



MOOSIC LAKES SHORE: A NATURAL WONDER



Moosic Lakes is a little bit of paradise where we can relax, play, and enjoy being closer to nature.

But it's a special place for another reason too.

Where the water meets the land is the richest natural environment most of us will ever come into contact with.

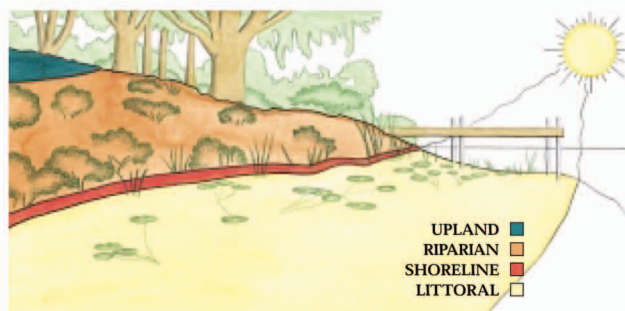
The most complex piece of the earth we'll have the opportunity to live near and share.

The waterfront is crucial to our lake's health, acting as lungs, doormat, cafeteria, and daycare for the lake, as well as a living retaining wall for the shore.

When a natural shoreline is altered, often by well-intentioned projects meant to improve waterfront living, that intricate balance between the creatures, plants, and earth is toppled.

Preserve Moosic Lakes Shore's True Nature

The natural shore has four components, beginning underwater and extending upland.



• Littoral zone - 90% of the Lake Species Live Here.

It begins at the shore's edge and extends to where sunlight no longer penetrates. This our lakes nursery.



• Shoreline - The Glue for Our Waterfront.

Natural shorelines are the most effective way to prevent erosion. Natural shrubs and trees knit the shoreline fending off the impacts of wind, rain, waves and ice. Natural shorelines have overhanging trees and shrubs which provide a shady area for fish and an occasional feast when insects slip into the lake. Sandy shorelines smother fish eggs and choke out native vegetation.



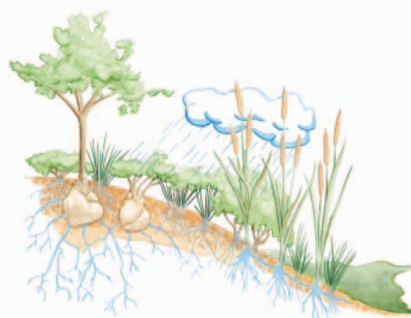
• Riparian zone - Nature Doormat.

Most parents install a mat at the cottage door to wipe their bare feet. Lakes have a similar "contaminant" barrier: the riparian and upland zones. There are a lot of nasty things waiting to catch a lift down to the lake when a heavy rain courses down the slope, including seepage from abandoned septic tanks, fertilizers and pesticides, deposits from family pets, and oil or gas. Phosphorus found in most fertilizers leads to poorer water quality, algal blooms, and less oxygenated habitat for cold-water fish. One pound of phosphorus produce 500 pounds of algae.



• Upland zone - The Higher, Drier Ground.

Typically it is forested with better drainage trees such as, sugar maples, white and red pines, red oaks, white oaks, ash, hemlock, balsam, and birches. The deep roots of the trees stabilize the slopes, while their foliage buffers the shore from winds. The forest canopy also cools the area by maintaining shade and boosting humidity in the summer and in winter, it shelters wildlife. Did you know it takes 50 years for a white oak to produce acorns. So please think before you cut.



Each zone plays a critical role in keeping your lake healthy.

It's vital to remember that the shore is a natural progression – each area shades into the next in a gradual, almost seamless transition.

**Altering any portion of this region affects the whole,
diminishing its ability to support life on the lake.**