for Landowners – <http://healthylakesni.com>
350 ft² Native Planting Best Practices Manual – <http://healthylakesni.com>
DNR Surface Water Grants – <http://dnrwi.gov/aidsurfacewater.html>

For more information contact Patrick Goggin at 715-365-8943 or Patrick.Goggin@wisconsin.gov.



Design and layout by Amy Koski, Extension Lakes

GRANT SPECIFICS



**Reimbursement
Grant**



**Cost-share
Requirement**
Homeowner 25%



**10-Year
Agreement to
Maintain Project**



**Documentation
Needed**



**Final Grant
Application Due
11/15**

HEALTHY LAKES AND RIVERS GRANT CYCLE

| | |
|---|---|
| Spring / Summer | Work with homeowners to prepare grant application |
| By Sep 15th | Grant pre-application submitted |
| | WI DNR biologist provides feedback to help complete grant application |
| By Nov 15th | Grant application submitted |
| Feb 15th (approximate) | WI DNR communicates if grant application approved |
| March 15th – December 31st Homeowner has 3-year window to complete the project | Homeowner completes project and provides documentation to LLIA |
| When project is complete | LLIA issues reimbursement to homeowner |
| | LLIA submits grant payment request with documentation |
| | WI DNR sends approved reimbursement to LLIA |

HOW WILL YOU IMPROVE YOUR LAKE OR RIVER?



ILLUSTRATION: KAREN ENGELBREITSON

1 FISH STICKS

CREATE FISH AND WILDLIFE HABITAT.
Fish Sticks are feeding, breeding, and nesting areas for all sorts of critters – from fish to song birds. They can also prevent bank erosion – protecting lakeshore properties and your lake. (Not eligible on river properties.)



2 NATIVE PLANTINGS

IMPROVE WILDLIFE HABITAT, NATURAL BEAUTY AND PRIVACY, AND SLOW RUNOFF.
Native Plantings include grasses and wildflowers with shrubs and trees. Choose a template based on your property and interests – from bird/butterfly habitat to a low-growing garden showcasing your water view.



3 DIVERSION*

PREVENT RUNOFF FROM GETTING INTO YOUR LAKE OR RIVER.
Diversion Practices move water to areas where it can soak into the ground instead. Depending on your property, multiple diversions may be necessary.



4 ROCK INFILTRATION*

CAPTURE AND CLEAN RUNOFF.
Rock Infiltration practices fit in nicely along roof drip lines and driveways and provide space for runoff to filter itself. They work best if your soil is sandy or loamy.



5 RAIN GARDEN*

CREATE WILDLIFE HABITAT AND NATURAL BEAUTY WHILE CAPTURING AND CLEANING RUNOFF.
Rain Gardens multi-task – they improve habitat and filter runoff while providing a naturally beautiful view.



IMPROVE HABITAT AND NATURAL BEAUTY ~ SLOW, DIVERT, CLEAN AND FILTER RUNOFF

*Eligible for shoreland properties within 1000 feet of a lake or 300 feet of a river.

QUESTIONS?

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT THE LLIA LAKE
PRESERVATION COMMITTEE AT:

LLIAHEALTHYLAKES@GMAIL.COM

VISIT THE HEALTHY LAKES WEBSITE AT:

[HTTPS://HEALTHYLAKESWI.COM/](https://HEALTHYLAKESWI.COM/)