

One of the best things for the health of our lake is the planting of native trees and vegetation with deep root systems to filter and absorb storm water runoff. The following is a partial list of suggested native plants for our area. For more information, visit the websites <http://extension.psu.edu/plants/gardening/eco-friendly> or DEP at www.dcnr.state.pa.us/forestry.

Tall Trees—over 50 feet

- American Beech (*Fagus grandifolia*)
- Eastern Hemlock (*Tsuga canadensis*)
- Eastern White Pine (*Pinus strobus*)
- Pin Oak (*Quercus palustris*)
- Red Maple (*Acer rubrum*)--deciduous
- Red Pine (*Pinus resinosa*)--evergreen
- River Birch (*Betula nigra*)
- Sycamore (*Platanus occidentalis*)



Eastern Hemlock with new growth

Small Trees—under 25 feet



Flowering Dogwood

- American Fringetree (*Chionanthus virginicus*)
- American Holly (*Ilex opaca*)
- Eastern Red Cedar (*Juniperus virginiana*)
- Flowering Dogwood (*Cornus florida*)
- Hackberry (*Celtis canina*)
- Northern White Cedar (*Thuja occidentalis*)
- Redbud (*Cercis canadensis*)
- Serviceberry (*Amelanchier arborea*)
- Sweetbay Magnolia (*Magnolia virginiana*)
- Ozark Witch Hazel (*Hamamelis virginiana*)

Shrubs

- Red Chokeberry (*Photinia pyrifolia*)
- Elderberry (*Sambucus canadensis*)
- Maple-leaf Viburnum (*Viburnum acerifolium*)
- Mountain Laurel—shade preferred, (*Kalmia latifolia*)
- Oakleaf Hydranga (*Hydranga quercifolia*)
- Rosebay (*Rhododendron maximum*)
- Silky Dogwood (*Cornus amomum*)
- Spicebush—shade only, (*Lindera benzoin*)
- Winterberry (*Ilex verticillata*)



Winterberry

Ornamental Grasses



Little Bluestem Grass

- Big Bluestem—grows to 5+ feet (*Andropogon gerardii*)
- Little Bluestem—grows to 3 feet (*Schizachyrium scoparium*)
- Switch Grass—grows to 6+ feet (*Panicum virgatum*)
- Indian Grass—grows to 6 feet (*Sorghastrum nutans*)

Ferns

- Christmas Fern (*Polystichum achrostichoides*)
- Evergreen Woodfern (*Dryopteris intermedia*)
- Interrupted Fern (*Osmunda claytoniana*)
- Maidenhair Fern (*Adiantum pedatum*)
- New York Fern (*Thelypteris noveboracensis*)



Maidenhair Fern

Wetlands (shorelines)



Pickerelweed

- Bullrush—grows to 7 feet (*Scirpus americanus*)
- Joe-Pye Weed (*Eupatorium fistulosum*)
- Three-way Sedge (*Dulichium arundinaceum*)
- Arrowhead (*Sagittaria latifolia*)
- Sensitive Fern (*Onoclea sensibilis*)
- Pickerelweed (*Pontederia cordata*)

Perennials

Perennials grow in diverse conditions—sun (s), shade (sh), wet (w), moist (m), and dry (d). When buying, refer to the growing conditions and plant characteristics on the labels to get the right plant for your garden.

- Bee-Balm (*Monarda didyma*) sd
- Black-eyed Susan (*Rudbeckia hirta*) sd, sm, sw
- Bleeding Heart (*Dicentra eximia*) shd
- Butterfly-weed (*Asclepias tuberosa*) sd
- Cardinal Flower (*Lobelia cardinalis*) sw
- Common Blue Violet (*Viola sororia*) shw
- Cutleaf Coneflower (*Rudbeckia laciniata*) sm, sw
- Giant Blue Hyssop (*Agastache foeniculum*) sd
- New York Ironweed (*Vernonia noveboracensis*) sm, sw



Wild Columbine

- Jacob's Ladder (*Polemonium reptans*) shw
- Meadow Phlox (*Phlox maculata*) sm, sw, shm, shw
- Summer Phlox (*Phlox paniculata*) sm, sw, shm, shw
- Swamp Milkweed (*Asclepias incarnata*) sm
- Turtlehead (*Chelone glabra*) sm
- Virginia Bluebells (*Mertensia virginica*) shw
- Wild Blue Phlox (*Phlox divaricata*) sm, sw, shm, shw
- Wild Columbine (*Aquilegia canadensis*) shd, shm
- Wood Geranium (*Geranium maculatum*) sm, shm

Plants That Are Nasty!

Homeowners need to be aware of some plants, which are invasive and/or noxious. PA Dept. of Conservation and Natural Resources (DCNR) defines **invasive** plants as species that are not native to PA, grow aggressively, and displace native vegetation. Not all non-native plants become **invasive**, but those that do frequently dominate whole habitats and destroy the environment.

A **noxious** weed is a plant species that has been designated by country, state, provincial, or national agricultural authority as one that is injurious to agricultural and/or horticultural crops, natural habitats and/or ecosystems, and/or humans or livestock (PA DCNR website). PA has listed 13 plants as noxious. They are as follows:

- Bull thistle, Spear thistle (Cirsium vulgare)
- Canadian thistle (Cirsium arvense)
- Giant hogweed (Heracleum-mantegazzianum)
- Goatsrue (Galega officinalis)
- Jimsonweed (Datura stramonium)
- Johnson grass (Sorghum halepense)
- Kudzu (Pueraria lobata)
- Marijuana (Cannabis sativa)
- Mile-a-minute weed (Polygonum perfoliatum)
- Multiflora rose (Rosa multiflora)
- Musk thistle, Nodding thistle (Carduus nutans)
- Purple loosestrife (Lythrum salicaria)—**growing at Lake Meade**
- Shattercane (Sorghum bicolor)



Purple loosestrife - Lythrum: "Loosestrife often spreads rapidly. **The matlike root system and foliage of dense stands reduce the natural flow of waterways. This process promotes the deposit of silt, causing long-term water quality degradation,**" states a PA Department of Agriculture report.

Replace Invasives With These Natives

<u>Invasive Plant</u>	<u>Recommended Native Plant</u>
Bamboo/Giant reed	Indian grass, Big bluestem
Bradford pear tree	Serviceberry
Burning bush	Chokeberry
Butterfly bush	Oakleaf hydranga
English ivy	Bearberry
Japanese barberry	Winterberry, Chokeberry
Norway maple	Red maple
Orange daylily	Oxeye sunflower
Rose of Sharon	Elderberry
White mulberry	River birch

You Can Make A Difference!

Join your neighbors in improving the flow of clean water into our lake. A lot of money is spent on consultants who take care of algae and weed problems caused by too much phosphorus and nitrogen flowing into the lake. Become part of the solution and save money by using the practices described below.

1. **Mowing:** Cut your grass to 3 inches or more which allows the roots to grow deeper and spread further, choking out weeds.
2. **Fertilization:** Use only organic fertilizers, no phosphorus or nitrogen.
3. **Soil Amendment:** Amend the soil by spreading fall leaves, compost, or humus. Amending soil counteracts the compaction caused by lawn tractors and equipment.
4. **Roadside Swale Care:** Slow and clean water going into the swales by planting grass. Road swales channel water to the lake from approximately 90% of the properties. Water in the swale should dry within 48 hours after the rain stops.
5. **Ground Impervious Surfaces:** Keep the water (including pollutants and toxins) from running off in sheets long enough for plant roots to clean it before flowing from your property. Other ways to divert the water include a stone path and a rain garden.
6. **Roof Impervious Surface:** Catch roof runoff in a rain barrel (50-80 gallons) and use the water during dry spells. A one inch rain will yield about 600 gallons of water from 1,000 square feet of roof surface!

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GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE WORKGROUP

Recommended Plantings and Practices



LAKE MEADE PROPERTY OWNERS ASSOCIATION

Lake Meade Property Owners Association, Inc. serves a diverse private lake community that is focused on fostering an environment that preserves and advances a higher quality of life.

Call a Master Gardener: (717) 334-6271
Contact LMPOA: (717) 259-9625