



# HOW TO PROTECT YOUR LAKE

## Appendix 6

### **Maintain a natural shoreline:**

Create a buffer zone by planting native species to control erosion, increase habitat for wildlife, maintain cooler water temperatures (shade), protect from flooding and improve water quality.

Contact [Watersheds Canada](#) to learn more about their [Natural Edge](#) shoreline naturalization program.

### **Build low impact docks:**

Increase habitat and reduce sediment disruption. Examples of low impact docks include [cantilever](#), [floating](#) or [post styles](#).

### **Reduce runoff from pollutants:**

Use phosphate-free, biodegradable soaps and detergents at a distance from the lake and limit or eliminate fertilizers to decrease nutrient input. Limit the amount of hard surfaces to control runoff of pollutants entering the lake.

### **Handle and dispose of chemicals properly:**

Fuel motor craft responsibly to avoid spills and bring extra chemicals and storage containers to a hazardous waste depots.

### **Manage animal waste and grazing areas:**

Avoid overgrazing as it can expose soil and increase erosion. Remove animal waste to avoid excess nutrients.

### **Maintain your septic system:**

Septic systems can last 15-25 years if properly maintained; pump out your septic tank every 3-5 years. Keep septic systems far from the shore to reduce risk of water pollution and limit damage.

### **Prevent the Spread of Invasive Species:**

Clean, drain, dry and disinfect any watercraft prior to entering the lake. Do not release live fishing bait or aquarium fish.



## Become a citizen scientist:

Citizen science is a great way to learn and engage with nature. Volunteers provide valuable research that allow scientists to track environmental changes to a greater extent than if they were to do it alone. Learn how to get involved by visiting the sites below.

Invading Species Watch Program  
Lake Partner Program  
Loon Watch  
Nature Watch (frog, plant, ice, worm)  
Ontario Reptile & Amphibian Atlas  
Water Rangers

[www.invadingspecies.com](http://www.invadingspecies.com)

[www.desc.ca](http://www.desc.ca)

[www.birdscanada.org](http://www.birdscanada.org)

[www.naturewatch.ca](http://www.naturewatch.ca)

[www.ontarionature.org](http://www.ontarionature.org)

[www.waterrangers.ca](http://www.waterrangers.ca)

## To report large blooms of algae:

KFL&A Public Health 1-800-267-7875  
Leeds, Grenville & Lanark Health Unit 613-345-5685  
Blue-Green Algae Bloom Sighting (MOECC) 1-800-268-6060

## To report invasive species:

EDD Mapping System App [www.eddmaps.org/ontario](http://www.eddmaps.org/ontario)  
Invasive Species Hotline (OFAH) 1-800-563-7711 or [info@invadingspecies.com](mailto:info@invadingspecies.com)

## For more information:

Cataraqui Region Conservation Authority 1-877-956-2722 or 613-546-4228  
Water Level Questions (MNRF) 1-800-667-1940



CATARAQUI REGION  
CONSERVATION AUTHORITY

1641 Perth Rd. Glenburnie ON K0H 1S0  
613-546-4228 | [info@crca.ca](mailto:info@crca.ca) | [www.crca.ca](http://www.crca.ca)