

## Sign up for Fall Planting!



Watersheds Canada has openings for 15 waterfront properties to participate in our Naturalization Program this fall! Spaces are limited and filling up fast! So any shoreline landowner interested in this program should contact Courtney Allison at Watersheds Canada, 613-264-1244, or [allison@watersheds.ca](mailto:allison@watersheds.ca)

The Natural Edge is a shoreline naturalization program for waterfront property owners to help them restore their shorelines by planting native trees, shrubs, groundcovers, wildflowers and grasses along the water's edge. The program provides an opportunity for homeowners to restore their shoreline to a natural state, while still allowing water access and a lovely view. Courtney Allison, the Natural Edge coordinator, explains: "Native species have adapted to regional environmental conditions and are preferred by local wildlife for shelter and food. Planting along shorelines enhances local ecosystems, stabilizes shorelines from erosion, and improves water quality by filtering runoff." By participating in the Natural Edge program, you can ensure our waterbodies remain healthy so they can be enjoyed by others for generations to come.

The Natural Edge program provides:

- A free site visit with landowners to discuss shoreline concerns, provide recommendations and assess planting conditions;
- A personalized planting plan is created, which includes photos of selected planting areas and ideal plant species;
- The ordering, delivering, planting, and mulching of plants;
- A free Stewardship Manual to help property owners care for their newly planted vegetation; and
- Ongoing support in subsequent years.
- Cost to landowners is only 25 per cent of the total costs for their site.



"All advice is optional," Allison adds. "The goals and wishes of the landowner drive the plan, and we work with landowners to complete projects that are economically feasible on a case-by-case basis. Watersheds Canada coordinates the ordering, delivery and planting, along with tools, materials and labour to complete the project. Landowners can participate in the planting, but it is optional and voluntary."

Fall participation for 2015 is booking up quickly, so any shoreline landowner interested in this program should contact Courtney Allison at Watersheds Canada, 613-264-1244, or [allison@watersheds.ca](mailto:allison@watersheds.ca).