Lake Owen Association 350 ft^2 Native Plantings

The 350 ft^2 native planting program provides Lake Owen property owners support to establish small zones of native plants on their waterfront. Native plants stabilize shorelines, provide a home for birds and butterflies, and add natural beauty to your waterfront property!

Up to 75% of the cost of the planting (not to exceed $1,000) is provided after the planting is completed. ***A contract agreeing to keep plants in place for at least 10 years is required for reimbursement. This contract must be signed before expenses are incurred.*** For landscaper-installed projects, a budget threshold of $1,334 is available for 75% reimbursement. For do-it-yourself project, a log of volunteer time is required. Volunteer time is credited toward the 25% project match at $12/hour. Funding for these projects is provided by a Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources Lake Protection Grant to the Lake Owen Association.

Complete Your Native Planting in 5 Easy Steps.

1. Schedule a site visit and complete contract.
   You may email harmonyenv@amerytel.net to request a visit.
2. Consider your site conditions, and choose plants accordingly.
3. Prepare your site (or hire a landscaper).
4. Purchase and install plants – keep receipts to verify purchase (or hire a landscaper).
   Plant an area at least 350 square feet. Plants must begin next to the water, and be at least 10 feet wide at the water's edge.
5. Email to schedule a time to verify plant installation (harmonyenv@amerytel.net).

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2. Consider your site conditions, and choose plants accordingly.

Plant lists are available from Bayfield County and are posted on our website https://lakeowenassn.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/06/Shoreland-Restoration-Guide.pdf.

- Wet Meadows: Sunny with moist or wet soil
  Bright sun encourages blooming flowers that will attract pollinators
  Wet conditions fuel tall growth – expect your planting to be at least 3 feet tall!

- Woodlands: Shady with dry to medium soil
  Woodland plants thrive where it is hard to grow grass
  Expect subtle flowers and lots of green

Example designs are provided. No two shorelines are alike. You might need to combine these examples, choosing from wet meadow plants near the shoreline and woodland plants further back.

You can also choose a design from the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources web site: http://healthylakeswi.com/best-practices/

3. Prepare your site.

Because lawn grasses compete with native plants, if you have a thick lawn, removing lawn grass is critical to native planting success. If you already have some native plants growing, preserve what is there. Consider removing weeds (if present) and planting among existing plants. Designs assume you are removing lawn grasses or have bare soil and are starting from scratch. Because erosion occurs in areas along the shoreline when vegetation is removed, leave 1-2 feet of existing vegetation next to the water or stabilize with erosion control fabric and other measures.

a. **Remove existing lawn grass *(only if thick, healthy grass)***
If you use an herbicide: Wait at least 7 to 10 days after treatment to be certain that vegetation is dead before planting native plants. The treated turf should be brown in color; if it is still green or yellow-green, a repeated application is recommended.
   - A glyphosate herbicide like Roundup© is recommended. This herbicide will only affect plants directly sprayed, and will break down into harmless substances rapidly.
   - Timing of herbicide application is crucial; do not apply when rain is forecast within the next 24 hours or on a windy day. Read the label for additional instructions.
   - When applying herbicide, shield and spray around existing native plants and trees. **Avoid drift of herbicide into the lake**.
   - **Leave the dead grass in place**. It will act as mulch for the new plantings by holding moisture, anchoring soil, reducing weed growth, and contributing organic matter to the soil.

   If you remove sod with a sod cutter: Mulch immediately to prevent erosion of bare soil.

   If you smother grass with black plastic: Plan to wait awhile. This method generally works only in full sun where it will really heat up. The plastic needs to remain in place for several weeks to a full growing season to be sure that the grass and weeds are dead.

b. **Set up a watering system**. Watering will be essential to ensure the survival and success of your native planting. The watering system should be in place before you begin any seeding or planting.

4. Purchase and install plants.

Hire a landscsaper to install plants and keep the invoice for payment. OR

For do-it-yourself projects, keep receipts to verify the value of purchase and types of native plants. Also keep a log of your time preparing the site and installing plants.

No reimbursement is available without invoices and receipts. Plant an area at least 350 square feet. Plants must begin next to the water, and be at least 10 feet wide at the water's edge.

Late spring (mid-May to mid-June) and late summer (mid-August to mid-September) are the best times to plant.

a. Lay mulch down prior to planting. Mulch will conserve moisture and reduce weed growth within the planting area. Wood chips (2 inches deep), straw, pine needles, or fallen leaves (each 3-4 inches deep) may be used as mulch. **Stabilize areas right next to the water with erosion control fabric if vegetation is removed. Areas of bare soil will be susceptible to wave erosion.**

b. **Be ready to water.** Watering plants is critical to their success. Be ready with hoses and sprinklers before you begin to plant.

c. **Dig holes for plants.** This will speed up planting. A bulb planter or bulb auger drill bit attached to an electric drill work well. Plant placement is indicated on design sheets. Space seedling from small (2 – 2.5") pots 12-14 inches apart and 4-6" pots 18-24 inches apart.

d. **Amend the soil in the planting hole.** A small amount of organic, phosphorus-free or low-phosphorus soil amendment is recommended. Plant Tone© and Milorganite© are two examples. The second number on the label indicates the percentage of phosphorus. For a 6-0-6 NPK ratio, place a teaspoon in each plant hole. Avoid over-applying, as excess nutrients will encourage weed growth. For very sandy and rocky soils, addition of low nutrient compost such as leaf mulch or mushroom compost can enhance moisture retention and plant growth.

e. **Place live plants in the ground soon after you purchase them.** If you must keep them a few days before planting, keep them in an area with partial sun, such as on the east side of a building or under a deciduous tree. Do not leave them in a dark area for long periods; this will weaken plants. Water once or twice a day to keep packs moist.

f. **Plant in the cool hours of the day.** Plants will have a greater survival rate if planted on a cool day or during the morning or evening hours. To plant, separate the mulch, dig a hole, sprinkle soil amendment, place the plant in the hole, press the soil gently around the plant, and replace the mulch, being careful to keep mulch ½ inch from the stem of plants.

g. **Water immediately after planting.** Plan to water daily for the first few weeks or until the plants are well established. If plants wilt or droop, a repeated watering during the day may be necessary. Once plants are established, water only if prolonged dry periods occur.

h. **Consider installing a temporary fence** to prevent damage from deer, rabbits, or other critters (including dogs!). Keep in mind that zoning regulations do not allow permanent fences parallel to the water.

If you have questions as you complete your project, you are welcome to call or email our Lake Owen Lake Manager, Cheryl Clemens, at 715-268-9992 or harmonyenv@amerytel.net.

5. Email to schedule a time to verify plant installation.

harmonyenv@amerytel.net

Please have receipts and time logs ready to turn in (and make copies for yourself if you wish to keep them).

Then sit back and enjoy your planting. Be sure to share your project with your friends and neighbors!

Caring for your plants

Regular watering the first year of planting is the most important step to ensure plant survival (unless, of course, you are planting in a wet spot).

Weeding is another critical step. Take the time to become familiar with common weeds and remove them early and often. A list of regulated invasive plants is available at https://www.bayfieldcounty.org/DocumentCenter/View/3569/Invasive-plants?bidId=
Also remove common garden weeds such as dandelions. In the end, your native plants will spread and win the war against the weeds. They will need your help as they grow.

Leave seed heads and tall grass in place for winter interest. Dead vegetative material may be trimmed back in early spring if desired.

Native Plant Retailers

There are a number of nurseries in the area that carry native plant species. The prices and availability of particular species may vary.

Dragonfly Gardens
491 State Highway 46
Amery, Wisconsin
715-268-7660
www.dragonflygardens.net

Hanson's Garden Village
2660 Co. Hwy G
Rhinelander, WI
715-365-2929
www.hansonsgardenvillage.com

M&M Greenhouse
52710 Robinson Lane
Barnes, WI 54873
715-795-2100

Prairie Restoration
3943 Munger Shaw Road
Cloquet, MN 55720
218-729-9044
borealgreenhouse@prairieresto.com

Additional designs are available at healthylakeswi.com under "best practices"

Plant photos on following pages from: http://wisflora.herbarium.wisc.edu/ UW Madison Wisconsin State Herbarium

Wet Meadows: Sunny with Moist or Wet Soil

Bright sun encourages blooming flowers with lots of color

Wet conditions fuel tall growth – expect your planting to be at least 3 feet tall!

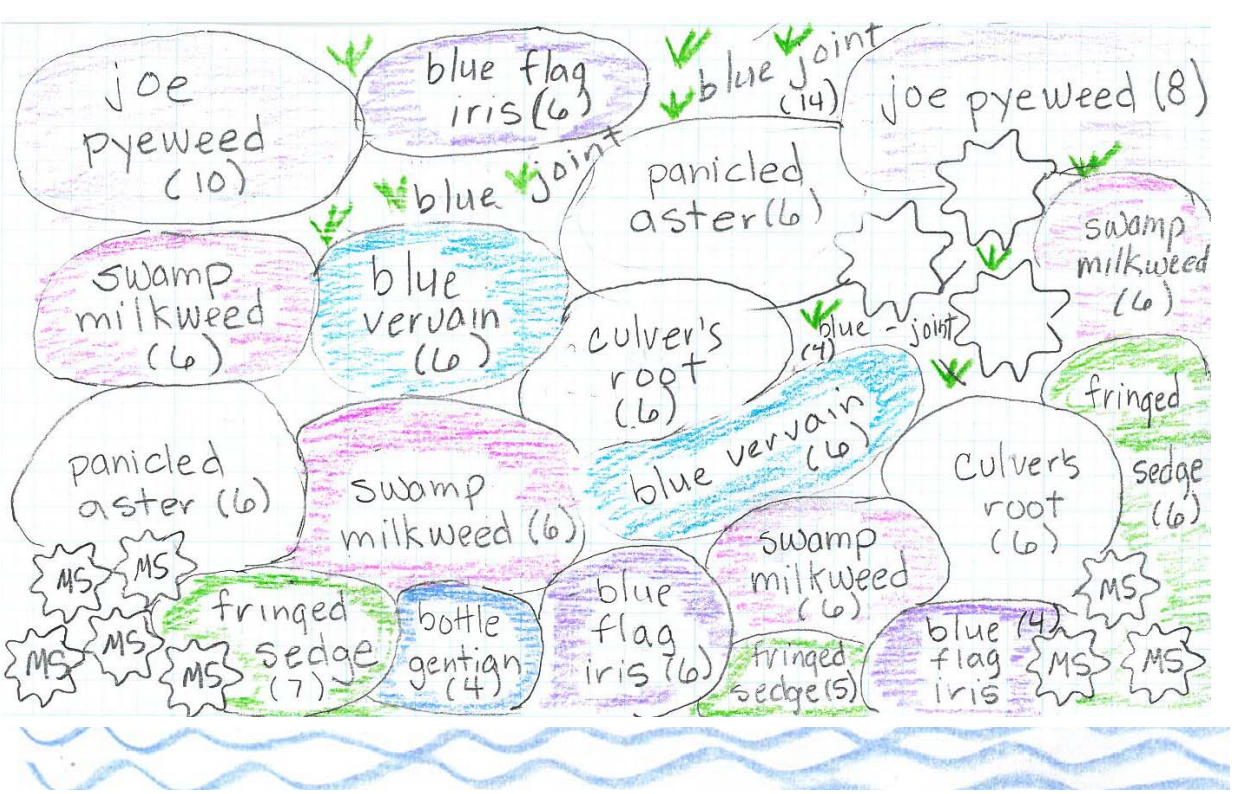
The entire area of this planting must be moist or wet.

Shopping List (for a 350 ft^2 planting) – *for subs use Wet Meadow List*

Quantity	*Unit*	*SHRUBS – space 2-3 feet apart*				
Number	Size	Common Name	*Latin name*	Height	Bloom Color	Bloom Time
3	6" pot	Black chokeberry – BC	*Aronia melanocarpa*	3-6'	White	May
8	6" pot	Meadowsweet - MS	*Spiraea alba*	3-6'	White	June to Aug
		GRASSES- space 14-18 inches apart				
18	2" pot	Blue-joint grass	*Calamagrostis Canadensis*	3-4'	NA	NA
18	2" pot	Fringed sedge	*Carex crinita*	2-4'	NA	NA
		FLOWERS- space 14-18 inches apart, if 6" pots are substituted, divide plant numbers by 2 and plant 18-24 inches apart				
16	4-6" pot	Blue flag iris	*Iris virginica*	18-30"	Blue	June to July
12	2" pot	Blue vervain	*Verbena hastata*	2-6'	Blue	June to Sept
4	4-6" pot	Bottle gentian	*Gentiana andrewsii*	1-2.5'	Blue	Aug to Oct
12	2" pot	Culver's root	*Veronicastrum virginicum*	3-6'	White	June to Sept
18	2" pot	Joe pyeweed	*Eupatorium maculatum*	2-4'	Purple	July to Sept
12	2" pot	Panicled aster	*Aster lanceolatus*	1-4'	White	Aug to Oct
20	2" pot	Swamp milkweed	*Asclepias incarnata*	3-4'	Pink	June to Aug
		SUPPLIES				
60	ft^3	Wood mulch (or use straw, composted leaves, or pine needles)				
5	lb.	Soil amendment (Milorganite, Plant Tone, or similar low phosphorus, organically based amendment)				
1	pint	Glyphosate herbicide (such as Round Up ©) to cover 350 ft^2 (MAY NOT BE NEEDED)				

35 feet →

10 feet ↓



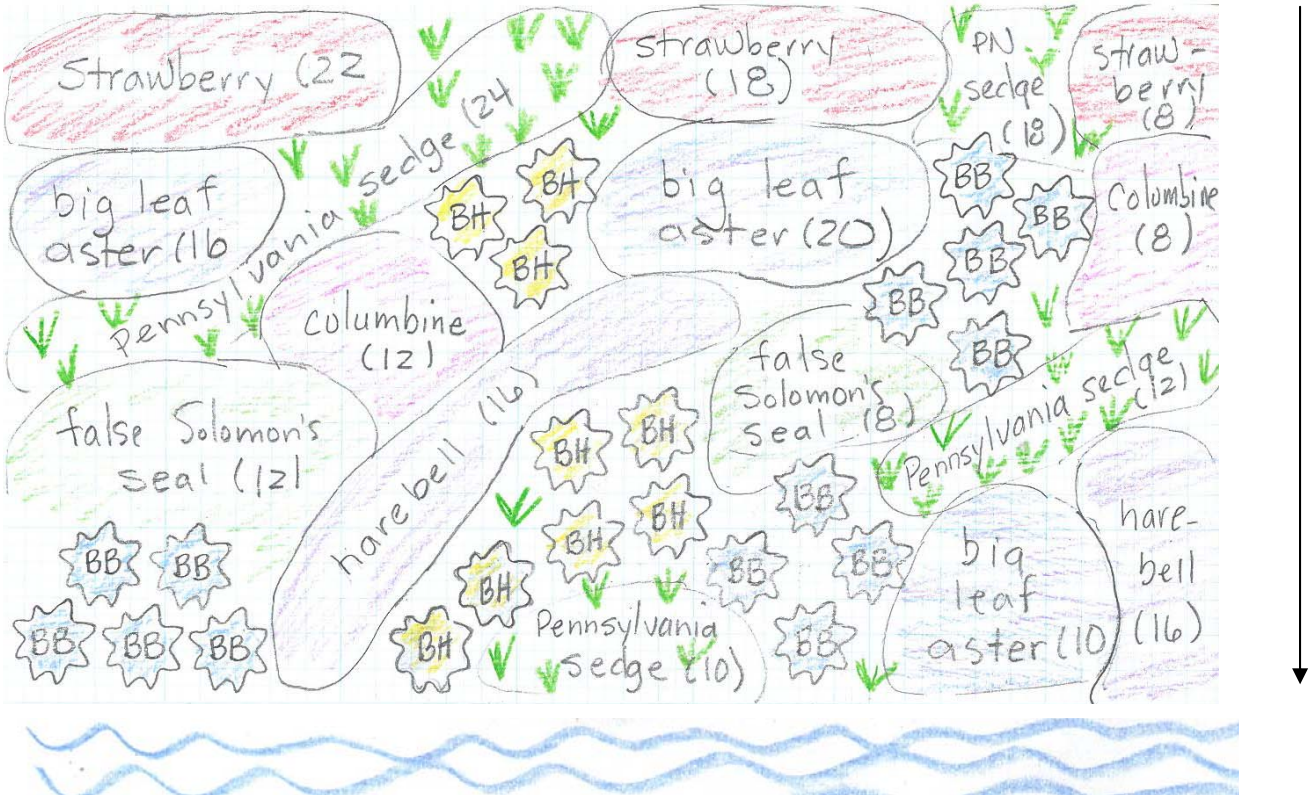
Woodlands: Shady with Medium Soil

Woodland plants thrive where it is hard to grow grass
Expect subtle flowers and lots of greenery
Where there is more sun, you could add additional flowers – see Woodland list

Shopping List (for a 350 ft^2 planting) – *for subs use Bayfield County Woodland List*

		PLANTS SELECTED - space 6 inch pots 18-24 inches apart (as indicated) and 2" pots 12-14 inches apart				
Number	Size	Common Name	*Latin name*	Height	Bloom Color	Bloom Time
14	4-6" pot	Low bush blueberry (BB)	*Vaccinium angustifolium*	1-3'	White	May to June
9	4-6" pot	Bush honeysuckle (BH)	*Diervilla lonicera*	2-3'	Yellow	June to Sept
20	4-6" pot	False solomon's seal	*Smilacina racemosa*	18-24"	White	May to June
48	2" pot	Big-leaf aster	*Aster macrophyllus*	6-12"	Lavender	Aug to Oct
20	2" pot	Columbine	*Aquilegia canadensis*	8-24"	Pink	May to June
32	2" pot	Harebell	*Campanula rotundifolia*	18-24"	Lavender	June to Sept
64	2" pot	Pennsylvania sedge	*Carex pensylvanica*	6-18"	NA	NA
48	2" pot	Woodland strawberry	*Fragaria vesca*	6-10"	White	May to June
		SUPPLIES				
60	ft^3	Wood mulch (or use straw, composted leaves, or pine needles)				
5	lb.	Soil amendment (Milorganite, Plant Tone, or similar low phosphorus, organically based amendment)				
1	pint	Glyphosate herbicide (such as Round Up ©) to cover 350 ft^2 (MAY NOT BE NEEDED)				

35 feet

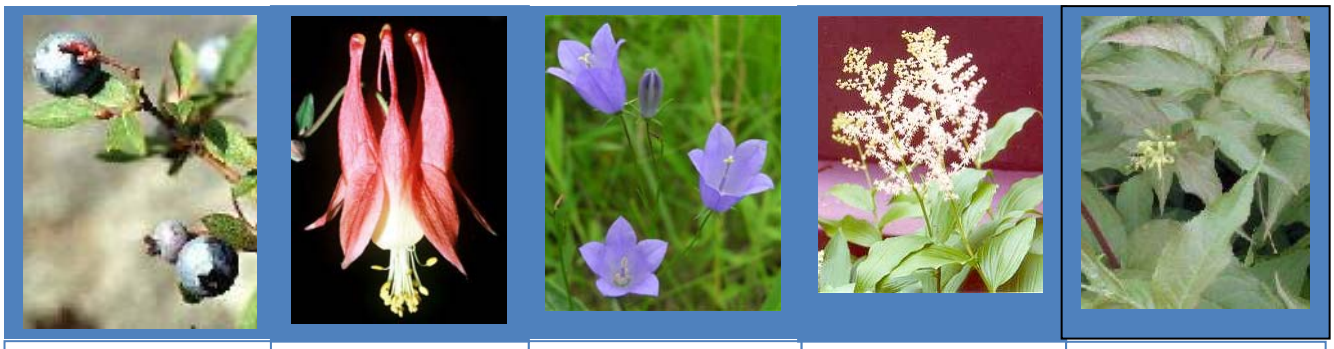


10 feet

FEATURED WET MEADOW PLANTS

Blue Flag Iris	*Blue Vervain*	*Culver's Root*	*Fringed Sedge*	*Swamp Milkweed*

FEATURED WOODLAND PLANTS



Low Bush Blueberry	*Columbine*	*Harebell*	*False Solomon's Seal*	*Bush Honeysuckle*

FLOWERS FOR WHERE THERE IS MORE SUN

Black-eyed Susan	*ButterflyWeed*	*Pearly Everlasting*	*Fireweed*	*Rough Blazing Star*