

# Native Shoreline

## MAINTENANCE GUIDELINES FOR NEW PLANTINGS



Native plants generally don't need much water once they are established. New plantings however, will need some additional watering. Knowing the soil type(s) of your lakeshore property is critical. Sandy soils will need more water than clay based soils. Portions of your lakeshore receiving direct sun may need more water than shady areas.

### Watering tips

#1

Sprinklers set on a light mist, and covering the entire native plant project area will most benefit the health of the plants.

#2

Watering in the morning or evening is most effective. Midday watering during periods of heat is inefficient and will most likely succumb to evaporation.

#3

Feel free to skip watering when daily rain events are already providing a good soaking.

#4

During a drought or dry periods (when daily temperatures reach 85°F or when rain events are less than 1 inch a week), it is best to water twice a day. Morning and evening.





## Year #1 Putting Down Roots

	WHEN (AM & PM)	TIME (Minutes)	GOAL (Keep It Up)
<b>Native Seeding</b>	✓	20 - 30	Reaches 12 Inches
<b>Plugs</b>	✓	20 - 30	4 - 6 Weeks
<b>No-Mow Seeding</b>	Every other Morning	15 - 30	4 - 6 Weeks

## After Established

	WHEN (AM Only)	TIME (Minutes)	GOAL (Keep It Up)
<b>Native Seeding</b>	✓	20	Through October
<b>Plugs</b>	✓	20	Through October
<b>No-Mow Seeding</b>		30	Water During Dry Periods

Beyond year one: Water as needed during periods of drought.

## WEEDING OUT THE COMPETITION

Weeding restoration areas in year one is critical. You can assist your newly planted native plants by "weeding out" the competition. Less competition with non-native species helps to establish a strong root structure that will allow them to gather more nutrients and moisture needed for establishment.

## Tips & Notes:

#1

Failing to stay ahead of the weeding will cause competition for the native species, prolonging their establishment.

#2

Herbicides should not be used unless absolutely necessary to overcome aggressive or noxious weeds. Contact your SWCD prior to any herbicide treatment.



## Year #1 Establishment

	HOW	WHEN	GOAL (Keep It Up)
<b>Weeding</b>	Hand Pull	Every 2 Weeks	<u>After</u> flowers start to bloom but <u>Prior</u> to seed head formation
<b>Dead Foliage</b>	Leave Standing	Every Fall	Remove in the Spring
<b>Tree Leaves</b>	Rake or Blow	Spring or Fall	Remove when leaves cover the ground

## Year #2 Steady Progress

	HOW	WHEN	GOAL (Keep It Up)
<b>Weeding</b>	Hand Pull	Every 3 Weeks	<u>After</u> flowers start to bloom but <u>Prior</u> to seed head formation
<b>Dead Foliage</b>	Leave Standing	Every Fall	Remove in the Spring
<b>Tree Leaves</b>	Rake or Blow	Spring or Fall	Remove when leaves cover the ground

## Thank you very Mulch

Mulching plants is both functional and decorative. When applied correctly, mulch helps suppress weeds, retain moisture, moderate soil temperature and prevent erosion.

If applied too early in the spring, mulch can inhibit soil warming and delay root growth. As a general rule: wait until after the last frost in spring to apply summer mulch.

### Tips & Notes:

- #1 Choose mulch that has not been treated with herbicide or insecticide.
- #2 Too much mulch causes excessive moisture.
- #3 Mulch mounded around the base of a tree or shrub can cause Root-Collar Rot. Pull mulch away from the base.



## Spring Maintenance

	HOW	KEEP IT UP
<b>3" Depth Goal</b>	Use your hands, square shover, mulch fork to lightly spread	Fill in bare spots. Re-apply throughout the year as needed.
<b>Revitalize</b>	Strip off as much of the old mulch as possible, top with 1" new mulch	Every 3 years
<b>Tree Leaves</b>	Rake or blow	Spring or fall



# How can we help?

Lakeshore property owners are firsthand witnesses when imbalances occur within the watershed. All the surrounding land within a watershed contributes to the overall health or deterioration of water quality.

Your local SWCD continually works with all types of landowners to protect the natural resources and water quality within our watersheds. We assist landowners of all kinds in conservation practices that will achieve the best outcome for the watershed and our many lakes.

.....

If you would like more information on how we can assist you in doing your part to protect our waters please do not hesitate to ask. There are many proven conservation practices that lakeshore landowners can do to improve water quality.



Phone: (218) 326-5573 | Web: [itascaswcd.org](http://itascaswcd.org)

