



Program Description and History

Love Your Lake Program Description

Love Your Lake is a packaged shoreline assessment and educational stewardship program that can be transferred to any shoreline community across the country. This program is developed and administered by Watersheds Canada and the Canadian Wildlife Federation (CWF) to be delivered by existing environmental organizations in regions across Canada.

Locally driven by Regional Partners, lake associations or lake stewardship organizations are invited to nominate their lakes as participants in the program. Lakes participating in the Love Your Lake program will have their shorelines assessed from a boat on a property-by-property basis by trained staff using a standardized Shoreline Assessment Protocol and datasheet.

After each shoreline property on a lake is assessed, Regional Partner program staff enter the data into a secure online database. The following spring the individualized property reports are ready! Each report consists of information on the state of each shoreline and provides suggested voluntary stewardship actions for shoreline improvements and property maintenance that will benefit the health of the lake ecosystem.

Once the Regional Partner has finalized their data entry for their lakes and all of the required files are ready (typically the following spring), each shoreline property owner will receive a letter with a unique survey code applicable to only their property.

Each shoreline property owner can order their individualized property report online by entering their unique survey code found on their letter at MyReport.LoveYourLake.ca. Shoreline property owners will have the opportunity to order their report as either a free electronic PDF or as a hardcopy that will be mailed to them for \$20.00 including taxes and shipping.

Additional to the individualized property owner reports, the Love Your Lake program provides each lake organization with a valuable lake summary report. This report summarizes the data collected along the entire lakeshore and encourages stewardship action at the community level.

The simple but effective suggested actions discussed in both the individualized property reports and the lake summary report will help protect and enhance shoreline and lake health for both people and wildlife!

Love Your Lake Program History

The Love Your Lake program has been developed by Watersheds Canada and the Canadian Wildlife Federation (CWF).

The Love Your Lake program is a modified and updated version of a scientific protocol developed by MAPLE (Mutual Association for the Protection of Lake Environments) in the 1980s. Watersheds Canada and other organizations in eastern Ontario had been using a modified shoreline assessment protocol for over ten years to assess thirteen lakes in Eastern Ontario. In 2012 they partnered with CWF to officially brand and broaden the program into the Love Your Lake program today.