

If you are not sure about making changes to your property or to your shoreline, visit a member of the Last Mountain Lake Stewardship Group, and he or she will assist you in determining what's best for your yard, and what's best for ALL your neighbours!

Information for this brochure was obtained and adapted from the sources below. These sources also contain valuable information on ensuring your property is eco-friendly.

On the Living Edge: Your Handbook for Waterfront Living,
Sarah Kipp and Clive Callaway
(Saskatchewan/Manitoba edition)

The Shore Primer (Prairies edition) A cottager's Guide to a Healthy Waterfront



The Last Mountain Lake Stewardship Group is a group of people from rural municipalities, villages, hamlets and beaches surrounding Last Mountain Lake who share an interest in the water quality of the lake.

The group's goal is to steward and monitor the health of the lake while sustaining the resources for the communities that depend on them.

For more information about the group, its activities or the information contained in this brochure, please contact the Last Mountain Lake Stewardship Group at **lmlsg@sasktel.net**, or visit our website at **www.lmlsg.ca**.

BE A GOOD NEIGHBOUR:

Eco-friendly choices for potential lakeside property owners



**Last Mountain Lake
Stewardship Group**

Thinking of buying a property on Last Mountain Lake?

Congratulations! Lake life can be a very rewarding experience, especially if you're a good neighbour to all of the living creatures at the lake.

We share the lake with thousands of microorganisms, birds, fish and mammals. It is important that we do our best not to disrupt the balance nature has put in place for the lake to remain healthy so we can enjoy it for years to come.

A natural waterfront and shoreline are crucial to the health of the lake and its ecosystem.

This guide was developed to help you, the potential property owner, understand more about making decisions that will help keep our lake healthy.



Talking to developers

When you meet with a land developer or real estate agent, there are a few questions you should ask before purchasing lake front property.

Q: Has the natural shoreline on the property been disturbed?

It is important to maintain a natural shoreline on your property. The mix of plants, shrubs and trees form a natural barrier against erosion, and filter man-made phosphates from entering the lake.

Q: How far from the shoreline is the building location?

A cottage or dwelling should be at least 30 metres from the shoreline so the natural shoreline and its vegetation are not disturbed.

Q: What type of septic disposal is there for the property?

Septic fields are very harmful to the lake's ecosystem. A septic tank is the best option for waste disposal.

Q: Have naturally-occurring trees or shrubs been cleared from the property?

Naturally-occurring trees and shrubs act as a natural barrier to stop harmful pollutants from entering the lake.

Moving in

Once you've found your dream location and you're ready to move in, keep in mind the following tips to ensure your lake front continues to be healthy.

- ✓ Maintain as much of the naturally-occurring plants on your property - especially on the shoreline - as possible
- ✓ Use gravel or wood chips for pathways instead of concrete or asphalt.
- ✓ Make sure the lawn is at least 30 metres from the top bank of native shrubs and grasses along the shore. Don't chemically feed or weed your lawn
- ✓ Also ensure flower and vegetable gardens are away from the lake.
- ✓ Don't bring in sand or build a private beach. Use the public beach.
- ✓ Build a floating or pipe dock as opposed to a solid one.
- ✓ Be careful not to spill gas and oil.