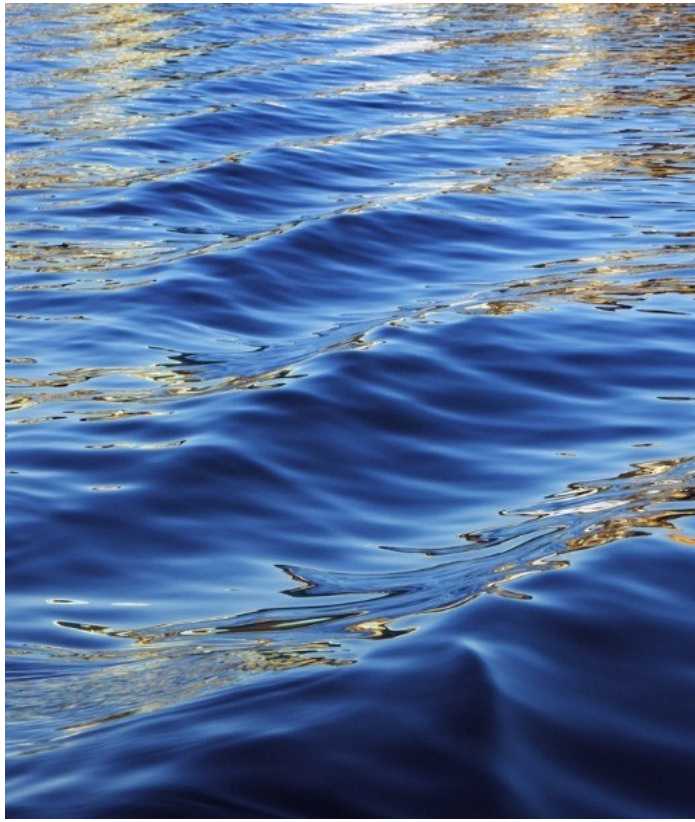
Federation of Vermont Lakes and Ponds

How can FOVLAP help today and into the future?



Your Lake Association

Introduction

- Just a little about me
- Challenges and successes – share
- Generating ideas:
  - Special Events: ice cream social, boat parades, raffles, champagne brunch, music, new member social
  - Fundraising: See above and building relationship with the town(s).
  - Go to Town Meting and talk about the lake, how important it is to the community. Ask for money for a project – like Greeter Program
- Vermont Secretary of State's website is your friend

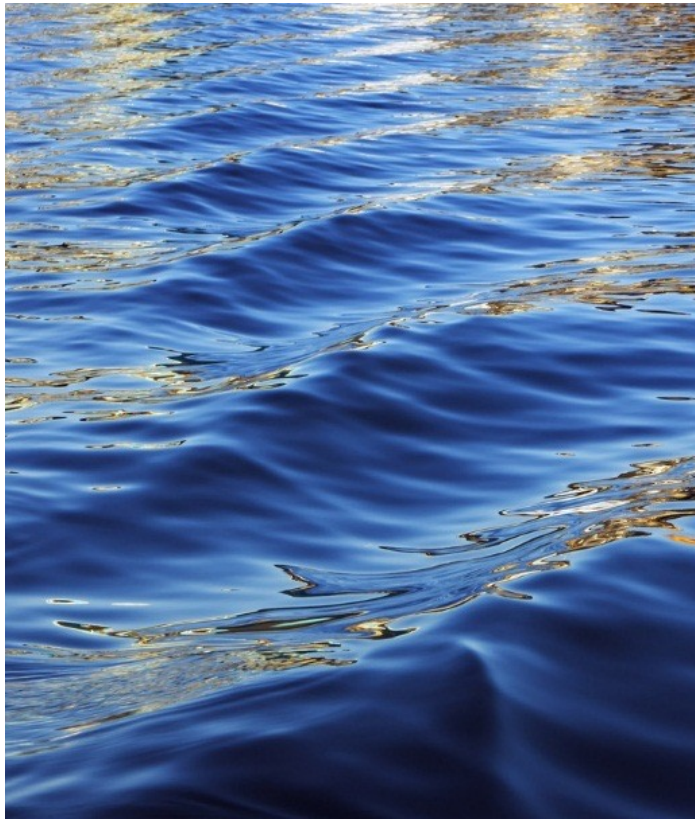
Links to help:
Vermont Secretary of State

- https://sos.vermont.gov/corporations/registration/domestic-registration/nonprofit-corp

FOVLAP

- https://vermontlakes.org

Outreach and Education Resources from the Vermont DEC Lakes and Ponds Program



Vermont DEC Lakes and Ponds Opportunities

We can offer the following:

- Trainings for municipalities, realtors, lake associations, FOVLAP (virtual and in person)
- Connect groups with outreach materials to distribute
- Small group or one-on-one technical assistance for lakefront property owners

Topics

- Regulatory overview
- Best practices
- Natural shoreline stabilization and protection
- Establishing shoreline buffers
- Lake Wise assessments and the Lake Wise Program
- Onsite Wastewater Systems and Lakes (Wastewater Workshops)
- Lake Watershed Action Plans (LWAPs)
- Project WET (Water Education for Teachers)

What is Lake Wise?

- Free stormwater management and erosion assessment that offers technical assistance and can pair landowners with funding resources.

- **Goal:** Establish a culture of lakeshore living that is proven to protect the lake through stormwater management best practices.

- Lake Wise aims to inform, teach, and encourage change in current lakeshore development practices to ones that are more lake friendly.

- Lake Wise is an initiative of the Agency of Natural Resources that awards shoreline properties that have these lake friendly practices.

- Properties eligible for participation in the program include state parks, town beaches, private homes, and businesses.

What is an LWAP?

- Lake Watershed Action Plans are assessment and planning tools
- Goal: Identify the greatest threats to the health of the lake coming from the shore
- Essentially answering two questions
  - What issues threaten the health of the lake the most?
  - What can we do about them?
- The end product is a plan that identifies problem areas, identifies possible fixes, and prioritizes them using a series of factors
- Results in a series of potentially implementable projects

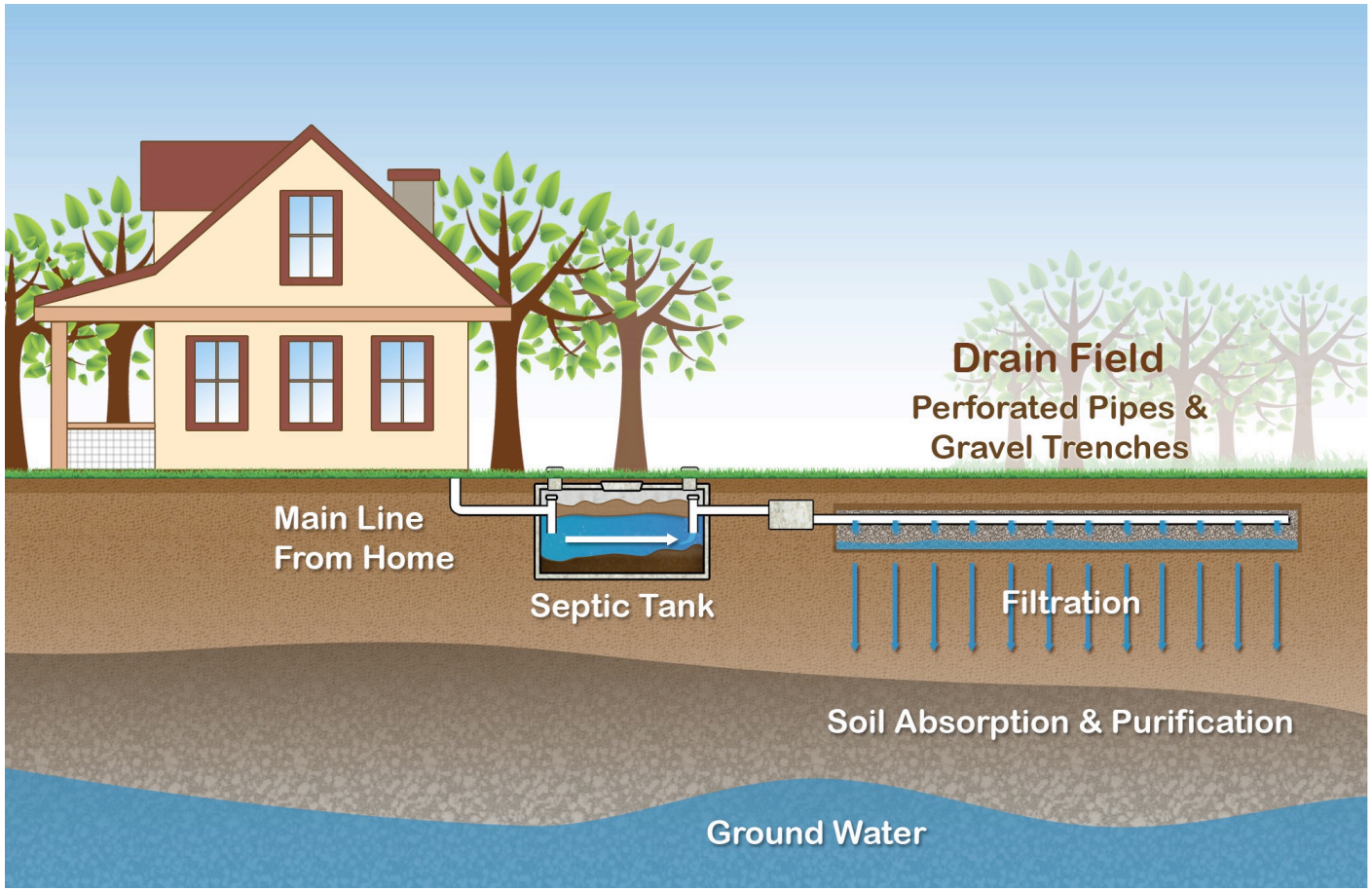
Wastewater Workshops

Learn about the options for a well functioning onsite wastewater systems and good maintenance practices for wastewater systems on lakeshores.

Wastewater workshops help homeowners become familiar with septic systems and their maintenance. These events provide an informal opportunity for people who may never have seen a septic system to learn about them. A septic system specialist discusses operation and maintenance of septic systems.

It's a win-win situation – homeowners can save money and avoid costly emergency repairs while protecting surface water quality with a properly managed system.

To Hold a Wastewater Workshop
If your lake association is interested in holding a wastewater workshop please contact Cristin Ashmankas (cristin.ashmankas@vermont.gov) and Alison Marchione (alison.marchione@vermont.gov).



Best Management Practices

Lake Wise Info Sheet

Shoreland Best Management Practices for Lake-friendly Living.

Benefits

- Water Quality
- Prevents Erosion
- Slow, Spread, Sink Stormwater
- Low Cost
- Low Maintenance

INFILTRATION STEPS

Low impact lake access

Description.
Infiltration steps are framed with timbers and filled infiltrate and preve

Before: Driveway runoff and erosi

Applicability.
Infiltration steps can be built in pla with significant foot traffic. They ca where foot traffic is causing erosio

Lake Wise Info Sheet

Shoreland Best Management Practices for Lake-friendly

BEACHES & RECREATION AREAS

Share the shore

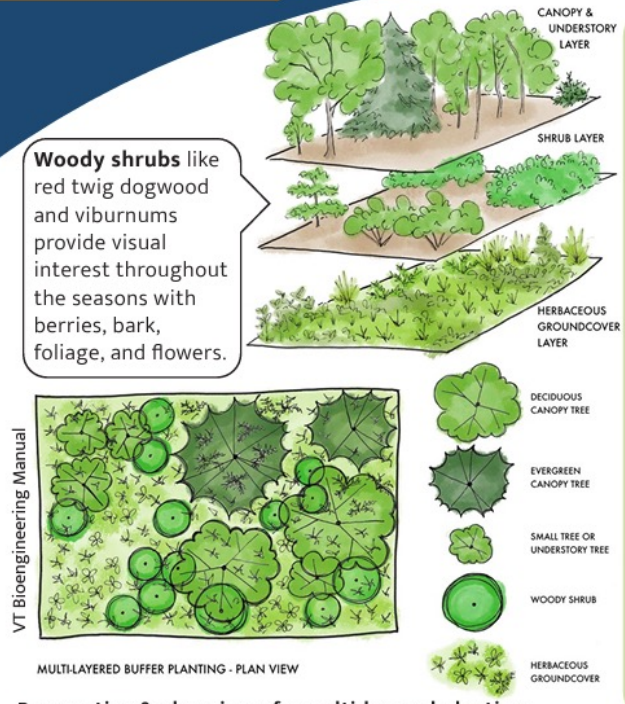
Description.
In Vermont, natural lakeshores are wetlands, forests, and/or bedrock. Few lakes have naturally occurring sandy shores. Shoreland best management practices can help to maintain artificial beaches and recreational areas while also protecting water quality and wildlife habitat so we can 'share the shore'. Stabilized and naturally vegetated areas, such as upland meadows or lakeshore buffers, filter upland runoff and delineate beaches, pathways, and lake access points, preventing sand and other pollutants from washing into the lake.

Lake Wise Info Sheet

LAKESHORE BUFFERS

Renaturalize your shoreland

Woody shrubs like red twig dogwood and viburnums provide visual interest throughout the seasons with berries, bark, foliage, and flowers.



Perspective & plan view of a multi-layered planting.

Layers of a buffer.

Canopy. mature deciduous and evergreen trees that create forest structure and canopy cover, regulate temperature and moisture.

Understory. tree saplings (replacement trees) and small shade-tolerant trees.

Shrubs. deciduous and evergreen woody shrubs create structure and stabilize.

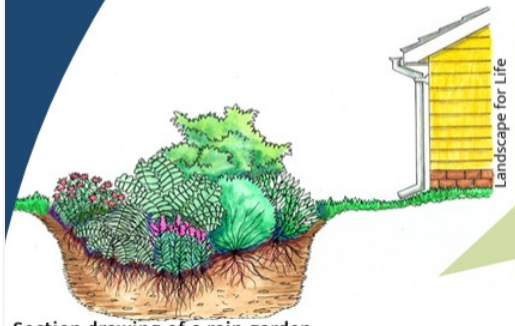
Groundcover. herbaceous perennial, annual, and biennial flowers/forbs, grasses, sedges, rushes, ferns, mosses, and more cover soil.

Duff. the spongy layer of decomposing organic matter on the ground including leaf litter, woody debris, and dead plant material.

These layers hold soil in place, prevent erosion, and intercept and absorb rainwater and water runoff from upland areas, filtering out pollutants. They also create more biodiverse and resilient ecosystems that cycle nutrients and support wildlife.

RAIN GARDENS

Upland stormwater management



Section drawing of a rain garden.

Description.
Rain gardens are both aesthetic and functional concave gardens with native plants that filter stormwater runoff, reduce erosion, and replenish groundwater.

Applicability.
Rain gardens are designed to capture and filter stormwater from developed areas. They collect water in bowl-shaped vegetated areas and allow it to slowly soak into the ground while native plants and soils filter out pollutants such as sediments and nutrients. Avoid areas with high groundwater tables, the bottom of the rain garden should be 3 feet or more above the seasonal high groundwater table and at least 1 foot above*. Not recommended for steep slopes**.

Contact us!

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TOPICS for FUTURE Webinars