

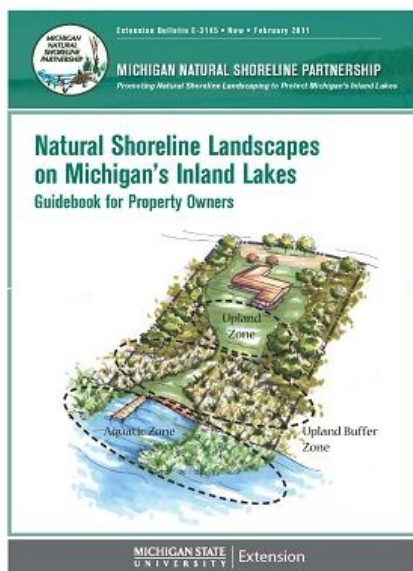
The Fruitland Township P & R Commission traditionally has focused on management of the Township's terrestrial recreation facilities and natural resources. The fact that the majority of our parks are located on Duck Lake has generated less attention. Some citizens may not recognize that the Township's ownership and responsibility include not only the shoreline but also the lakebed extending to the center of the lake, as is true for all riparian owners under Michigan law. This responsibility implies the need for recognition of the assets' importance and a plan for their management and protection.

I would like to suggest that, in order to maximize our citizens' enjoyment of and access to the lake's environmental services, the P & R establish goals related to preservation and responsible management of the Township's riparian lands and lakebed.

These goals might include:

- Sanitation and waste management
- Natural shoreline preservation
- Habitat protection/restoration
- Regulation of development and construction
- Erosion minimization/runoff control
- Informative signage about shoreline management
- Access enhancement
- Invasive species awareness and control/prevention (terrestrial and aquatic)

Suggested reading



(available at shop.msu.edu)

