Grants Available to Homeowners for Shoreline Restoration

Grants and technical help are being offered by the Sunrise River Watershed Management Organization (SRWMO) to homeowners for projects that benefit water quality. Grants are targeted toward stabilizing eroding shorelines and filtering runoff before it reaches the lake. Other projects that benefit water quality are also considered. The eligible area includes Coon, Linwood, Martin and Typo Lakes, as well as smaller waterbodies in the vicinity.

Most projects include “soft engineering” to stabilize erosive losses and planting of native grasses and wildflowers that filter runoff and provide habitat. Portions of the shoreline are typically left unplanted for a dock, beach and other water access. Each design is unique but all projects provide beauty and a lasting benefit to the lake’s water quality and fish.

No-cost consultations are offered, as well as assistance with a design and cost estimate. The grants pay 50-70% of materials costs. Homeowners are responsible for labor costs.

Interested landowners should contact Jamie Schurbon at the Anoka Conservation District at 763-434-2030 ext. 12 or jamie.schurbon@anokaswcd.org.
Additional information about lakeshore landscaping, including hints for do-it-yourselfers and recommended plant lists, is at www.SRWMO.org.

The SRWMO is a collaboration of Linwood Township and the Cities of East Bethel, Ham Lake and Columbus to manage water resources. It covers all of Linwood and portions of each city in the Sunrise River watershed.

Photo: Restored shoreline at Coon Lake.