



Protecting & Enhancing Your Waterfront Investment

Healthy Lakes & Rivers Resources

Presented By:

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Watershed Protection Coordinator - WI DNR

May 3rd, 2025 | SEWRPC High-Quality Lakes Workshop

Agenda

- 1 Intro to Healthy Lakes & Rivers
- 2 5 Best Practices for Water Quality
- 3 Technical Resources
- 4 Applying for Funding

Healthy Lakes & Rivers Team



Dave Ferris



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Representatives from:

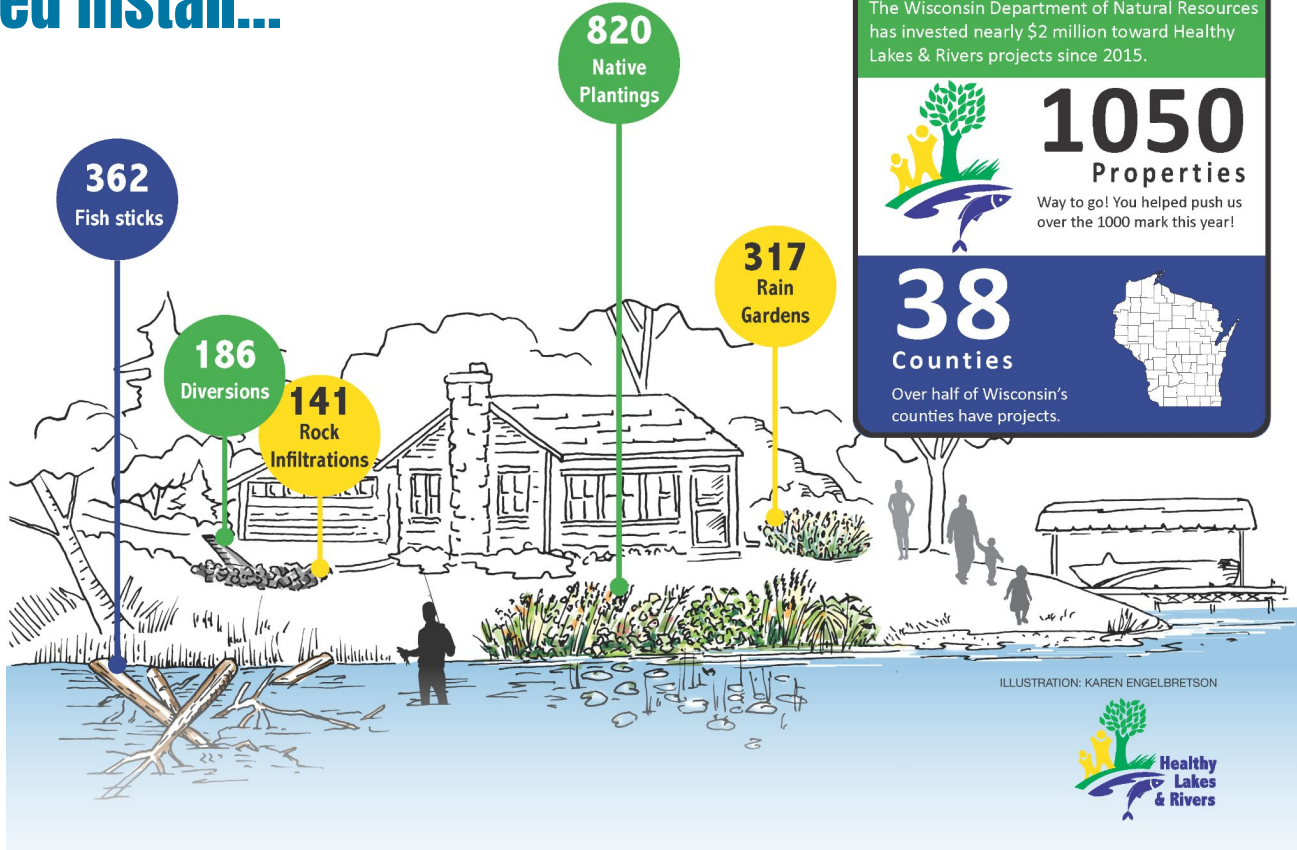
- Extension Lakes
- County Land & Water
- Wisconsin Lakes
- WI DNR

Healthy Lakes & Rivers Goal

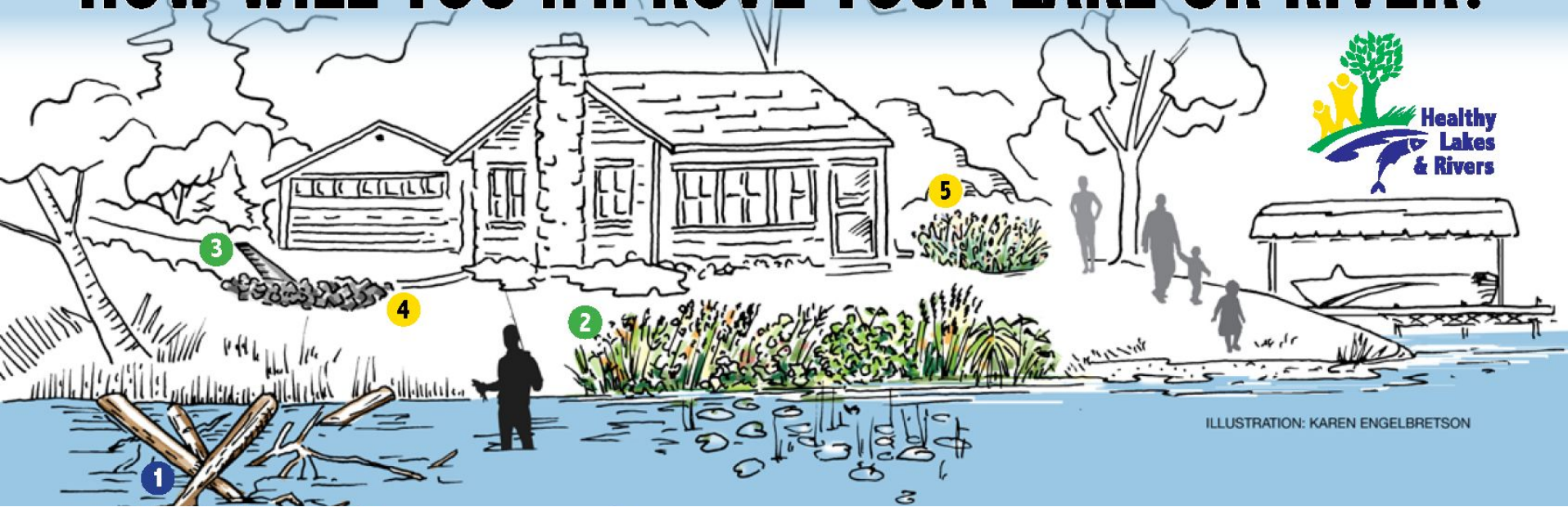
To protect and improve the health of Wisconsin lakes and rivers by increasing shoreland property owner participation in habitat restoration and runoff and erosion control projects.



Partner organizations & local champions have helped install...



HOW WILL YOU IMPROVE YOUR LAKE OR RIVER?



1. Fish Sticks
2. Native Plantings
3. Diversion Practice

4. Rock Infiltration
5. Rain Garden

Best Practice: 350 Sq Ft Native Shoreline Plantings

Improve wildlife habitat, enhances natural beauty and privacy, slows runoff, and stabilizes the shoreline.

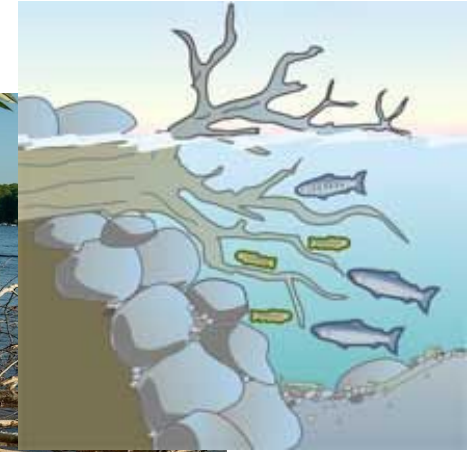


Buffalo Lake, Marquette County

Best Practice: Fish Sticks



Lake Nebagamon, Douglas County



Nearly all fish species use **woody habitats** for at least a portion of their life cycle.

Best Practice: Diversions & Rain Gardens

Diversion - Used to convey runoff *away from* the lake or river

Rain Garden - A shallow depressed garden that *captures and infiltrates* runoff

Best Practice: Rain Gardens



Photo Credit: Chetek Lakes Protection Association (Barron County)

Best Practice: Rock Infiltration



Technical Assistance



Statewide Plan

- Implementation Focus



Fact Sheets

- Practice Overview
- Funding & Admin FAQ

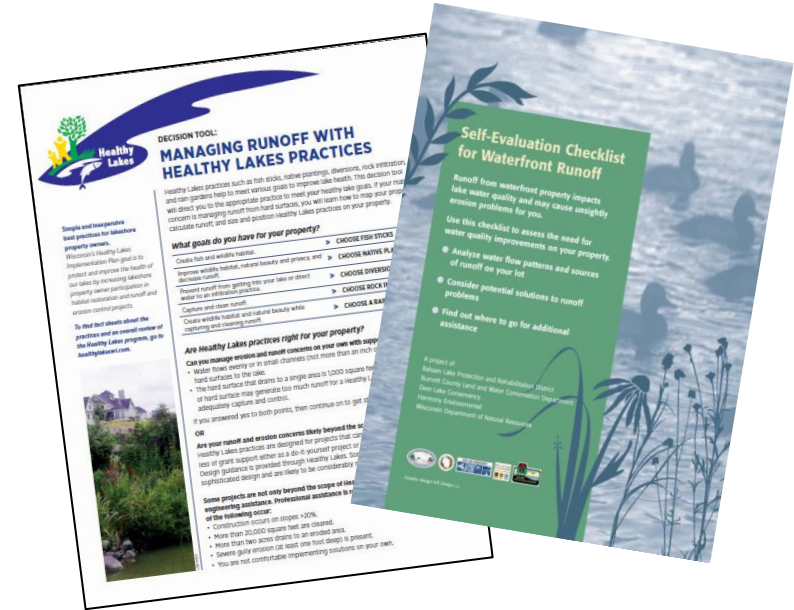
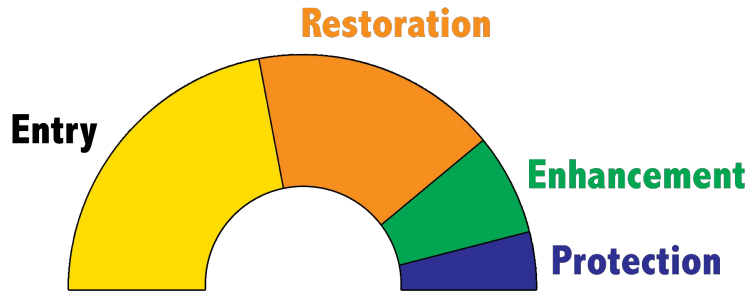


Technical Guidance

- Installation Details
- Project Specifications

More Healthy Lakes & Rivers Resources

- “Score My Shore” Shoreland Evaluation Tool
survey.healthylakeswi.com
- **Free** publications to order and distribute
- Lakes & Rivers Partnership Network



Healthy Lakes & Rivers Grants Overview

- *Eligible sponsor* applies on behalf of landowners (multiple best practices)
 - \$1000 per Best Practice
 - \$25,000 grant award max
 - 75/25 state/sponsor match
- 2-year* grant agreement and 10-year individual landowner contract with maintenance requirements
- **NEW:** Applications accepted year-round (limit 1 per year)

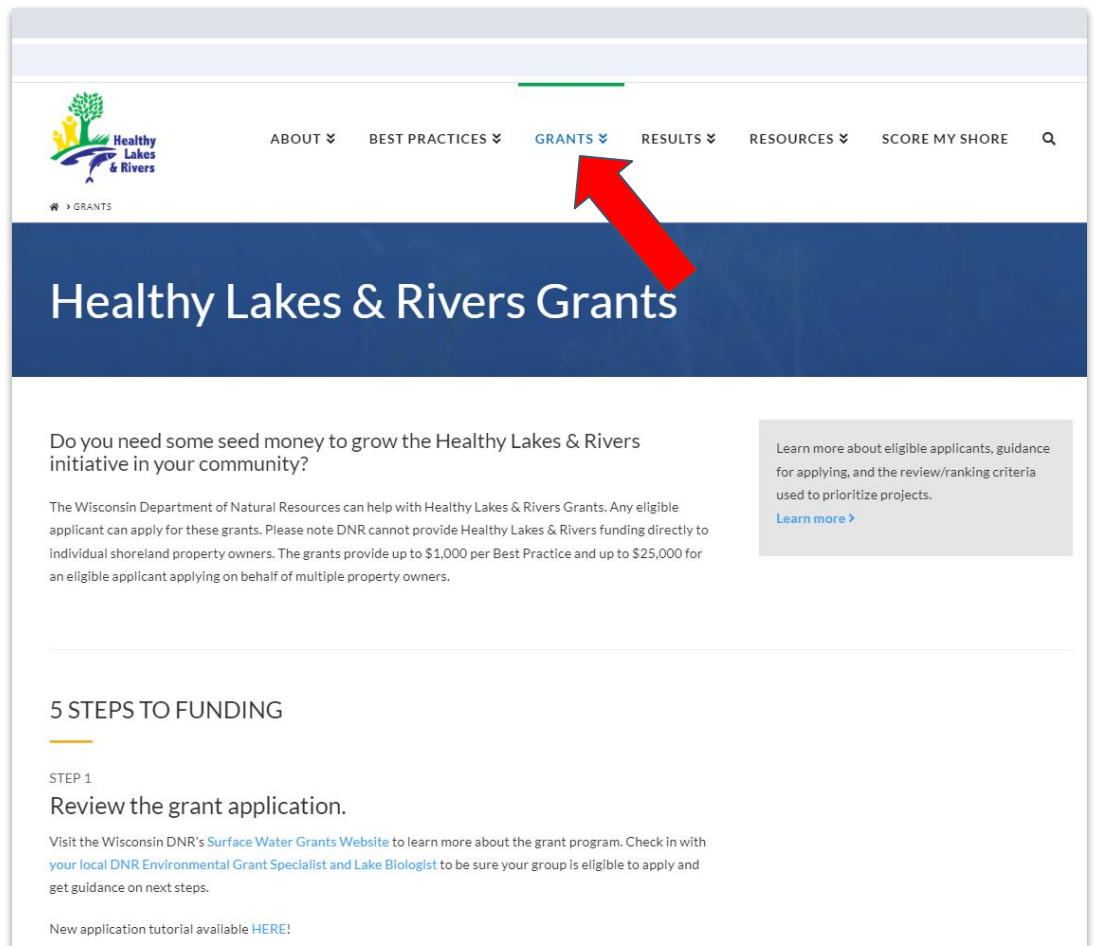


Photo: 2016 Governor's Fishing Opener on Minong Flowage

Website includes:

- Application
- FAQ
- Factsheet
- Tutorials
- Example Documents
- & MORE!

www. HealthyLakesWI.com



Healthy Lakes & Rivers Grants

- **Step 1: Review Eligibility Requirements**
 - Lake/River associations, surface water management organizations, nonprofit conservation organizations and qualified school districts *must apply for eligibility* before applying for a surface water grant.
- **Step 2: Complete the Grant Application (Accepted year-round)**
 - Application Tutorial Available Online!
 - First time applicants must work with their regional biologist to provide plans and photos for approval

Healthy Lakes & Rivers Grants

- **Step 3:** Application is received by DNR & reviewed by a ranking team
- **Step 4:** If approved, the grantee will receive an agreement outlining the scope of the grant
- **Step 5:** Install your projects!
 - Remember to track volunteer time for match
- **Step 6:** Request Reimbursement
 - In addition to completing the DNR forms, includes a project report, photos, and copies of invoices for completed work



Let's make Healthy Lakes & Rivers together!

Thank You!

Questions? Please reach out to:



- **Healthy Lakes & Rivers Program**

- General Inquiries: HealthyLakesWI@gmail.com
- Grants: dnrsurfacewatergrants@wisconsin.gov

- **Regional Contacts**

- Visit dnr.wisconsin.gov/aid/SurfaceWater.html to find your regional Lake or Stream Biologist