

Lake Wise Info Sheet



Shoreland Best Management Practices for Lake-friendly Living

Benefits

- Water Quality
- Wildlife
- Prevents Erosion
- Slow, Spread, Sink Stormwater
- Visual Appeal
- Low Cost
- Low Maintenance
- Protection & Resiliency

Related Info Sheets:

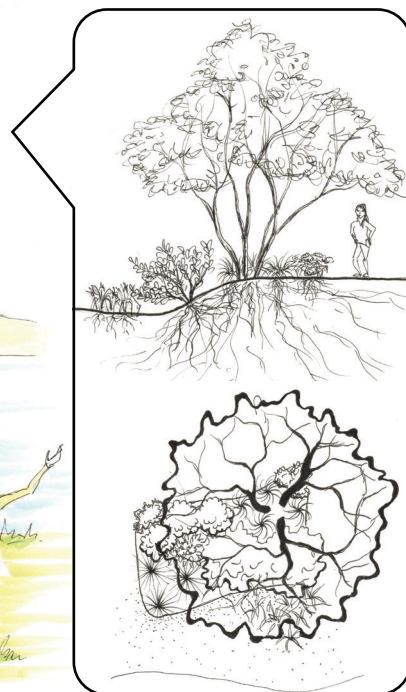
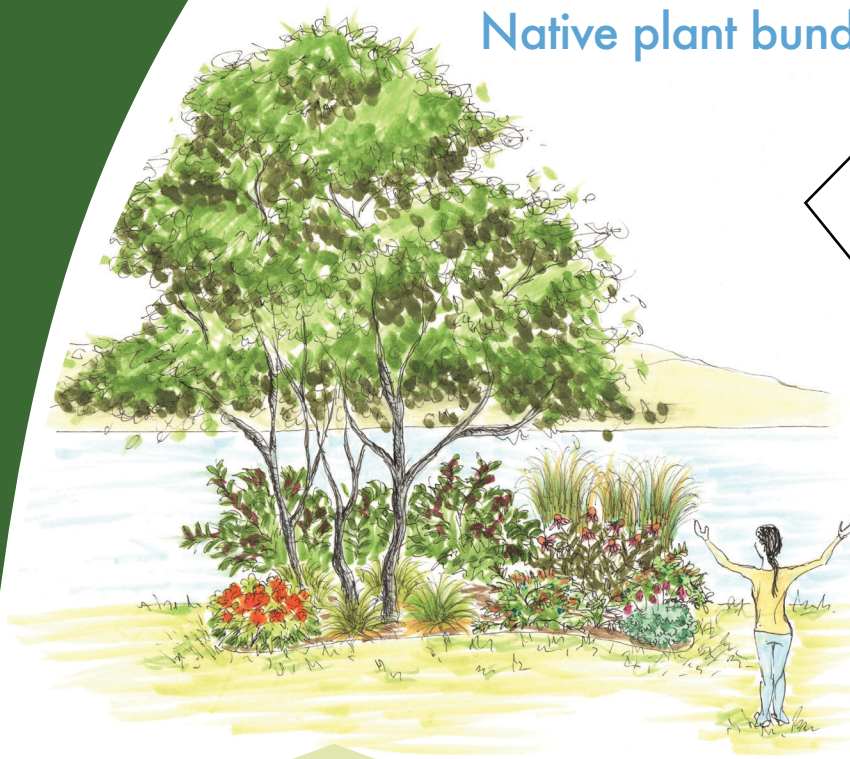
Lakeshore Buffers
Restore Native Plants
Lake-friendly Yard
Maintenance



See NYS DEC
for more
information

NATURAL PLANT COMMUNITIES

Native plant bundles for lakeshores



Federation of Vermont Lakes & Ponds

Description

Native plants are well-adapted to their environments because they have co-evolved with local ecological communities for hundreds or even thousands of years. The native plant 'bundles' listed here are often found growing together and adapted to similar conditions. When you plant the **right plant in the right place**, you reduce maintenance needs because the plant is adapted to the soil, nutrients, alkalinity, moisture, sunlight, and many other elements available. Protecting, enhancing, and restoring native plant communities is key to creating interdependent, resilient, and low-maintenance lakeshores that support wildlife habitat and lake health.

NY Native Plant Resources

NY Natural Heritage Program

for information on biodiversity, conservation, and plants that grow together in ecological communities.



New York
Natural Heritage
Program

New York Flora Association & the New York Flora Atlas

for information on plant species' distribution, native status, and their associated ecological communities.



New York Flora Association

☀ Check out the trees, shrubs, and herbs found in plant communities along lakeshores in the NY Lake Champlain Basin.

☀ These lists can be used to get to know local plant communities, protect them, or mimic them in a native planting.



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Environmental
Conservation



VERMONT

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION
WATERSHED MANAGEMENT DIVISION



Silver Maple- Ash Swamp

NYNHP, Shane Gebauer

A hardwood basin swamp that occurs on poorly drained soils in depressions or along lakes with uniformly wet conditions. Often occurs over calcareous bedrock (e.g., limestone). Found along the Lake Champlain Lowlands, especially in northern portions. These communities are lush with vegetation in the summer, including ferns, tall shrubs, and a large variety of herbs.

Key

Size
h: height
s: spread

Sun

Full sun
 Part shade
 Shade

Soil

Dry
 Medium
 Wet

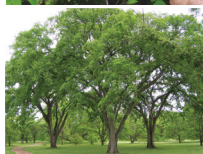
TREES



Silver Maple,
Acer saccharinum
h: 50'-70', s: 30'-70'



Green Ash, *Fraxinus pennsylvanica*
h: 50'-70', s: 35'-50'



American Elm,
Ulmus americana
h: 60'-80', s: 40'-70'



Red Maple,
Acer rubrum
h: 40'-70', s: 30'-50'



Swamp White Oak,
Quercus bicolor
h: 50'-60', s: 50'-60'



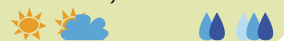
Hornbeam/ironwood
Carpinus caroliniana
h: 20'-35', s: 20'-35'



SHRUBS



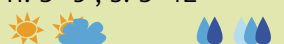
Winterberry,
Ilex verticillata
h: 4'-10', s: 4'-10'



Spicebush,
Lindera benzoin
h: 6'-12', s: 6'-12'



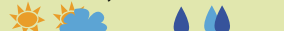
Silky, Red Dogwood,
Swida/Cornus spp.
h: 3'-9', s: 3'-12'



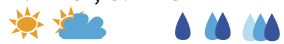
Speckled Alder,
Alnus incana ssp. rugosa
h: 15'-25', s: 15'-25'



Nannyberry,
Viburnum lentago
h: 8'-18', s: 6'-12'



Gooseberries, *Ribes hirtellum, spp.*
h: 2'-5', s: 2'-5'



HERBS



Sensitive Fern,
Onoclea sensibilis
h: 3'-4', s: 3'-4'



Cinnamon Fern,
Osmundastrum cinnamomeum
h: 2'-3', s: 2'-3'



Royal Fern,
Osmunda regalis
h: 2'-3', s: 2'-3'



Hop, Wet Sedges,
Carex lupulina, spp.
h: 1'-3', s: 1'-2'



Blue Flag,
Iris versicolor
h: 2'-3', s: 2'-3'

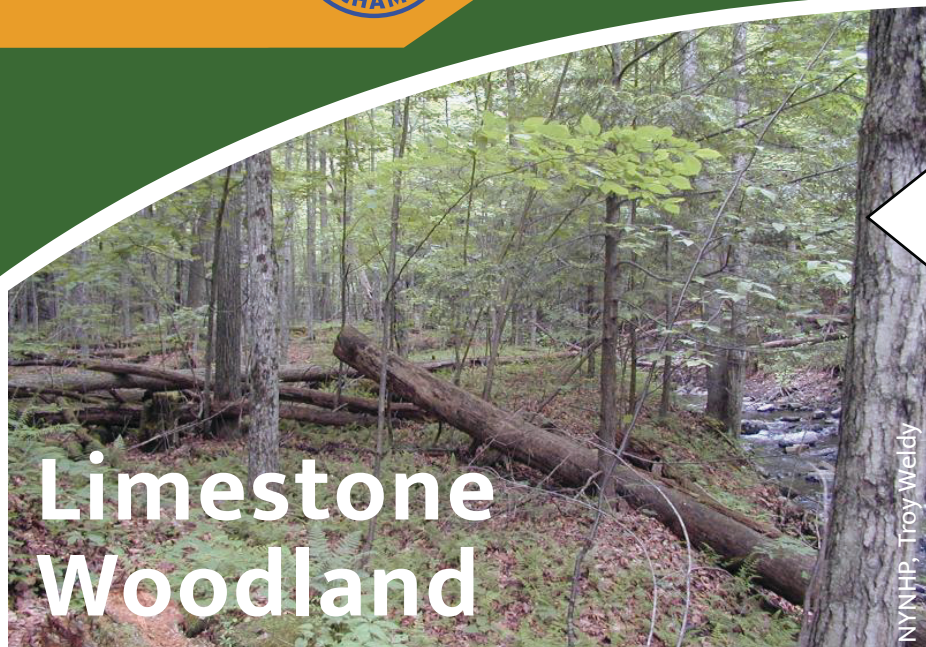


Nodding Beggartick,
Bidens cernua
h: 1'-3', s: 1'-3'



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Limestone Woodland

NYNHP, Troy Weldy

A conifer or hardwood dominated woodland that occurs on shallow soils over limestone bedrock and usually has numerous small rocky outcrops. The tree canopy may be open or closed, typically with several codominant tree species. The understory has a diversity of early spring ephemerals, wildflowers, ferns, and sedges. Found in the Lake Champlain Valley.

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TREES



N. White Cedar,
Thuja occidentalis
h: 20'-60', s: 10'-20'



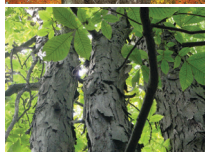
Eastern White Pine,
Pinus strobus
h: 50'-100+', s: 20'-40'



Hop Hornbeam,
Ostrya virginiana
h: 25'-40', s: 20'-30'



Sugar Maple,
Acer saccharum
h: 40'-80', s: 30'-60'



Shagbark Hickory,
Carya ovata
h: 70'-90', s: 50'-70'



Basswood/Linden,
Tilia americana
h: 50'-80', s: 30'-50'



SHRUBS



Gray Dogwood,
Swida racemosa
h: 5'-15', s: 5'-15'



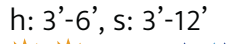
Limber Honeysuckle,
Lonicera dioica
h: 5'-10', s: vine



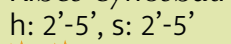
Serviceberries,
Amelanchier spp.
h: 10'-30', s: 10'-25'



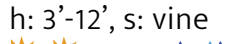
Red, Black Raspberry,
Rubus idaeus, occidentalis
h: 3'-6', s: 3'-12'



Prickly Gooseberry,
Ribes cynosbati
h: 2'-5', s: 2'-5'



Purple Clematis,
Clematis occidentalis
h: 3'-12', s: vine



HERBS



Pennsylvania Sedge,
Carex pensylvanica



Marginal Wood Fern,
Dryopteris marginalis



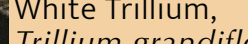
Barren Strawberry,
Geum fragaroides



Bigleaf Aster,
Eurybia macrophylla



Wild Strawberry,
Fragaria virginiana



Early Meadow Rue,
Thalictrum dioicum



White Trillium,
Trillium grandiflorum



Blue-stem Goldenrod,
Solidago caesia



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Hemlock-Northern Hardwood Forest

NYNHP, Gregory J. Edinger

A mixed forest that typically occurs on middle to lower slopes of ravines, on cool, mid-elevation slopes, and on moist, well-drained sites at the margins of swamps. Hemlock can be dominant in steep ravines, blocking out light for little understory, or codominant with any 1-3 deciduous hardwoods with an understory of saplings, sparse shrubs, and groundcovers.

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TREES



Eastern Hemlock,
Tsuga canadensis
h: 40'-80', s: 25'-40'



Sugar Maple,
Acer saccharum
h: 40'-80', s: 30'-60'



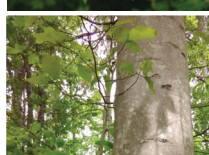
Red Maple,
Acer rubrum
h: 40'-70', s: 30'-50'



Yellow Birch, *Betula alleghaniensis*
h: 40'-80', s: 15'-45'



Black Cherry,
Prunus serotina
h: 50'-80', s: 30'-60'



American Beech,
Fagus grandifolia
h: 50'-80', s: 40'-80'

SHRUBS



Elderberry, *Sambucus nigra* spp. *canadensis*
h: 5'-12', s: 5'-12'



Witchhazel,
Hamamelis virginiana
h: 6'-20', s: 6'-20'



Hobblebush,
Viburnum lantanoides
h: 3'-10', s: 4'-12'



Mapleleaf Viburnum,
Viburnum acerifolium
h: 3'-6', s: 3'-5'



Hillside Blueberry,
Vaccinium pallidum
h: 1'-3', s: 2'-3'



Red, Black Raspberry,
Rubus idaeus,
occidentalis
h: 3'-6', s: 3'-12'

HERBS



Wood Ferns,
Dryopteris spp.



Christmas Fern,
Polystichum acrostichoides



Canada Mayflower,
Maianthemum canadense



White Wood Aster,
Eurybia divaricata



Partridgeberry,
Mitchella repens



Jack-in-the-pulpit,
Arisaema triphyllum



Lady Fern,
Athyrium filix-femina



Wavy Hair Grass,
Deschampsia flexuosa



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Cobble Shore Wet Meadow

NYNHP, Stephen M. Young

A shoreline meadow that occurs on cobble shorelines of lakes and rivers where the substrate is moist and likely experiences intermittent flooding and ice and wave scouring. Variable conditions can make vegetation sparse, leaving hardy, wet-loving Beggarticks, Spikerushes, Sedges, Bulrushes, Boneset, and other herbs. Found along the Lake Champlain lowlands.

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TREES*

*Trees and shrubs are not part of this plant community, but these species are often found nearby and withstand similar harsh conditions.



Balsam Poplar, *Populus balsamifera*
h: 40'-80', s: 20'-40'



Quaking Aspen, *Populus tremuloides*
h: 20'-60', s: 10'-30'

SHRUBS*



Red Osier Dogwood, *Swida/Cornus sericea*
h: 3'-9', s: 3'-12'



Shrub Willows (Heart-leaved, Shining, Silky, Bebb's, Pussy Willow), *Salix eriocephala, lucida, sericea, bebbiana, discolor*
h: 5'-20', s: 5'-15'

HERBS



Devil's Beggartick, *Bidens frondosa*



Boneset, *Eupatorium perfoliatum*



Groundnut, *Apios americana*



Bluejoint Grass, *Calamagrostis canadensis*



Monkeyflower, *Mimulus ringens*



Smooth Goldenrod, *Solidago gigantea*



Three Square Bulrush, *Scirpus americanus*



Common Spikerush, *Eleocharis palustris*

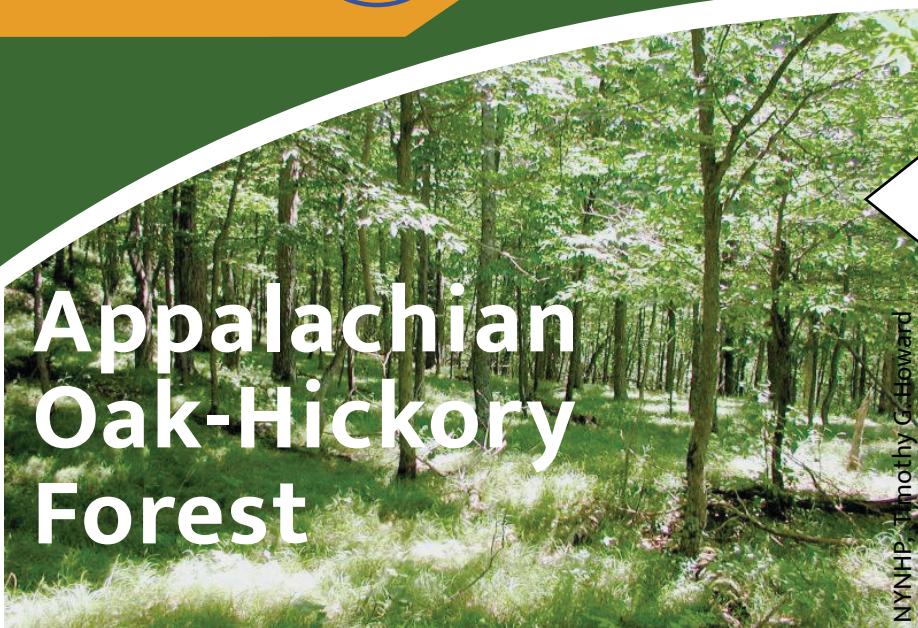


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Appalachian Oak-Hickory Forest



A hardwood matrix forest that occurs on well-drained sites, usually on ridgetops, upper slopes, and south- and west-facing slopes with loam or sandy loam soils. Dominant trees include one or more oaks and hickories, a subcanopy of small trees and shrubs, and diverse groundcovers. Found along the southern Lake Champlain and Lake George Valleys.

Key

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TREES



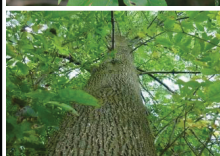
Red Oak,
Quercus rubra
h: 60'-80', s: 30'-70'



White Oak,
Quercus alba
h: 50'-80', s: 30'-80'



Shagbark Hickory,
Carya ovata
h: 70'-90', s: 50'-70'



White Ash, *Fraxinus americana*
h: 50'-90', s: 30'-70'



Red Maple,
Acer rubrum
h: 40'-70', s: 30'-50'



Hop Hornbeam,
Ostrya virginiana
h: 25'-40', s: 20'-30'



SHRUBS



Gray Dogwood,
Swida racemosa
h: 5'-15', s: 5'-15'



Witchhazel,
Hamamelis virginiana
h: 6'-20', s: 6'-20'



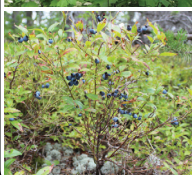
Beaked Hazelnut,
Corylus cornuta
h: 4'-12', s: 4'-6'



Downy Serviceberry,
Amelanchier arborea
h: 15'-25', s: 10'-20'



Mapleleaf Viburnum,
Viburnum acerifolium
h: 3'-6', s: 3'-5'



Lowbush Blueberry,
Vaccinium angustifolium
h: 1'-2', s: 1'-3'



HERBS



Wild Sarsaparilla,
Aralia nudicaulis



False Solomon's Seal,
Maianthemum racemosum



Pennsylvania Sedge,
Carex pensylvanica



Tick Trefoils,
Desmodium spp.



Black Cohosh,
Actaea racemosa



Mayapple, *Podophyllum peltatum*



White Goldenrod,
Solidago bicolor



Round-lobed hepatica,
Anemone americana



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