



MN Lakes & Rivers Advocates

Protect Our Lake Legacy

www.mnlakesandrivers.org

Criteria for MLR Lake Steward

1. There must be a buffer zone of native plants along at least 75% of the lakeshore that is at least 25 ft (25-50 ft) deep from water's edge landward. The other 25% of the lakeshore can be impervious such as beach, boathouse, deck.
2. Excluding impervious such as house or driveway, the remainder of the property must have at least 50% native trees, shrubs and plants.
3. If there is riprap along shore, plants are allowed to grow in it.
4. For plants in the aquatic zone, only the smallest number/amount can be removed that will allow access to the water for swimming and boating.
5. No broadcast fertilizer or herbicides/pesticides, including no mosquito spraying, nor aquatic treatments for plants or invertebrates.
6. Septic system, if present, must be maintained according to best management practices, which usually includes pumping every 1-3 years depending on size of the system and number of people living at the property.
7. There must be no evidence of stormwater runoff into the lake.
8. Fire pits can be detrimental to the lake because the ashes are high in phosphorus. If there is a fire pit, it must be at least 25 ft (?50 ft) back from the water's edge. Pet waste should be picked up from the same area, and piles of leaves, grass clippings, etc. not permitted near the water where they could wash into the lake.
9. Please allow fallen trees to remain in the water to provide habitat, unless they obstruct recreation access.
10. Docks and lifts, if stored onshore, should be stacked so that the impervious surface affects the least area of the shoreline zone.