

OCTOBER 22, 2015

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# SHORESCAPING FOR HEALTHY SHORELINES

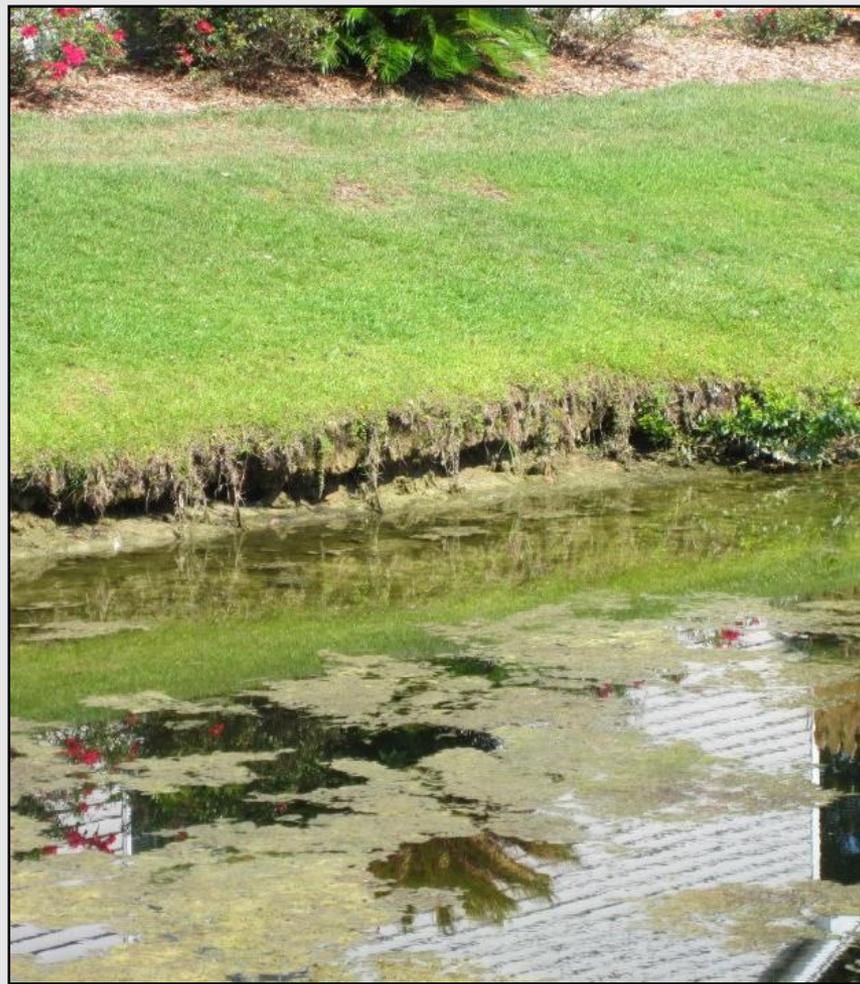
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GUINN WALLOVER

WATER RESOURCES AGENT  
CLEMSON UNIVERSITY COOPERATIVE  
EXTENSION SERVICE



# DOES YOUR POND LOOK LIKE THIS?

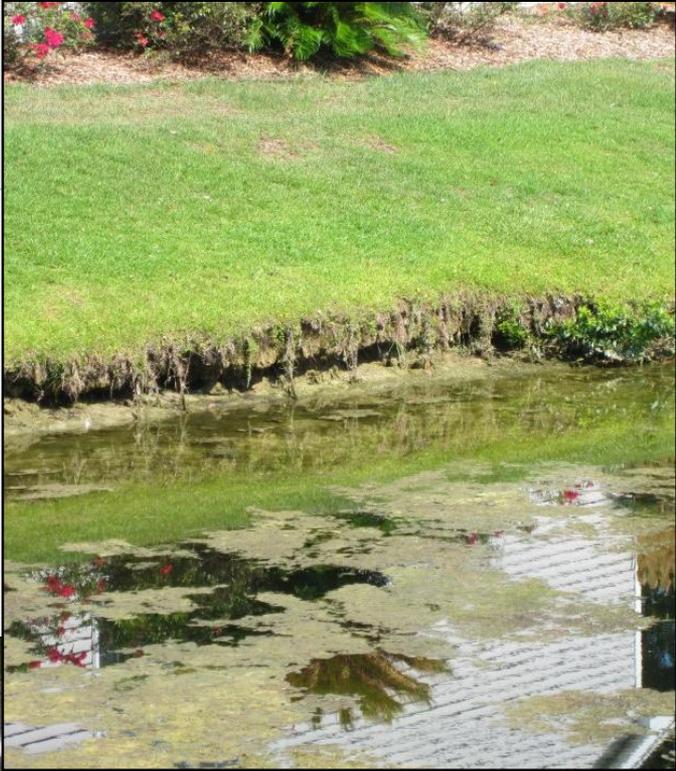
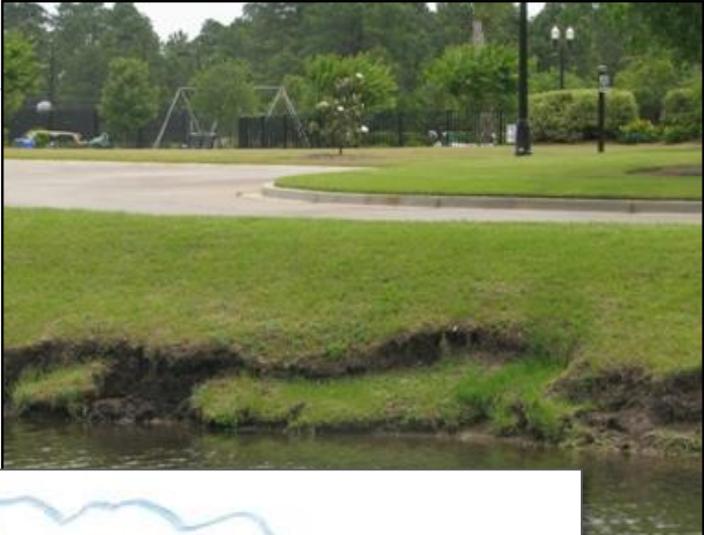


# SHORELINE EROSION =



- Increased rate of sedimentation
  - More frequent dredging?
- Property loss (\$\$!)
- Water quality problems

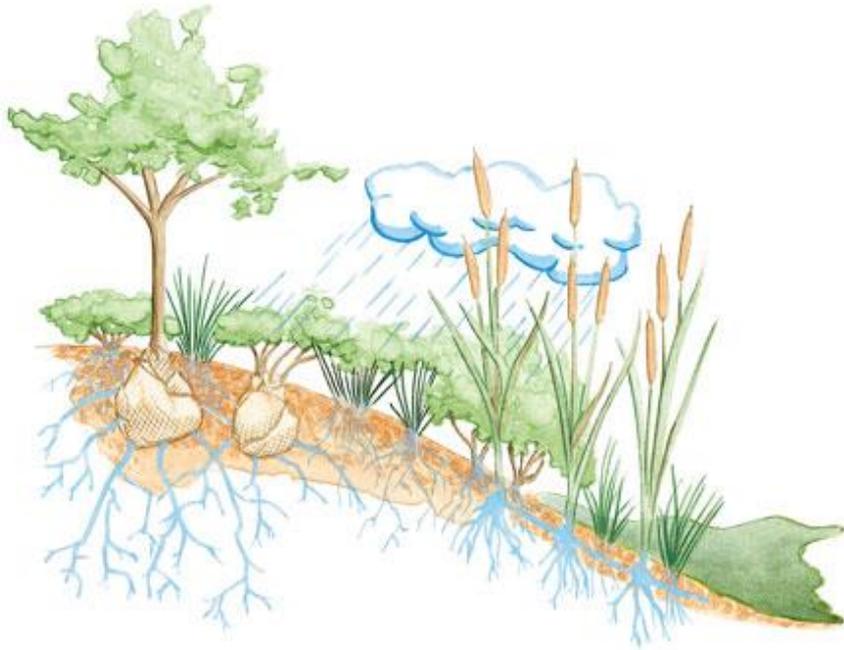
# WHAT'S WRONG WITH THIS PICTURE?



# ARTIFICIAL MATERIALS?



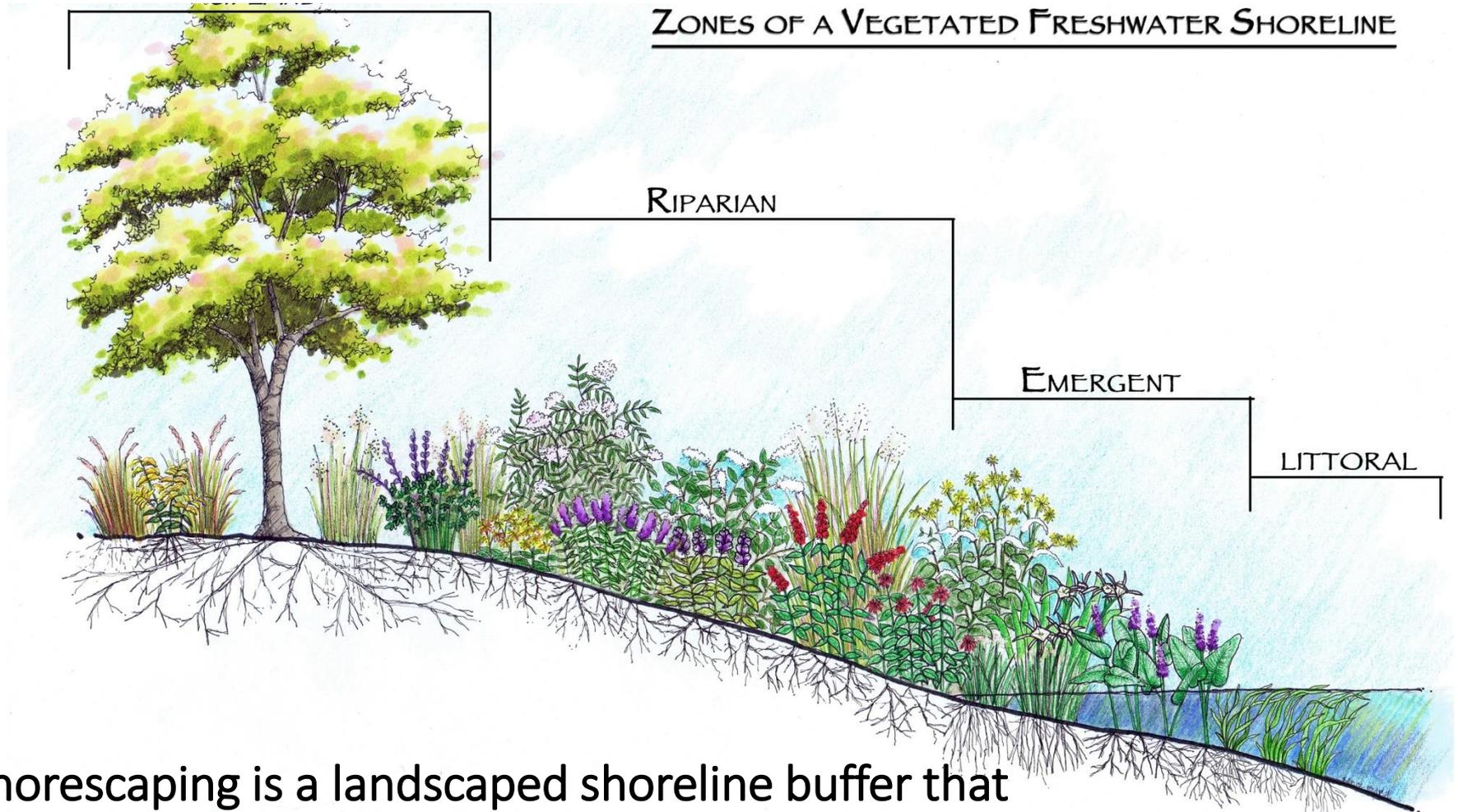
# NATURAL MATERIALS?



- Well-adapted roots are deep and tolerate “wet feet”



# SHORESCAPING: LANDSCAPING ALONG YOUR SHORELINE

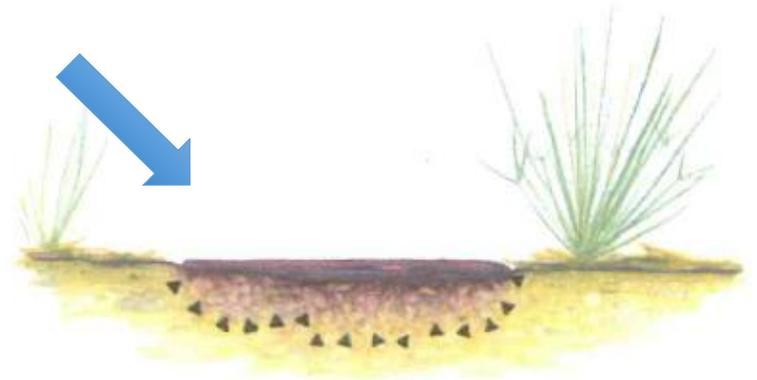
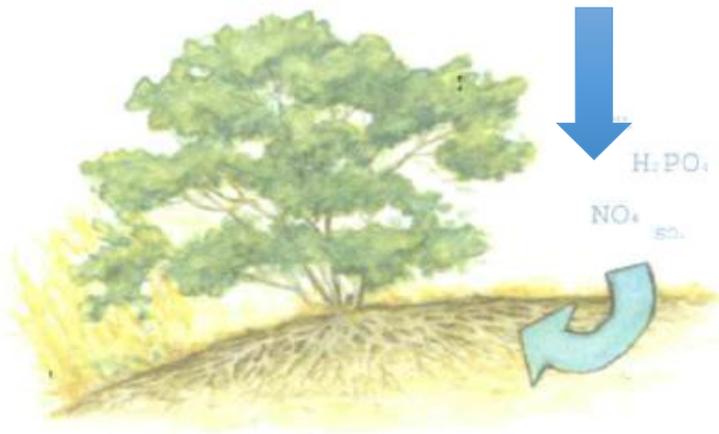


Shorescaping is a landscaped shoreline buffer that uses plants adapted to conditions.

# OTHER BENEFITS?

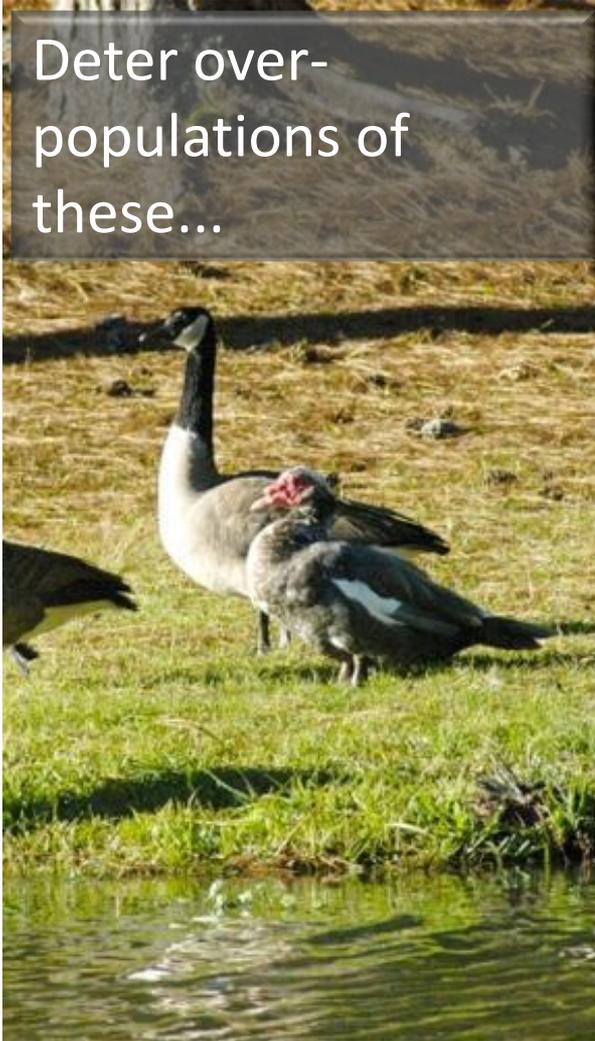
## Buffers act like natural filters for runoff.

- Buffers are like sponges; slowing runoff and allowing it to soak back into the ground.
- Biogeochemical (soil, sun, microbes, plants) processes remove pollutants.



# BUFFERS SUPPORT HEALTHY WILDLIFE POPULATIONS.

Deter over-  
populations of  
these...



...and provide habitat, food, and shelter  
for beneficial insects, plants and animals.



# DISPELLING THE MYTHS!



*“I won’t be able to see the pond!”*

Not true! You can incorporate low plants or use statement plants to frame your “viewshed”.

# DISPELLING THE MYTHS!



*“The shoreline plants will just look weedy.”*

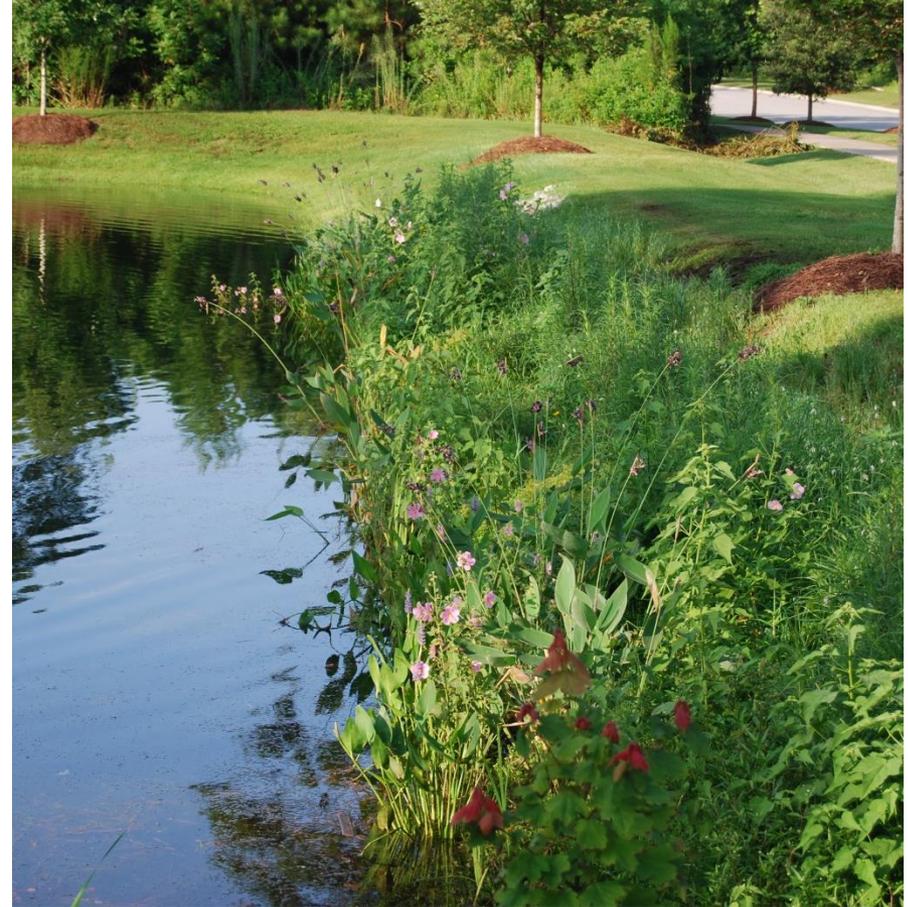
Not true! There are many beautiful and often native shoreline plants that are colorful, showy and add variety to the shoreline and yard.

# WHAT DOES A SHORESCAPE LOOK LIKE?

Before



After

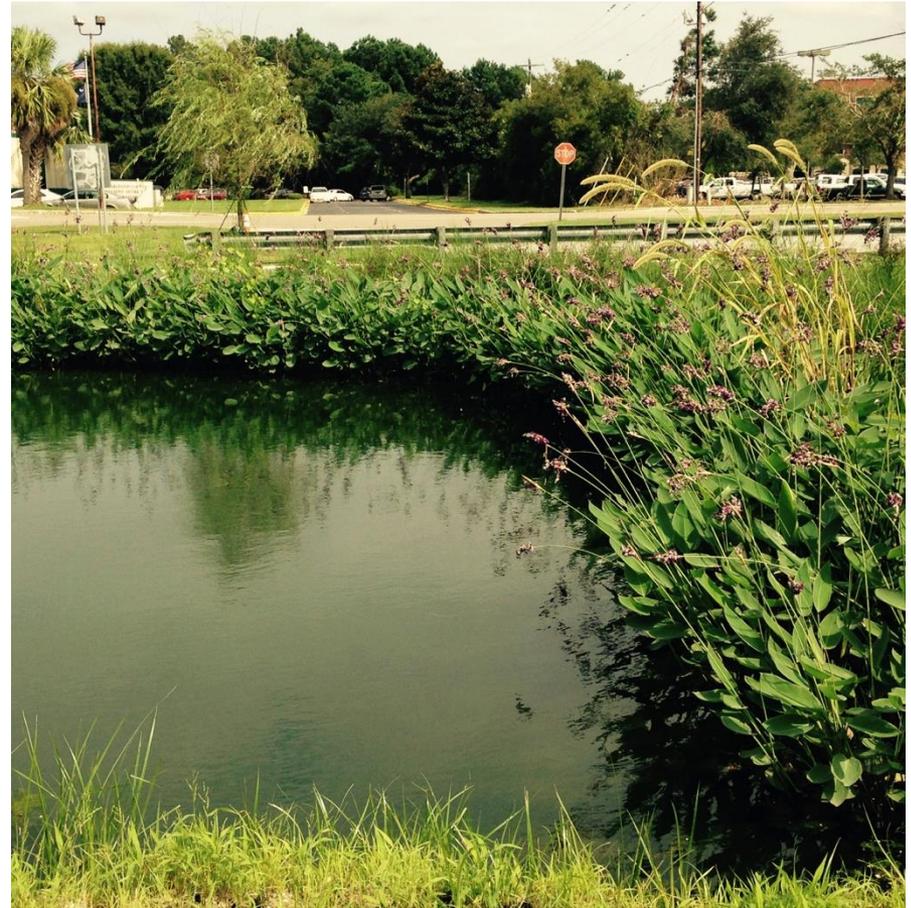




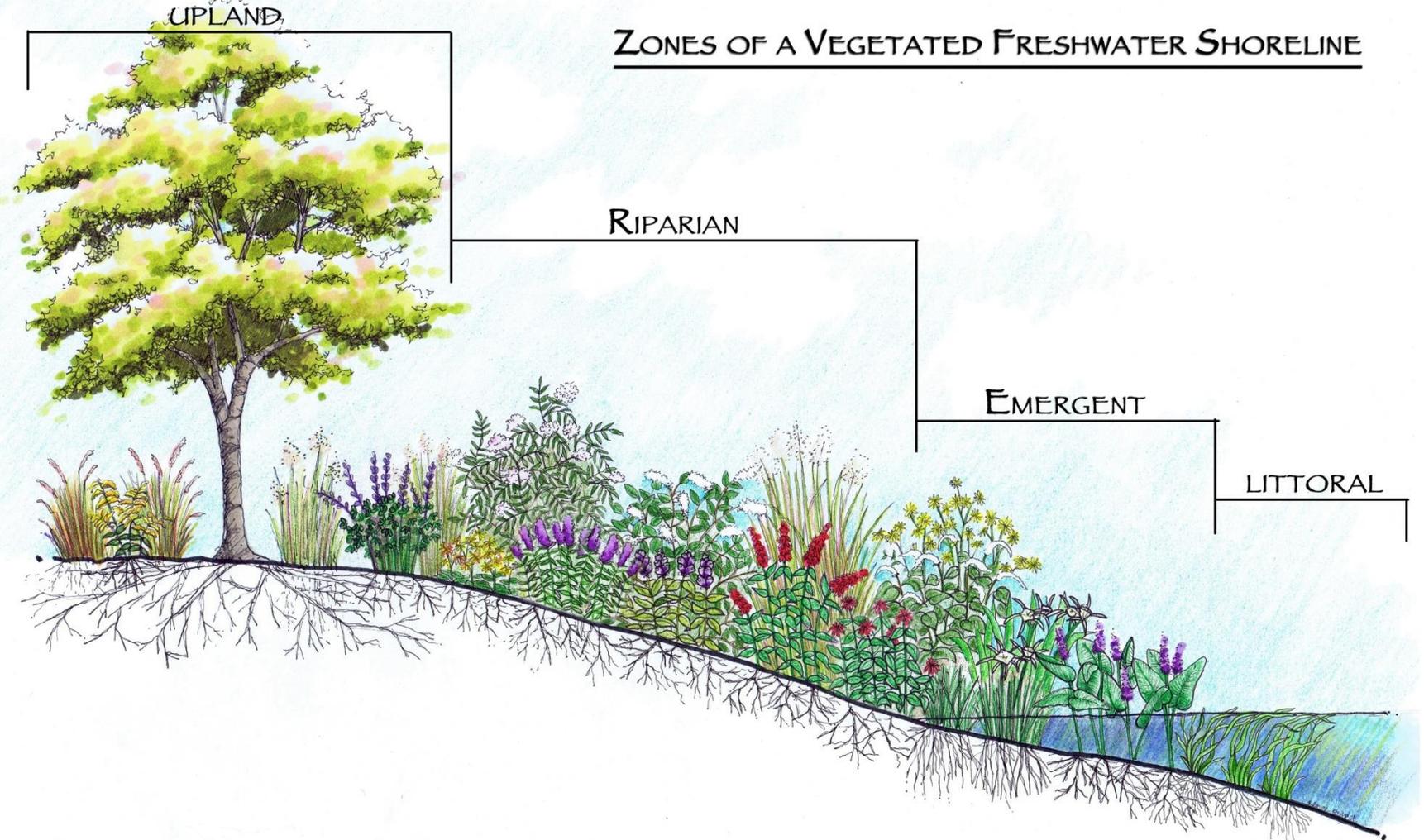
## Before



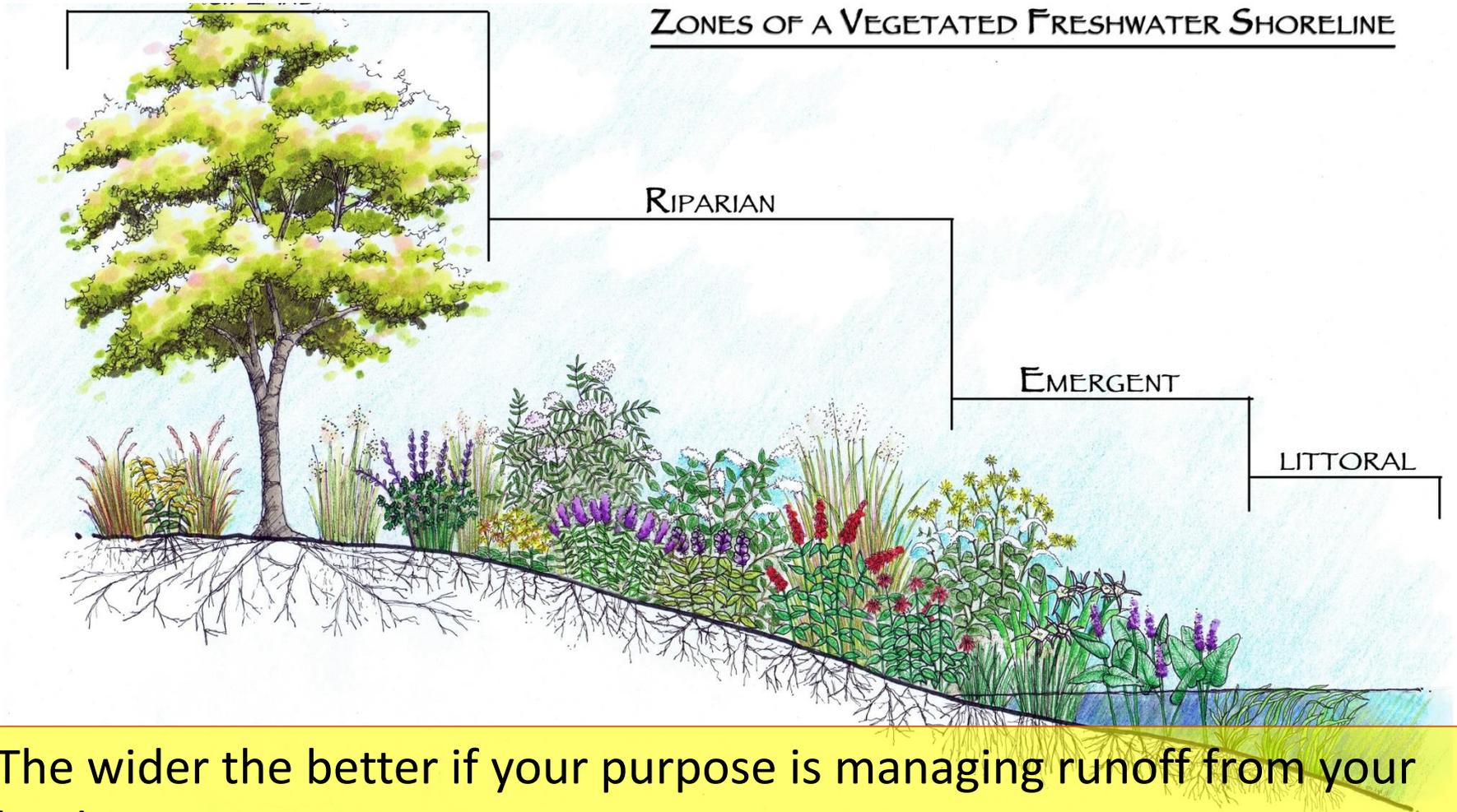
## After



## ZONES OF A VEGETATED FRESHWATER SHORELINE



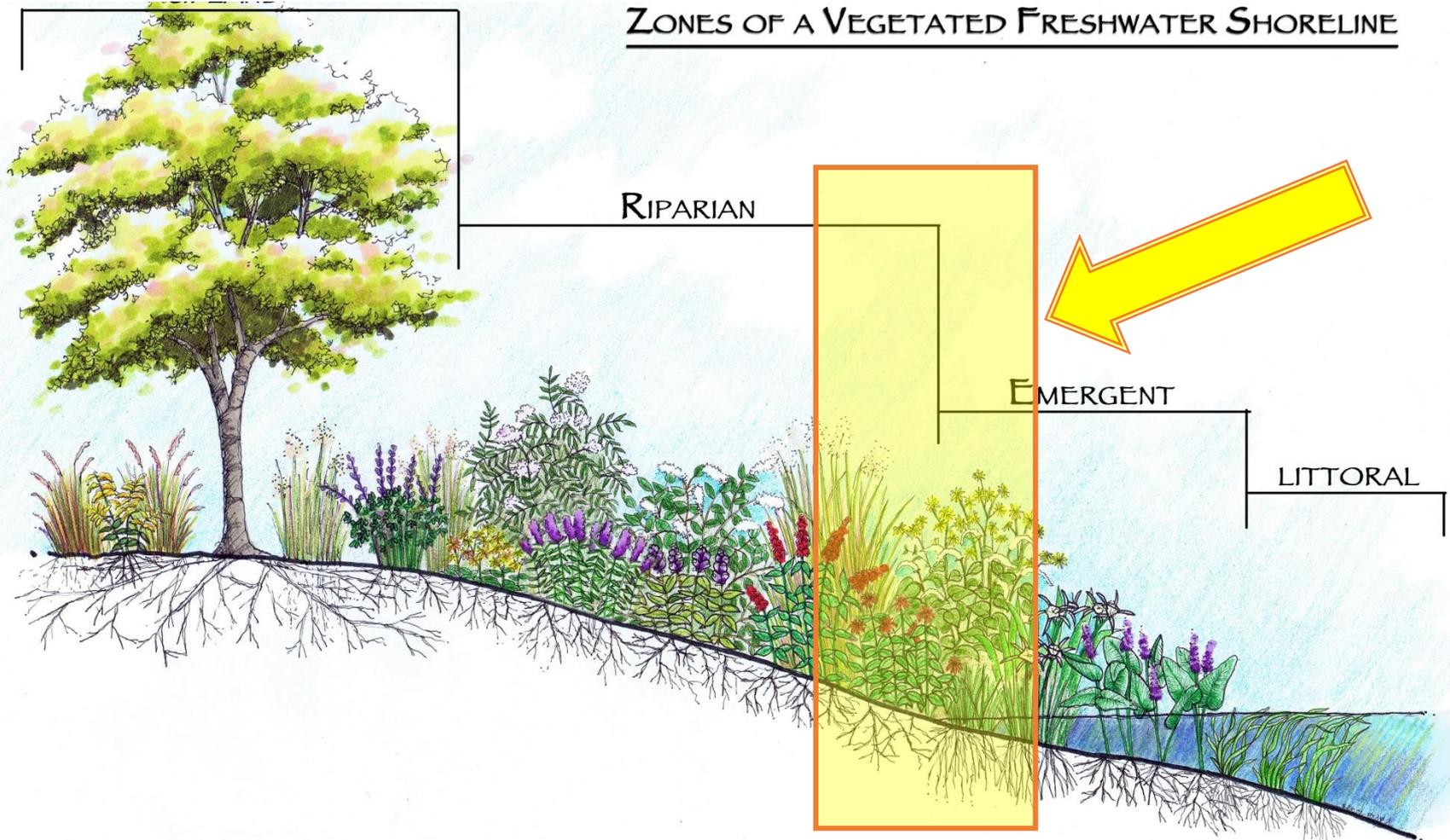
# WHAT IS THE BEST WIDTH?



The wider the better if your purpose is managing runoff from your landscape.

# WHERE DO I SHORESCAPE TO ADDRESS EROSION AND UNDERCUTTING?

## ZONES OF A VEGETATED FRESHWATER SHORELINE



# WHERE IS SHORESCAPING NOT APPROPRIATE?



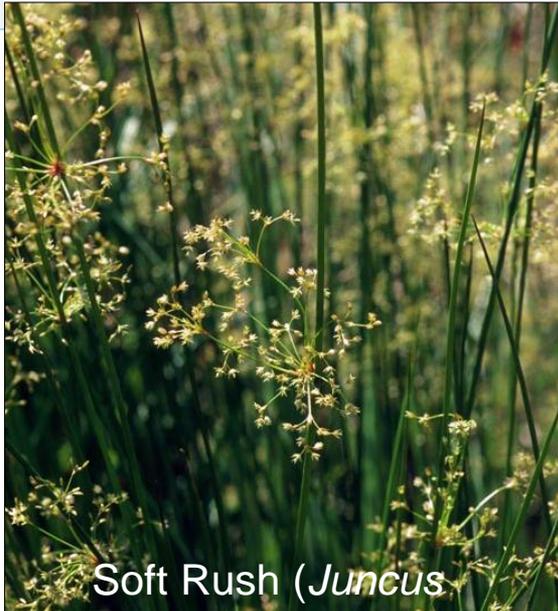
- Do not plant trees or woody plants on stormwater pond dams
- Avoid access points
- Avoid infrastructure (the ins/outs of your pond)

# WHAT TO PLANT WHERE?

- **IMPORTANT!** Know your normal pool elevation.
- Plant tolerance to inundation – look it up!
  - LID in Coastal SC: A Planning and Design Guide, Table 4.12-2
- For planting tips, contact local Extension office.



# PLANTS FOR THE WATER'S EDGE

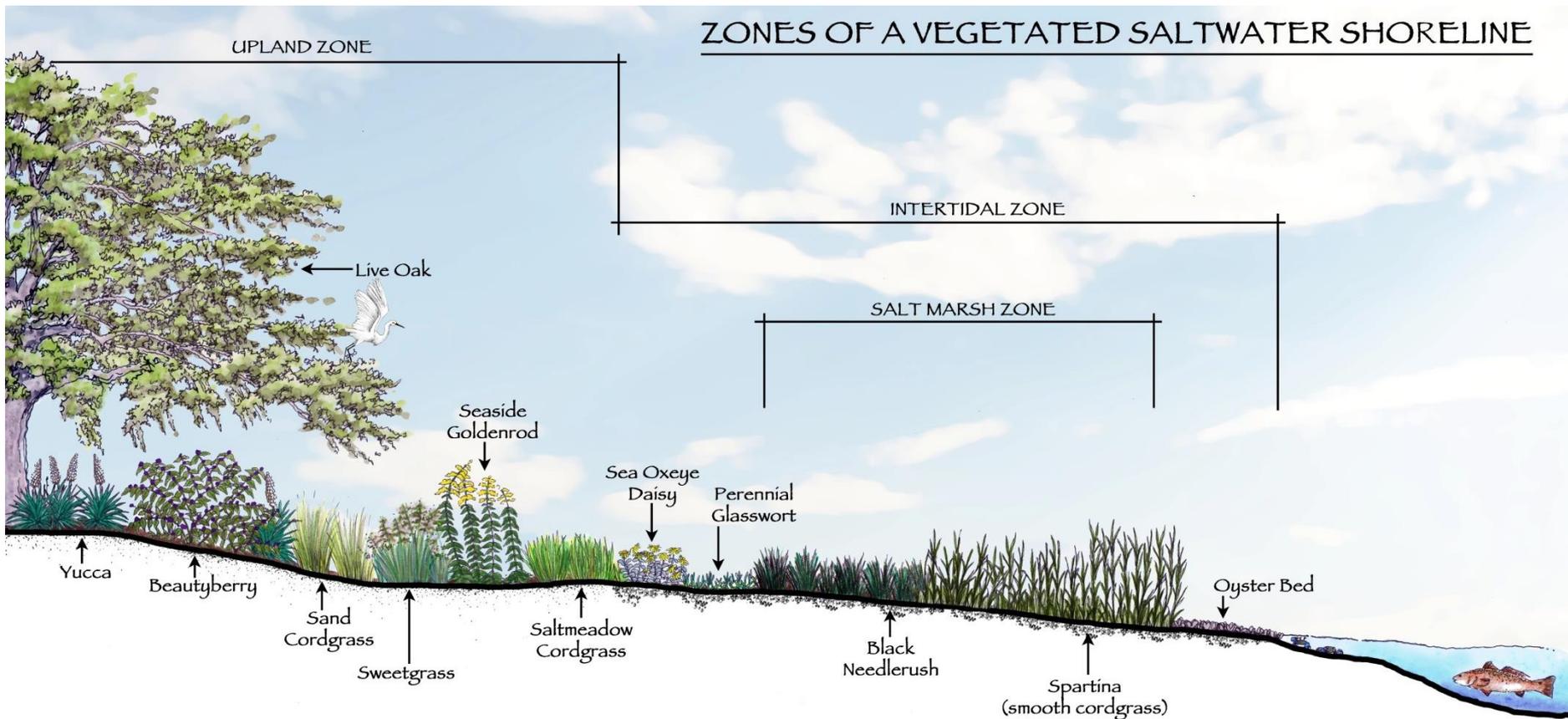




# PLANTS FOR THE UPLAND ZONE



# SALT WATER INFLUENCE?



- Use the upland saltwater shoreline as a guide for upland zone planting suggestions around your brackish pond.
- If tidally influenced, plant above the high tide line.

# PLANTS FOR BRACKISH UPLAND



# JUST SAY “NO!” TO INVASIVES

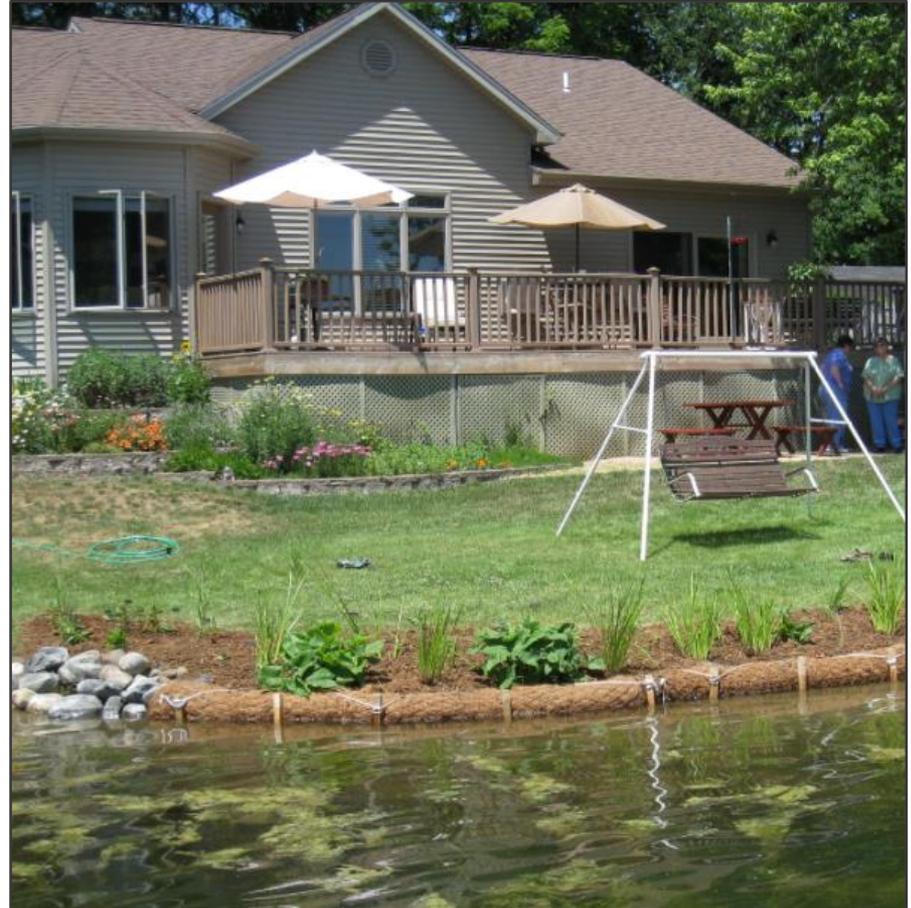


# EXTRA "OOMPH" NEEDED?



# PROVIDE TEMPORARY STABILIZATION

Use erosion control blankets or coir logs to provide quick erosion control until plants establish.



# MAINTENANCE!

Shorescaping is not *maintenance free*; it is low-maintenance.

- Hand pull weeds, avoid herbicides
- Don't use fertilizers along water's edge
- Let rainfall be source of water to buffer\*\*\*
- Maintain plantings for access and flow
- Cut back dying vegetation





# CAN'T COMMIT?

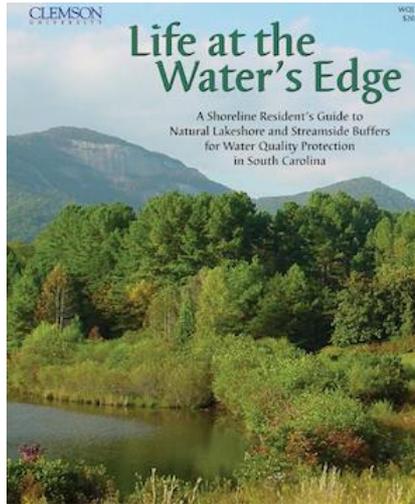
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Establish a low-maintenance meadow.

- Supports natural recruitment of plants
- Protects water quality

How To:

- Limit mowings and grass clippings,
- Limit excess fertilizer applications, and
- Limit herbicide use around pond.



## SC WaterWays Factsheet Series

Review the SC WaterWays Factsheet Series:  
*Shorescaping Freshwater Shorelines* and *Life Along the Salt Marsh*

## Life at the Water's Edge, 2004. By: Lin Roth.

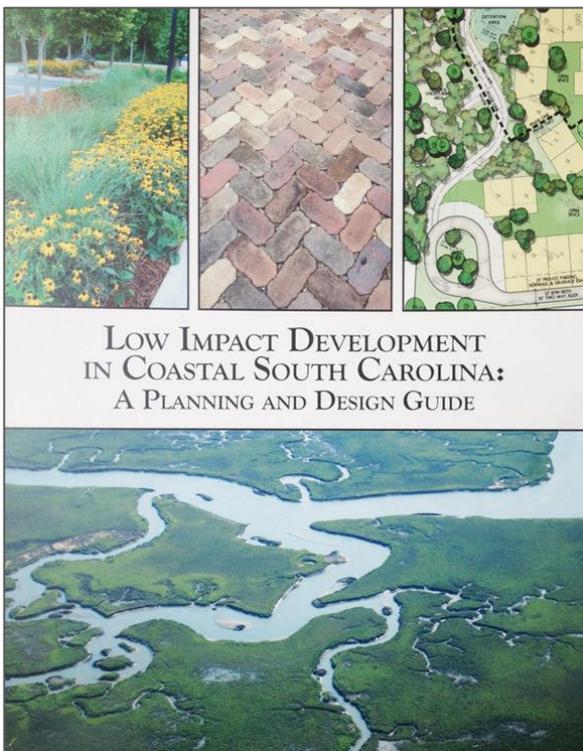
Available on Clemson Extension's PSA Mall.

## [Virtual Tour!](#)

Watch the "Making It Grow" television show's highlight of a local neighborhood installation.

# ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

- LID in Coastal SC: A Planning and Design Guide
- Carolina Yard's Plant Database
- *Backyard Buffers for the SC Lowcountry*



## Carolina Yards Plant Database

Welcome to the Carolina Yards Plant Database which contains nearly 300 plants that are suited to growing in South Carolina. Plants were selected with the principles of environmental landscape design in mind. Remember, good landscape design hinges on choosing the right plant for the right place.



Use the search options below to make an informed decision when selecting plants. All search fields are optional; you may choose one or more search criteria. If you receive insufficient results, try searching on fewer fields. Click [here](#) to determine which planting region your county is in, and watch for more search tips coming soon!

[Home](#) [Name Search](#) [Browse by Region](#) [Browse by Type](#) [Browse by Photo](#)

### Search the Plant Database

REGION  Select Which part of South Carolina are you in?

SC NATIVE  Select Are you looking for a plant native to South Carolina?

PLANT TYPE  Select What kind of plant are you looking for?

SUNLIGHT  Select How much sunlight shines in your yard?

SOIL TYPE  Select What kind of soil do you have in your yard?

SOIL pH  Select What is the pH of your soil?

SOIL MOISTURE  Select How wet is the soil in your yard?

SALT TOLERANCE  Select Do you require a salt-tolerant plant?

WILDLIFE  Select What animals would you like to attract or deter?

STORMWATER  Select Will this plant be used in a stormwater management practice?

Search

THANK YOU!

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