Lake Wise Info Sheet

Lake Wise
lake friendly living

Shoreland Best Management Practices for Lake-friendly Living.

Benefits

- Water Quality
- Wildlife Habitat
- Protection & Resiliency

Since 1972, the Federation of Vermont Lakes and Ponds (FOVLAP) has helped unite, represent, and serve lake groups, shoreland owners, and interested lake recreationists of Vermont's more than 800 lakes.

Visit **vermontlakes.org** to learn about lake associations, how to form one, and other ways to get involved!

FORM A LAKE ASSOCIATION
How to build capacity & protect your lake

VT Lake Wise Program

Why have an association?

Associations form for many reasons. In Vermont, lake associations coordinate and provide a voice for the lake community on a diversity of issues ranging from private road maintenance; shoreland, water quality and wildlife issues; native plantings; boating safety; sharing local berry recipes and lake stories; to outlet dam ownership situations. Shoreland owners and lake recreationists benefit greatly by working together to protect the lake.

"to preserve and protect Vermont's lakes, ponds and their watersheds for the benefit of this and future generations."

-FOVLAP mission

Forming a lake association.

Many lakes in Vermont already have associations - find out if your lake or pond already has one and get involved or start one yourself!

It can help to start a lake association with a commonly shared concern or question. For example, neighbors with a common interest in the lake's water quality might want to form a lake association to learn more about **lake monitoring** or to start a **boat monitoring program** to prevent the spread of aquatic invasive species. Lakeshore owners that want to improve water quality might want to form a lake association to promote the **adoption of 'lake-friendly' practices** under the Lake Wise Program or to exemplify the **Shoreland Protection Act** standards.

Lake association work has social benefits too. Associations develop a communication network for sharing lake news, develop partnerships among neighbors, and provide opportunities to meet neighbors, volunteer, and participate in fun events!

VERMONT
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION
WATERSHED MANAGEMENT DIVISION

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