



Native Plants for White Lake's Shoreline

As part of the White Lake Shoreline Habitat Restoration Project, native plants will be established at each of the seven restoration sites.

What are native plants?

“Native” or “indigenous” plants are defined as those that evolved in our area and in similar habitats and were growing here before European contacts with North America.

Why native plants are important

Native plants are important because they are adapted to local conditions, such as climate, soils, and other native plants and animals. They also have natural controls, so they won't spread and become invasive. Disease and pest problems are usually minimal in native plants, because they have evolved natural defenses against the diseases that are typical for their area. Native plants provide the right type of food and shelter for local wildlife. Native plants support native insects, which support native birds and native animals. Large tracts of invasive plant species provide little support for native insects, so their numbers decrease, as do birds and animals.

How native plants will help White Lake

Planting native plants in and around White Lake will provide habitat and food for more species of local wildlife, increasing their populations. The more native plants there are, the less chance that invasive species can be established. Native plants are also good for water quality; they need less water, fertilizers, and they filter nutrients and runoff that enters the lake.

Native plant species that will be planted along White Lake's shoreline and in upland areas

Different types of native plant species will be established at the restoration sites, including upland shoreline plants, shoreline plants, emergent shoreline plants, upland shoreline low profile plants, and trees and shrubs.