

# Shoreline Stewardship

Caring for shorelines to protect your property and our riparian ecosystems



## Good intentions gone wrong

The Jones' hired a local landscaping company to grade their property and plant a lawn to improve their views.

Every spring the banks of their shoreline were damaged from winter ice, eroding their shoreline and forcing them to protect their property with rock and a retaining wall. They also noticed the frogs and birds they used to see around their shoreline had disappeared.

The Jones' spent a great deal of money to build the rock and retaining wall, and spend time each weekend mowing their bank.

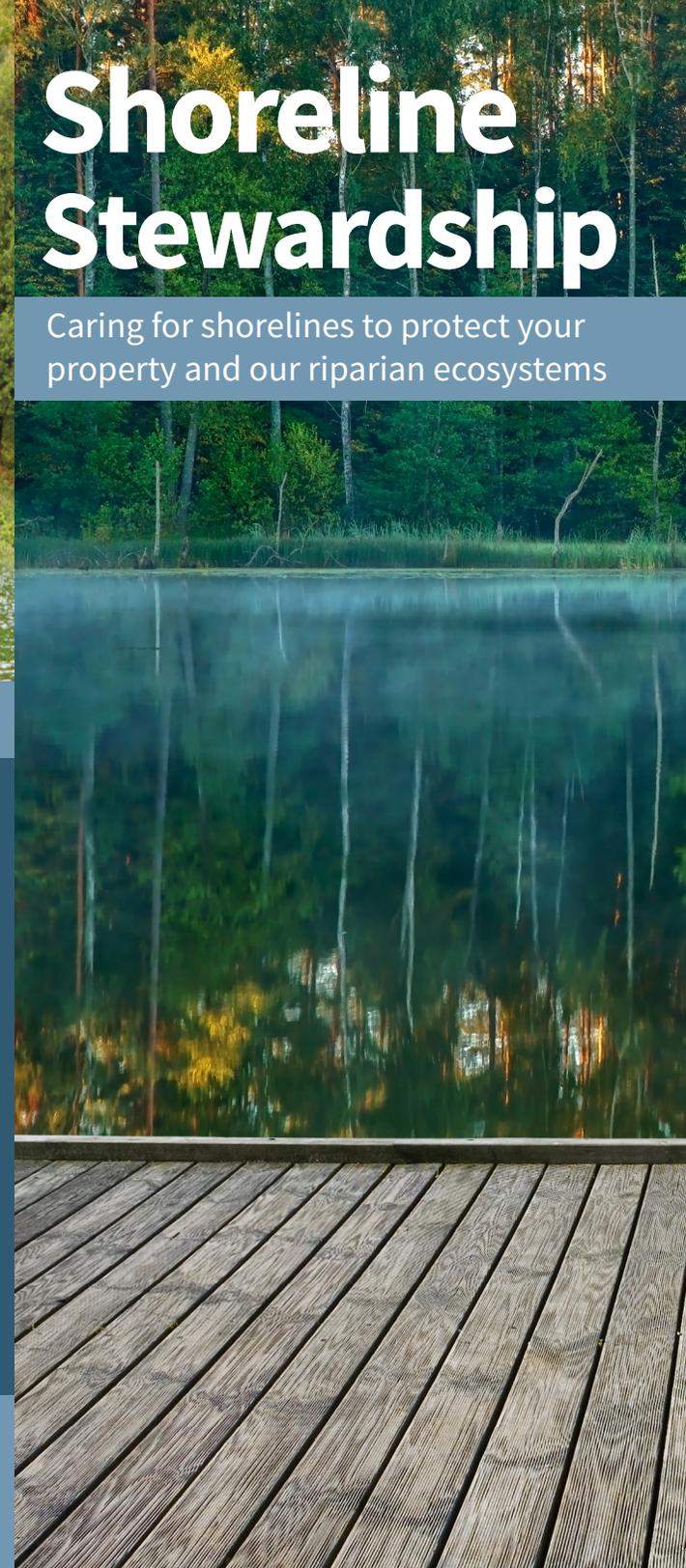


## Healthy landscaping

The Smith's designed and built their cottage with water access by only removing the necessary vegetation.

Their property showed less shoreline damage following winter storms. Shade from their trees kept them cool during the summer heat, and their property remained home to riparian plants, amphibians, and birds.

The Smith's retained the features which originally attracted them to this property, without spending much time or money. This enabled them to relax at their shoreline property without putting effort into landscaping maintenance.



To learn more about caring for your shoreline, or to take part in our Landowner Stewardship Program contact the Nature Trust of New Brunswick.

# Waterfront Living

## Our Privilege & Shared Responsibility

Living along one of New Brunswick's many streams, rivers, or lakes provides opportunity for a way of life filled with recreation, wilderness, and natural beauty. The recreation, community, and beauty provided by our waterfront properties are affected by how we collectively treat our shorelines.

The shoreline, also known as the riparian zone, is a hotspot for a diversity of plants and wildlife. This ribbon of life also supports more than 15 of New Brunswick's rarest and most vulnerable species, including species at risk such as the Cobblestone Tiger Beetle.

These flying, swimming, and crawling species depend on the shaded protection of an intact riparian zone to reproduce and feed. Even our water-dwelling species require high quality open and flowing waters associated with healthy riparian zones.



Atlantic salmon (*Salmo salar*) depend on cool, clean streams and rivers to mature and breed.

Natural vegetation in a healthy riparian zone has deep-rooted and diverse vegetation (i.e. winterberry, willow, common alder) that provides shade and secures the shoreline against storms, ice scouring, and erosion.

Without protective vegetation in the riparian zone, contaminants, soils, and waste from the land runs off leading to poor water quality and loss of wildlife in our lakes and rivers.

### Steward your shoreline

- Maximize trees, shrubs, and native vegetation when building.
- Establish a single path to access water. Random unplanned trampling compacts soil and disturbs existing vegetation.
- Let nature be the gardener. Allow deep rooted, native grasses and shrubs to fill in the shoreline.
- Prune tree limbs to improve views rather than cutting down your shoreline trees.



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