

Shell Lake Buffer Requirements

Under the new shoreline regulations adopted in October 2004, it is required for most new structures and expansions to plant a shoreline buffer. A shoreline buffer is defined as a zone of native vegetation that extends from the ordinary high-water mark (OHWM) inland. The width of the shoreline buffer, otherwise referred to as the shoreline vegetation protection area, extends 35 feet inland from the OHWM.

According to the Shell Lake Zoning Ordinance as of October 20th, 2004 the disturbance of the shoreline vegetation protection area which includes the removal of tree shrubs, groundcover and land disturbing activities, is prohibited. The purpose of the shoreline vegetation protection area is to provide wildlife habitat, prevent erosion, purify run-off water and provide an aesthetically pleasing shoreline.

Buffer Requirements:

- Must extend a minimum of 35 feet inland from the OHWM.
- Existing natural shoreline recovery is allowed where adequate vegetation is present.
- If no natural buffer exists, it must be planted with a mix of native grasses, forbs, trees and shrubs according to Shoreline Buffer Mitigation Standards.
- On viewing access corridor permitted per 100 feet water frontage per lot.
 - Corridor must be no more than 30 feet wide.
 - If the lot is less than 100 feet then the corridor is proportionally reduced.
 - Selective vegetation removal (mowing) is allowed.
 - Walkways, stairs and pathways must be located in the corridor.
 - Piers, docks and lifts must be adjacent to corridor while in the water.

Your buffer needs to be installed **no later than 2 years** after you have received your building/land use permit. Please contact Brent Edlin at the Washburn County Planning, Land and Resource Management Department at 715-468-4654 or a private consultant to develop a plan that meets the requirements of the Shoreline Buffer Mitigation Standards.

I have read through the above information and understand it is required that I install and maintain a buffer on my property on Shell Lake.

I agree to follow the requirements of the Shoreline Buffer Mitigation Standards and will contact Brent Edlin for assistance. If I choose to develop a plan through a private consultant, I understand it must be approved by the Washburn County Planning, Land and Resource Management Department.

Landowner Name (Print): _____

Landowner Signature: _____

Date: _____