

Lake Friendly Grants

PEOPLE & WATER
Watershed Connection

A watershed is an area of land, or basin, that drains into a body of water. **We all live in a watershed**, and we rely on watersheds for our water supply. What happens on the land in a watershed is important because it affects the quality and the quantity of our water supply.

What people do on the land—the watershed—*directly affects the health of the streams and lakes* the watershed flows into.

"Do unto those downstream as you would have those upstream do unto you."
WENDELL BERRY

From: <https://watershedcommittee.org/education/water-quality-int-signs/>

What happens on land in Adams Pond and Knickerbocker Lake watersheds makes all the difference to water quality. Watershed property owners play a huge role in keeping lakes healthy and BRWD offers a lake-friendly grant program to help.

Human development around lakes often results in less forest cover, more hard surfaces and more runoff and phosphorus entering lakes. More runoff means declining water quality and can lead to algae blooms. Once this downward cycle is started, it can be hard to stop. By taking simple actions, watershed property owners can help reduce erosion and runoff. Projects, such as planting a native plant buffer, installing rain gutters, infiltration steps, or runoff diverters and mulching or vegetating bare soil, can significantly reduce erosion and the amount of polluted runoff that reaches Adams Pond and Knickerbocker Lake.

To help watershed property owners and water quality, BRWD offers a lake-friendly grant program. Through this program, we offer technical and financial assistance to interested property owners. Every step of the process is voluntary. A free site visit to discuss how your property might be made more lake friendly is a phone call or email away. After the site visit, we will provide a report with recommendations that you may or may not choose to implement. If you decide to follow the recommendations, BRWD will provide up to \$1,000 in matching funds to get the work done. We will also provide up to \$1,000 to replace or upgrade an existing septic system.

For more information, call Sue Mello at 350-3127, email her at suem@bbrwd.org or visit www.bbrwd.org.

Working together we can protect our lakes