



LAKESMART START SELF-ASSESSMENT

Welcome! Thank you for taking the first steps in making your property more lake-friendly. This simple questionnaire will help you become more familiar with the kinds of questions we ask in our on-site, formal evaluation, and will help you get a head start for an Award in the future!

Name	
Address	
Phone	

I. Driveway and Parking Areas

1. Is your driveway defined? 'Defined' means driving and parking areas are identified and used consistently while other areas on the property are free from driving and parking.

YES	
NO	
I DON'T KNOW	

2. Is your driveway stable? 'Stable' means there are no ditches in or along the driveway or parking areas where channels have formed from runoff.

YES	
NO	
I DON'T KNOW	

3. Is stormwater runoff directed to a vegetated buffer? A 'buffer' is a healthy band of trees and shrubs (not grass) that helps to slow down, soak up, and filter stormwater that runs over the driveway.

YES	
NO	
I DON'T KNOW	

4. Please submit photos of your driveway and parking areas.

II. Structures and Septic System

1. Is runoff from the roof directed into a dripline trench, vegetated buffer, or collected in a rain barrel?

YES	
NO	
I DON'T KNOW	

Only complete the following if your property is serviced by an on-site septic system.

2. I know where my septic tank and leach field are located.

YES	
NO	
I DON'T KNOW	

3. I know that my septic system is functioning properly.

YES	
NO	
I DON'T KNOW	

4. Please submit photos of your roof and leach field.

III. Yard, Recreation Area, and Footpaths

1. There are signs of erosion in my yard, in recreation areas, and/or paths on my property.

YES	
NO	
I DON'T KNOW	

2. Outside of my lawn, recreation area, and footpaths, I allow natural duff to accumulate. 'Duff' includes pine needles, leaves, and other organic material.

YES	
NO	
I DON'T KNOW	

3. My play and socializing areas and boat storage spaces are well-defined and limited.

YES	
NO	
I DON'T KNOW	

4. Please submit photos of your yard, lawn, recreation area and paths.

IV. Buffer and Water Access

1. I have a well-distributed stand of mixed vegetation along my shoreline. 'Well distributed' means that there are many different native plant types, ages, and sizes.

YES	
NO	
I DON'T KNOW	

2. My shoreline is stable. When I look back from the end of the dock or from the water my bank isn't slumping and trees are not leaning.

YES	
NO	
I DON'T KNOW	

3. The path that leads to my dock or beach areas are stable, meaning they do not allow for soil and runoff to enter the lake.

YES	
NO	
I DON'T KNOW	

4. Please submit photos that best represent the shoreline on your property, including the vegetative buffer, any beaches or docks, and a view of your shore from the water or dock.

After you submit your assessment and photos to your local LakeSmart coordinator, and they will get back to you soon about how to move forward. THANK YOU for working to protect our lakes!