

Round the Lake

Round Lake Property Owners Association

Spring 2005

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Shoreline Landscaping

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Dear Round Lake Property Owners,

In our fall newsletter, we made you aware of our new initiative to make Round Lake Property owners aware of the Shoreline Ordinance. I often call this "Lakescaping", which refers to the maintenance of natural aquatic and shoreline wildlife habitat on your waterfront. The Lake Association wants to explain the shoreline rules and tell property owners how they can design their shoreline so that it meets personal and environmental concerns. Our goal is to show each of you how this can be accomplished without the need for special permits or special exemption from the rules. The ultimate goal is to keep Round Lake one of the top recreational lakes in Wisconsin for decades to come.

This newsletter will address "Lakescaping" from the perspective of each of our committee chairs, who are as follows:

*Water Quality,
Sub Committee,
Governmental Awareness,
Water Safety,
Membership,*

Terry Kingston
Al Reinemann
Bill Whitlock
Jack Ardoyno
Wally Narr

Each of the Chairmen will bring an awareness of how "Lakescaping" is important from their chair position.

The water's edge is a busy place where a healthy and functioning aquatic system does not just happen! It is like our own personal good health; there are prescribed rules for better health that require effort on our part. Management of shoreline health is a partnership between state and local government with each of us as property



owners. Our county has its own shoreline-zoning ordinance that regulates development near manageable lakes and streams, in compliance with statewide minimum standards. The Association will tell you more about which shoreline alterations are prohibited or require a permit. In the meantime, be sure to check with us, or call the local county zoning office at 715-634-8288 before cutting or removing shoreland vegetation.

Again, thank you for your support of the Association. For those of you who have been able to give your time in addition to your financial support, we are deeply grateful. Round Lake is a special blessing that we all have the privilege to enjoy.

All the best,

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Membership Meeting: June 18, 9:00 a.m. Round Lake Town Hall

Once Upon a Time by Terry Kingston

Once upon a time

(about a 100 years ago) there was a pristine, clear lake, surrounded by unique and varied vegetation, including wild flowers. Towering above the shoreline were deciduous trees including Maple, Oak, Birch, and majestic conifers of several varieties. It was a sight to behold-beauty beyond description.

A person happened to come upon this extraordinary natural wonder and decided that he wanted to claim it as his home. He cleared the trees and the vegetation for a better view of his new found paradise.

He invited friends and relatives to join him.

In their attempt to look out at the surroundings, they also cut down trees and cleared the land to the water for easy access.

As time went on, they began to notice a change.

The water was not nearly as clear and there were no longer wild flowers and tall pine trees but grass and other homes. They became sad at what they had done.

They had destroyed what took thousands of years to create in only a few short years.

The beauty that brought them to this place had been lost.

If only they had thought about the collective damage they had done in their attempt to witness this glorious creation.

If only...

The above will not likely make it to a top ten “fable” list but it succinctly describes the plight we find ourselves in.

The vast majority of home owners are committed to preserving the quality and beauty of Round Lake. But it continues to be under attack from:

- 1) Human waste (non performing septic systems);
- 2) Milfoil; 3) Zebra mussel; 4) Fertilizer use;
- 5) Tree and vegetation removal.

As most of us are aware, there needs to be a growing sense of urgency to protect formerly wild shorelines from beginning to resemble yards in suburban cult-a-sacs. Lakeshores are becoming an endangered habitat. It is because of this that in January, 2004, revised regulations took effect for buildings and alterations to buildings on private properties within the shoreland protection zone on certain county lakes and streams.

These regulations preserve lakeshore cover and natural beauty through restricting the removal of shoreland cover, preventing shoreline encroachment by structures, controlling shoreland excavation and other earth moving activities and regulating the use and placement of boat houses and other structures.

Based upon the input of multiple homeowners, the board fully supports any activity that keeps or restores the shoreline to its natural state.

With this in mind, the board has formulated four areas of focus:

- 1) **Develop Awareness** – talk to your neighbors, educate yourself about shoreline restoration through the DNR or visit their website.
- 2) **Encourage Voluntary Efforts** – to restore property to a more naturally beautiful and “water friendly” state.
- 3) The Board will continue to interact with the DNR and County to **establish guidelines** for the fair and mutual benefit of Round Lake homeowners; and
- 4) The Board and all homeowners should **monitor the shoreline** for particularly egregious offenders of current and future state and local shoreline protection ordinances.

At the June homeowners meeting all of us will have an opportunity to discuss this in greater detail.





Greetings to all from the sunny shores of Round Lake.

We have had a wonderful spring so far and it looks like the last of the ice will be gone tonight (4/14/05).

I would like to focus on ways to enjoy the season without running afoul of the water safety enforcement folks.

General Rules

1. Do not drink while driving a boat. You can be given a breathalyzer test.
2. Do not litter the water or the shore.
3. Do not allow anyone to ride on boat gunwales, seat tops, backs or sides, or on the deck over the bow while underway.
4. All motorboats must stay at least 100 feet away from other objects such as shore, docks or rafts while at any speed above slow-no wake.
5. Observe shallow or no-wake buoys. Stay between the red and green buoys at the entrance to Richardson Bay. The red and green buoys mark the navigable channel into Hinton Bay which also must be traversed at no-wake speed. A new no-wake zone has also been established around the north side of the island in Leder Bay. Another hazardous channel (to boat bottoms) is the entrance to Schoolhouse Bay. Be extremely careful here.
6. Divers will mark their activities with a red flag with diagonal stripe (most common) or an orange flag. Give them a wide berth of at least 100 feet.
7. Generally the boat on the right side has right of way. Boats with water skiers, tubers, etc. have the right of way over other motor craft. Non powered boats (paddle boats, sailboats, canoes) have right of way over motor craft.

8. Make sure your boat has current registration if it needs it. You may check the DNR website: www.dnr.state.wi.us for information on this and any other questions you may have about boating rules.
9. The general definition of night is between sunset and sunrise. This applies to use of lights (normally red and green bow position lights and a white stern light visible for two miles) and night prohibited activity such as tubing and waterskiing.
10. Every water craft must have a certified personal flotation device (PFD) on board for each person on the water craft.

Water Skiing and Tubing

1. Do not tow a skier, tuber, etc. unless you have a competent person, in addition to the operator, in position to observe the activity of the person being towed.
2. The person being towed, as well as the tow boat, may not come within 100 feet of any boat, shore, raft or dock.

Common Citation Causes

1. Personal Watercraft (PWC's, also known as Jet Skis or Wave Runners) violations.
2. Failure to provide sufficient PFD's.
3. Operating without necessary registration.
4. Operating while under the influence of alcohol.
5. Towing a person without a competent observer.
6. Operating a motor craft within 100 feet of other boats, docks, rafts or the shore.

Age Restrictions

1. No person under the age of 10 may operate a motorboat.
2. No person under the age of 12 may operate a PWC.
3. Persons between the ages of 12 and 16 may operate a PWC or motorboat unaccompanied if they have completed the boating safety course and achieved their boating license.
4. Persons between the ages of 10 and 12 may operate a motorboat, but not a PWC, if accompanied by a person at least 18 years of age.
5. Persons between the ages of 12 and 16 who do not have a boating license may operate a motorboat, but not a PWC, under the supervision of someone over the age of 18.
6. There are two options for the boating safety course. You may take the course online at www.boatingbasic-online.com or in a classroom with an instructor. Contact the local DNR office at 634-2688 or the website for dates of classroom instruction.
7. People over the age of 16 with a valid driver's license may operate any watercraft without taking the boating safety course, although it is still recommended.
8. All boaters are accountable for knowing and abiding by boating safety regulations.

It is not as much fun dwelling on the negative-don't do's of boating as it is enjoying the many positive aspects of boating activities on Round Lake. I hope that these tips help you to enjoy your boating summer without a costly citation or worse, a serious boating accident.

Shoreline Restoration Plantings by Wally Narr and Dave Anderson

There are several factors to consider in a shoreline restoration program. This article is concerning the various plantings that can be used to accomplish this goal. We are only addressing the “buffer quality” in this section.

1. Mowed lawns are less effective than natural vegetation in trapping nutrients, intercepting runoff and preventing bank erosion. Flat stemmed turf grasses bend during runoff and are not effective sediment traps. Mowed lawns are often a significant

source of nitrogen and phosphorus because of excessive fertilizer and pesticide applications and provide little habitat diversity for wildlife.

2. A natural mixture of ground cover, shrubs and trees trap sediment more effectively than manicured lawns. Shorelines and near shore zones which consist of a mix of vegetation types, from terrestrial to emergent and submergent vegetation are likely to accommodate a host of fish and wildlife needs throughout the year.

3. Below is a list of shoreline restoration plants that are available. This list came from Winter Greenhouse, but may be available at other nursery outlets.

4. A few coop, reimbursement programs are available, but they are so scarce that to qualify and to receive them is extremely limited. You can, however call the local DNR.

5. Any questions please call one of the board members.

The following information is from the Winter Greenhouse. These shrubs are very suitable for shoreline restoration. We are in zone 3 for hardiness, but some people have had success with zone 4 plantings. This is risky however.

Shoreline Plants – Ornamental Shrubs

Name	Sun/Shade	Growth	Spread		Zone	Fall color	Flowers	Blooms:	Size	Price
Acer ginnala , Emerald Elf (<i>Amur Maple</i>) Compact and dense	○/●	Co, Ro	H 5-6'	W 5-6'	3-7	Scarlet-Purple	Yellow-Green	May	2'	\$28.99
Amelanchier alnifolia , Regent (<i>Serviceberry</i>) Black edible sweet berries	○/●	Mo	H 4-6'	W 4-8'	2	Yellow to Red	White	Spring	18"	11.99
Andromeda polifolia , Nana (<i>Compact Bog Rosemary</i>) Evergreen bog plant	○	Mo	H 1'	W 2'	3	Green-Purple	Pink clusters	May	#1	14.99
Arctostaphylos uva-ursi , Massachusetts (<i>Bearberry</i>) Evergreen ground cover	○/●	Sp, Lo	H 6-12"	W 2-4'	3	Bronze	Pink-White	Spring	#1	14.99
Aronia melanocarpa Elata , Autumn Magic (<i>Chokeberry</i>) Incredible fall color	○/●	Up	H 3-5'	W 2-4'	3	Red & Purple	White	May	18'	14.99
Comptonia peregrina (<i>Sweetfern</i>) Fern-like foliage	○/●	Mo	H 2-4'	W 4-8'	2-5	Insignificant	Insignificant		#1	12.99
Cornus alba , Bud's Yellow (<i>Dogwood</i>) Yellow twig, all year	○/●	Ro	H 6-8'	W 5-6'	3-7	Yellow	White	Spring	18"	10.99
Cornus alternifolia (<i>Pagoda Dogwood</i>) Horizontal branching	●	Ro	H 15-10'	W 20-25'	4	Red	Pale Yellow	May	2'	21.99
Cornus baileyi (<i>Red Twigged Dogwood</i>) Red stems; blue berries	○/●	Ro	H 8-10'	W 8-10'	3	Purple-Red	White	May	18"	9.99
Corylus americana (<i>American Hazelnut</i>) 1/2" wide edible nuts	○/●	Ro	H -8'	W 6-8'	4-9	Yellow-Green	White	Spring	18"	16.99
Diervilla lonicera (<i>Dwarf Bush Honeysuckle</i>) Excellent for bank plantings	○/●	Mo, Sp	H 4'	W 3-4'	3-7	Reddish	Yellow	Jun	12"	12.99
Hamamelis virginiana (<i>Witch Hazel</i>) 1.5" fall blooms, fragrant	○/●	Va, Ro	H 15'	W 12-15'	4	Gold-Yellow	Golden Yellow	Late fall	18"	15.99
Ilex vertic. , Jim Dandy (<i>Winterberry [early male]</i>) Pollinates Red Sprite	○/●	Ro	H 3-6'	W 4-5'	4-9	Yellow-Purple	White	Spring	#2	28.99
Ilex vertic. , Red Sprite (<i>Winterberry [early female]</i>) Use Jim Dandy pollinator	○/●	Gl	H 2-3'	W 3-4'	4-9	Yellow-Purple	White	Jun	12"	15.99
Ilex vertic. , So. Gentlemen (<i>Winterberry [late male]</i>) Pollinates Winter Red	○/●	Ro	H 6-9'	W 6-8'	4-8	Yellow-Purple		Jun	2'	23.99
Ilex vertic. , Winter Red (<i>Winterberry [late female]</i>) Many bright red fruits	○/●	Ro	H 6-9'	W 8'	4-9	Bronze		Jun	2'	33.99
Physocarpus opulifolius , Darts Gold, (<i>Ninebark</i>) Yellow foliage; red fruit	○/●	Co, Ro	H 4-5'	W 4-5'	2-7	Insignificant	White	Summer	12"	11.99
Physocarpus opulifolius , Monlo (<i>Diablo Ninebark</i>) Reddish-purple foliage	○/●	Up, Ro	H 8-10'	W 8-10'	3-7	Purple	White	Spring	2'	19.99
Rhus aromatica , Gro-Low (<i>Fragrant Sumac</i>) Aromatic foliage & fruit	○/●	Lo, Sp	H 2.5'	W 6-8'	3-8	Orange-Scarlet	Yellow	Spring	12"	22.99