



Lake-Friendly Living:

Are YOU LakeSmart?

Presented by NH LAKES
Thursday, May 21, 2020



Your Hosts This Evening:



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Thurs. May 21, 7:00 p.m.: Lake-Friendly Living: Are YOU LakeSmart?

Thurs. May 28, 7:00 p.m.: Lake-Friendly Landscaping How to Get the Landscape You'll Love & Protect Our Lakes

Thurs. June 4, 7:00 p.m.: Lake-Friendly Living with Septic Systems

Thurs. June 11, 7:00 p.m.: Lake-Friendly Living with Gravel Roads & Driveways

Register at: nhlakes.org/lake-friendly-living-webinar-series



Meeting Management



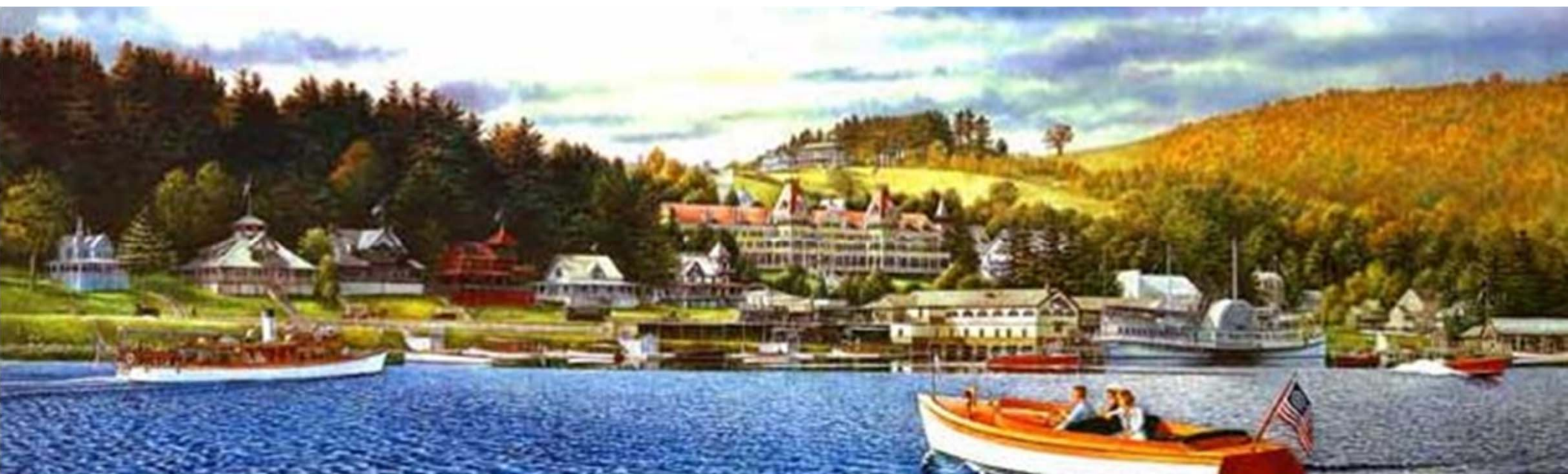
- This session is being recorded.
- Participants will be muted for the duration of the webinar.
- If you leave your camera on, remember others can see you! 😊
- Please submit questions in the chat box for “everyone” to see – do not direct to presenters.
- Questions will be answered at the end of the presentation.
- After this session, you will receive an email inviting you to evaluate the session, and another email with links to the presentation posted on our website.



AGENDA



- Introduction (or reintroduction) to New Hampshire's Lakes & NH LAKES
- LakeSmart Program Overview
- Are YOU LakeSmart?
- How to participate in LakeSmart 2020
- *Disclaimer: There might be a quiz or two!*



Lakes & ponds are an integral part of New Hampshire's quality of life, economy, & natural heritage.



How many lakes and ponds are there in New Hampshire (approx.)?



100

1,000

2,000

10,000



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New Hampshire is home to some of the cleanest & healthiest lakes in the country.



Clean & healthy lakes are good for us!



But, the health & our enjoyment of NH's lakes are threatened by:



Invasive species,



polluted groundwater
& runoff water,



changing weather patterns,

...and more.



The most irrational thing we can do is pretend
our lakes will take care of themselves.



NH LAKES Story:



Founded in 1992, we're a nonprofit organization that is the voice for all of New Hampshire's 1,000 lakes.



Our mission is to...



...keep NH's lakes, clean and healthy, now and in the future.



We work with local groups, state legislators, and individuals to develop programs and policies and to inspire action to keep our lakes clean and healthy.



A few years ago, we asked our members, partners, and friends...



If we continue what we are doing, will our lakes be cleaner and healthier in 25 years that they are today?



The resounding answer was NO!



More needs to be done to reduce nutrient pollution.
More needs to be done to encourage a culture of lake-friendly living.



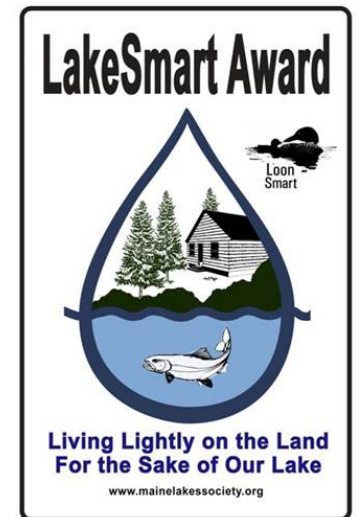
We researched programs in other states.



Michigan Natural Shoreline
Partnership



VT Dept. Natural
Resources



Maine Lakes
Society



Launched in July 2019!



NH LAKES LakeSmart:
A Lake-Friendly Living Program



What is lake-friendly living?



What is lake-friendly living?





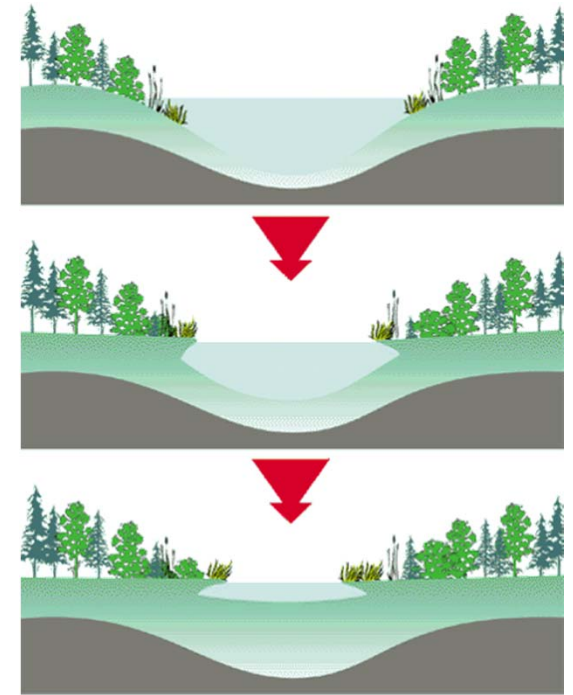
It is living in a way that minimizes your
contribution to lake aging.



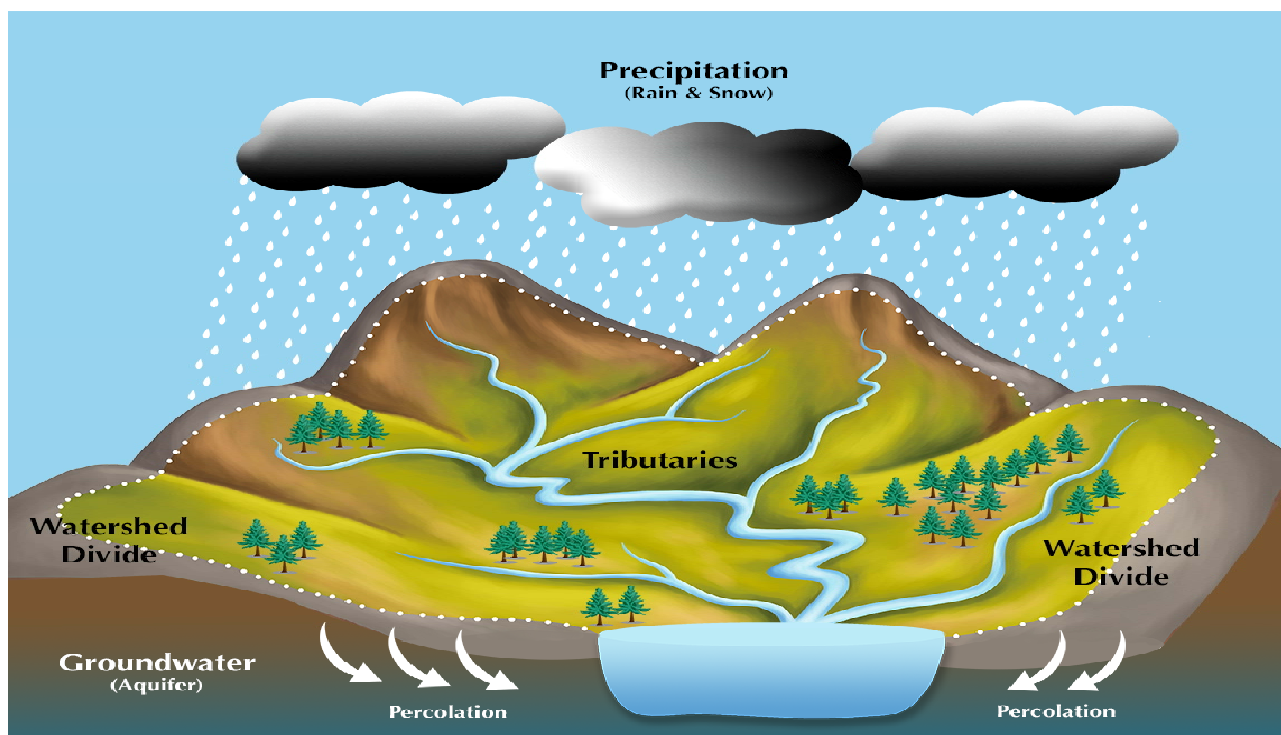
Did you know?!

Lakes, like people, age over time!

They naturally fill in with decayed plants, algae, sediment.



But, human activities speed up the lake-aging process
(and bring in pollutants, too).



Whether you live next the lake (or far from it), what you do in your home and on your property will impact the lake.



As we live and build on the landscape...



pollutants from our activities make their way into streams, rivers, and groundwater, and eventually into our lakes.



We have found that...



...most people aren't aware of how their actions
contribute to lake aging.



We have also found that...



...most people want to help keep the lakes they live near and enjoy clean and healthy!



What is LakeSmart?!

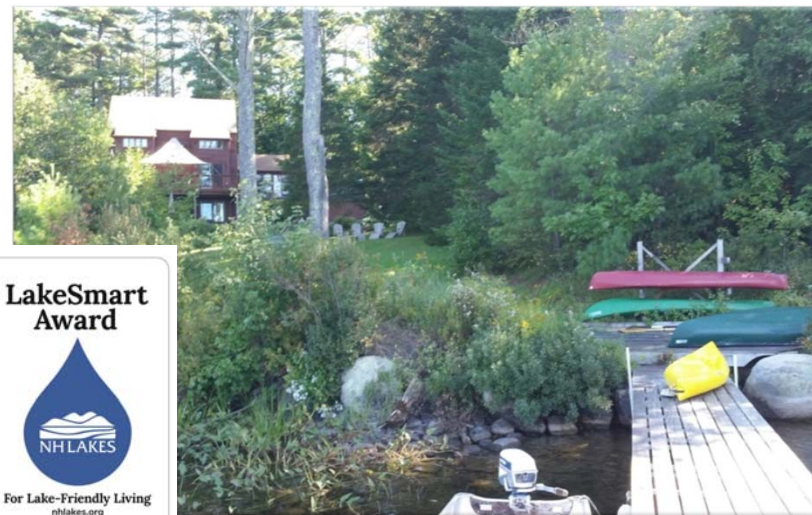




LakeSmart is an education, evaluation, and recognition program.
It is free, voluntary, and nonregulatory.
No one will get “in trouble” by participating!



LakeSmart



- Helps keep lakes clean & healthy.
- Helps protect wildlife habitat & property owners' lakeside investment.
- Helps support local businesses & the local economy.



LakeSmart creates a conservation ethic across lake communities.



Maine Lakes Society



Once 15% of a population partakes in an action,
a trend is set and others will follow.

Rogers, E. 2002. Diffusion of Innovations. Free Press. New York.



Two ways for a property owner to participate:

1. Without an in-person Site Visit:
 - online self-assessment survey followed by emailing property photos



- ★ 2. With a Site Visit:
 - online self-assessment followed by in-person evaluation by NH LAKES or locally-trained LakeSmart Evaluator





How LakeSmart Works Best:

- People learn best from their friends and neighbors.
- Local groups and service providers are encouraged to participate!
- NH LAKES trains local groups and partners with service providers to help property owners implement lake-friendly living improvements.



Deering Lake Improvement Association





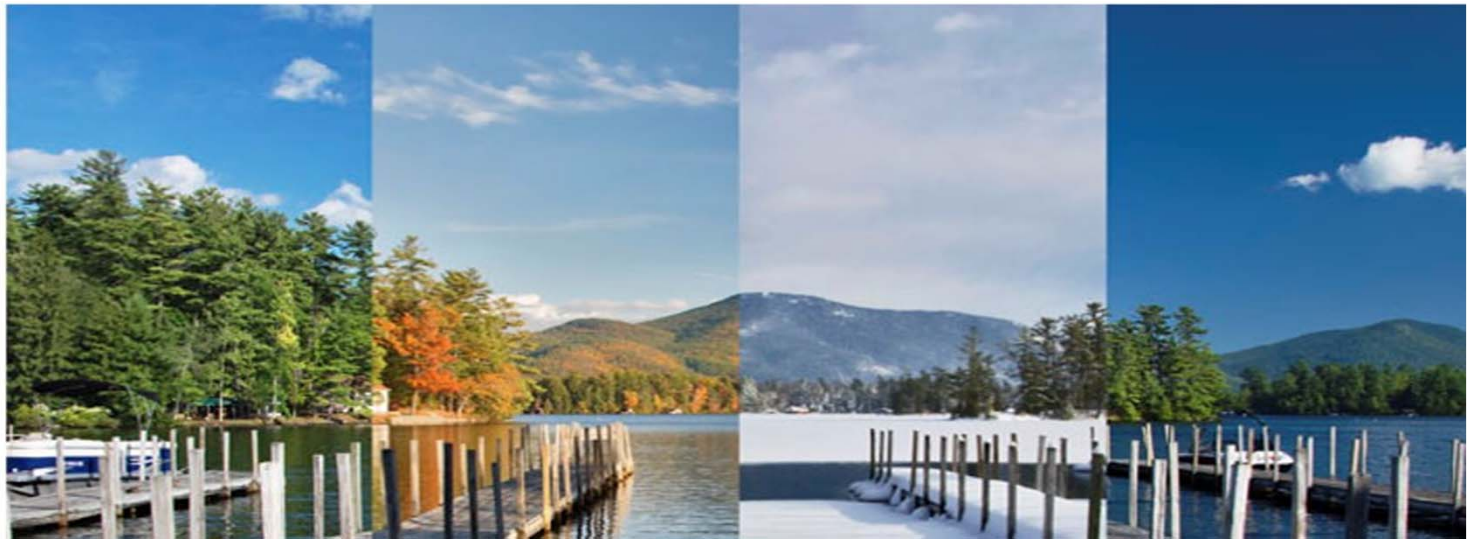
Local community groups use the LakeSmart Program to support & complement their on-the-ground lake conservation efforts

- Youth Conservation Corps
- AmeriCorps
- SOAK New Hampshire
- other initiatives





The LakeSmart Self-Assessment & Property Evaluation



Property owner's actions & practices year-round, conducted inside & outside the house, along and on the water, are compared to standards of excellence.



Are YOU LakeSmart?!



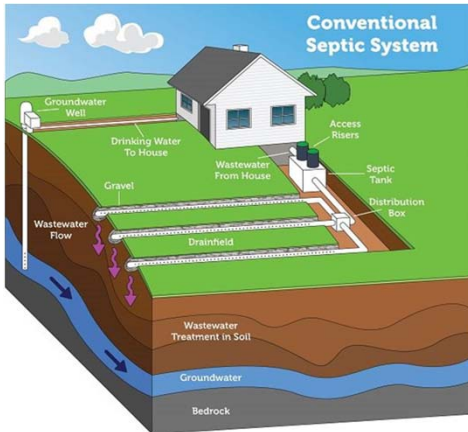
Section 1: Driveway & Parking Areas



Driveway and parking areas are minimized.
Water is diverted into stable areas where it soaks into the ground.
Winter de-icing products are minimized and swept up.



Section 2: Structures & Onsite Wastewater Treatment Systems



Wastewater treatment system is regularly maintained.

Phosphate-free cleaning products & salt-free water softeners are used.

Water runoff from roof soaks into the ground.



Section 3: Yard, Recreation Areas, & Footpaths



Lawn area is minimized. Fertilizers, pesticides, & herbicides not used.
Size & number of footpaths are minimized. They are stable & curved.
Areas for socializing & recreation are identified & minimized.



Section 4: Shoreline & Water Access



Healthy and diverse strip of vegetation along the entire shoreline.
Paths are stable and do not funnel runoff water.
Boat storage areas are defined and limited.



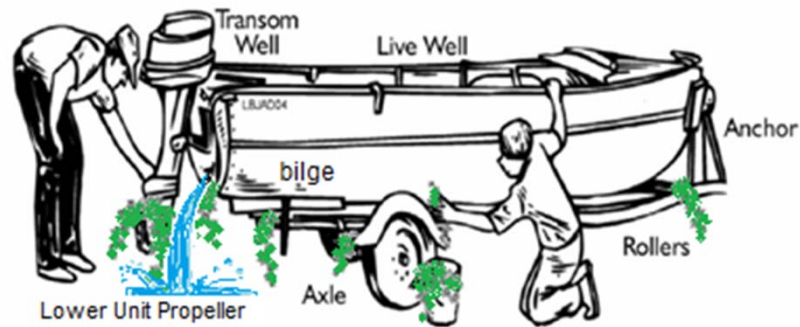
Section 4: Shoreline & Water Access (in the water, too!)



The shallow water area is left natural.
Ducks, geese, and wildlife are not fed.
During the winter, bubblers only open small areas of water.



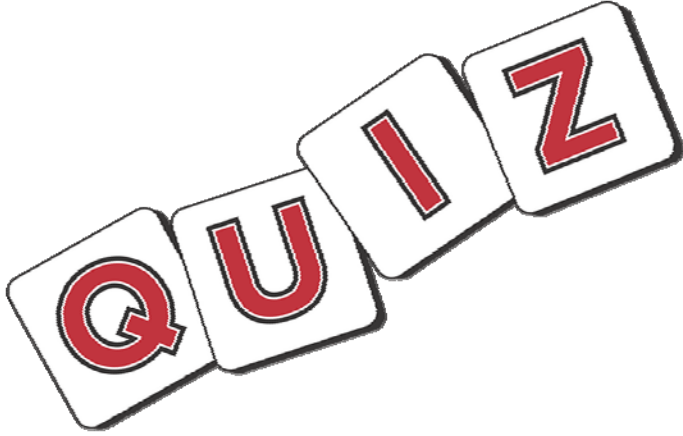
Section 4: Shoreline & Water Access (in the water, too!)



Fuel efficient motors are used.
Aquatic invasive spread prevention actions are taken.
Lead-free fishing tackle is used.



The keys to being 'Lake-Friendly' include:



- ✓ Minimizing the use of products that pollute
- ✓ Leaving natural areas natural
- ✓ Stabilizing surfaces
- ✓ Diverting runoff water
- ✓ Soaking up runoff water



The LakeSmart Award:

- Property owners that achieve approx. 70% of total points in each section receive the LakeSmart Award
- LakeSmart signs for posting along road and lake for friends & neighbors to see.

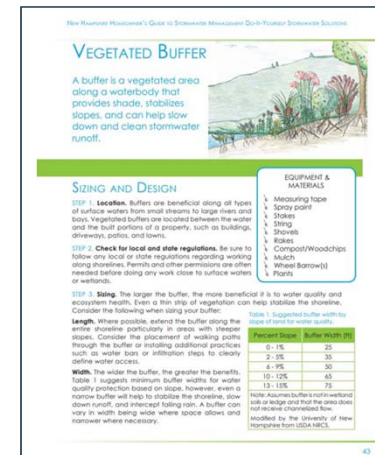
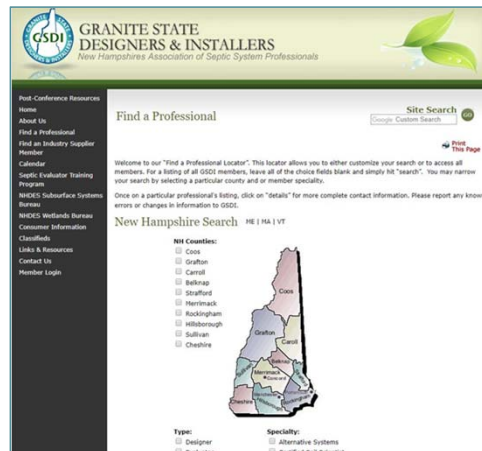




Some property owners will achieve LakeSmart status on their first evaluation.



No property will ever be 100% lake-friendly!



All property owners receive a confidential summary report with lake-friendly living recommendations and links to resources for adopting improvements.



Existing Conditions



Proposed Lake-Friendly Living
Upgrades



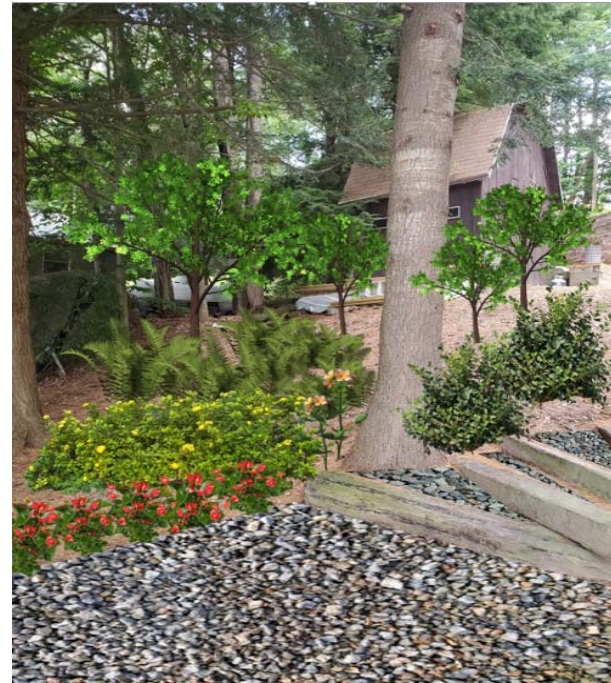
Existing Conditions



Proposed Lake-Friendly Living Upgrades



Existing Conditions



Proposed Lake-Friendly Living
Upgrades



Existing Conditions



Proposed Lake-Friendly Living
Upgrades



If a property owner doesn't initially achieve LakeSmart status, they can make improvements and participate in the evaluation again!



Are YOU LakeSmart?





Find out if you're LakeSmart!

The screenshot shows the 'LakeSmart' header with the NH LAKES logo and the text 'A Lake-Friendly Living Program'. Below this is the title 'Property Owner Self-Assessment'. The main text reads: 'Congratulations! You are taking the first step in making lake-friendly living the new norm in your community. By taking this self-assessment you will become familiar with ways to manage your property and activities in a lake-friendly way.' It then states: 'The estimated time to complete this survey is 30 minutes - add a few extra minutes if you are submitting photos.' A note says: 'If you have problems or questions on this survey or the program, please email lakesmart@nhlakes.org or call 603.226.0299.' A red asterisk indicates a required field. At the bottom, there is a text input field labeled 'Email address *' with the placeholder text 'Your email'.

Step 1: Take the LakeSmart Property Owner Self-Assessment online.
nhlakes.org/lakesmart



Step 2:

Invite a LakeSmart Evaluator to your property or send in photos.



Once the stay-at-home order is lifted, evaluators will visit properties, wearing masks & maintaining physical distancing.



By living in a lake-friendly way & encouraging others to do so, too...



...our lakes will be cleaner and healthier, for our enjoyment today, and in the future.



Jump in & help us make lake-friendly living the norm in New Hampshire!
Take the LakeSmart Property Owner Self Assessment today at
nhlakes.org/lakesmart



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