

## 10 Ways to Keep Lakes Healthy

1. Inspect and pump your septic system regularly
2. Keep native deep-rooted trees, shrubs, and groundcover on your property and maintain a natural-vegetation shoreline buffer
3. Reduce amount of water run-off from your property (more vegetation, less impervious surface)
4. Repair and stabilize areas where erosion of the soil occurs
5. Avoid fertilizer, herbicide and pesticide use on shorefront property (if you must fertilize, go phosphorus-free)
6. Don't rake leaves or grass into the lake
7. Avoid dumping sand into the water or creating a beach (sand adds nutrients and contaminants, and requires DES permitting)
8. Clean up after your pet or livestock
9. Never feed waterfowl (a single goose can create up to four pounds of waste per day!)
10. Don't bathe, do laundry or use cleaning products in (or close to) the lake

***Check out [nhlakes.org](http://nhlakes.org) for personalized guidance on how to become LakeSmart!***