

Suggested Native Plants and Grasses



Great blue lobelia



Golden ragwort

Sunny Swales

- Black eyed Susan (*Rudbeckia hirta*)
- Cardinal flower (*Lobelia cardinalis*)
- Common blue violet (*Viola sororia*)
- Cutleaf coneflower (*Rudbeckia laciniata*)
- Garden phlox (*Phlox paniculata*)
- Great blue lobelia (*Lobelia siphilitica*)
- Meadow phlox (*Phlox maculata*)
- New York ironweed (*Vernonia noveboracensis*)
- Turtlehead (*Chelone glabra*)
- Wood geranium (*Geranium maculatum*)

Shady Swales

- Foamflower (*Tiarella cordifolia*)
- Golden ragwort (*Senecio aureus*)
- Jacob's ladder (*Polemonium reptans*)
- Joe Pye weed (*Eupatorium fistulosum*)
- Long hair sedge (*Carex crinita*)
- Lurid sedge (*Carex lurida*)
- New York fern (*Thelypteris noveboracensis*)
- PA sedge (*Carex pensylvanica*)
- Solomon's seal (*Polygonatum pubescens*)
- Virginia bluebells (*Mertensia virginica*)
- Wild blue phlox (*Phlox divaricata*)

Your Swale, Your Lake

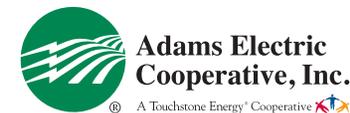


Lake Meade Property Owners Association

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.

For more information, visit <http://extension.psu.edu/plants/gardening/eco-friendly> or DEP at www.dcnr.state.pa.us/forestry.

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Your Swale, Your Lake

Swales are the ditches running along Lake Meade's roads and between some homes. They were designed over 50 years ago by the developers of Lake Meade to serve as our stormwater system by channeling water into the lake. Proper maintenance of our swales will reap many positive benefits, one of which is a reduction in the cost of lake maintenance, which can cost over \$40,000 annually.

Why are swales important?



www.fairfaxcounty.gov

Swales are designed to manage water runoff, filter pollutants, and increase rainwater infiltration.

Lake Meade is shaped like a big basin with the lake at the bottom. All water runoff flows into the lake. We count on the swales to absorb and filter water before it gets to the lake. Swales also help to keep our roads in good shape by moving water away from the roadbeds, saving money for road maintenance!

Roadside swales are in the road right-of-way. The road right-of-way is defined as approximately thirty-five (35) feet from the center of Lake Meade Drive and thirty (30) feet from the center of all other roads.

LMPOA rules for swales

- Every new, upgrade, or change of a driveway and/or swale within the road right-of-way requires a Letter of Approval from LMPOA.
- Any modification to the road right-of-way (e.g. plants, trees, shrubs, bio-swale vegetation, etc.) shall be submitted to LMPOA for approval.
- Property owners shall maintain all property line easements including, but not limited to, grass cutting, weed maintenance, and debris removal.
- Parking of vehicles or equipment in the road right-of-way for a period exceeding 24 hours is prohibited.
- Culverts shall be clear of debris. The dumping of grass cuttings, leaves, or other debris in road right-of-way swales is prohibited.
- The length of new culverts cannot exceed 20 feet.

All of the regulations for driveways, culverts, and swales can be found on the Lake Meade website www.lakemeade.org. Go to *Governing Documents>Building Regulations or Rules and Regulations>Lake Meade Roads and Stormwater Management*.

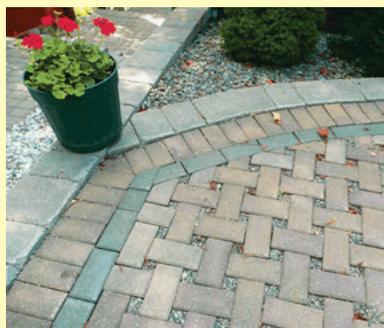
Maintain your swale

- Clear sediment, debris, and leaves from your culvert and swales. Do not dump grass cuttings in the swales.
- Grade your swale to keep water flowing and prevent mosquitoes from multiplying. Standing water should disappear within 72 hours.
- Avoid parking in or driving over swales. These actions compact the soil, interfere with water absorption, and promote weed growth.
- Remove invasive water plants such as purple loosestrife and garlic mustard to avoid damage to the lake.
- Let grass in your swale grow to 7 inches.
- Do not install weed barrier. Weeds will grow on top of the fabric.
- Use bio-herbicides such as A.D.I.O.S. and Bonide in swales for weed control and always read the labels on herbicides. Avoid Roundup which is detrimental to the lake.

Impervious versus pervious surfaces

Hard impervious surfaces (roofs and driveways) allow stormwater to run off in sheets. The runoff carries contaminants like fertilizers, pesticides, oils, animal waste, and sediment into the lake.

Pervious surfaces absorb water and reduce contaminants. Look for pervious materials when planning a ground-covering project.



www.lakegeorgeassociation.org