



Shoreland Screening Plan Instruction Guide

St. Louis County, Minnesota

ABOUT: The protection and enhancement of natural vegetation in shoreland areas, especially within the shore impact zone, along lakes and streams provides numerous benefits. These benefits include reducing the potential of erosion due to increased runoff, improved fish and wildlife habitat, privacy for shoreland residents and increases to the aesthetic values of shoreland areas.

PLANTING AREA: TREES & SHRUBS REQUIRED

- 2,500 square feet – 10 trees and 10 shrubs
- 2,501-3,750 square feet – 15 trees and 15 shrubs
- 3,751-5,000 square feet – 20 trees and 20 shrubs
- 5,001-7,500 square feet – 25 trees and 25 shrubs

NATIVE SPECIES

All trees and shrubs planted as part of the shoreland screening plan shall be native to the area. For information on species native to Northeast Minnesota go to:

- <http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/trees/index.html>
- <http://www.extension.umn.edu/lawns-and-landscapes/landscape-design>

SPACING

Minimum spacing between trees – 10 feet.
Minimum spacing between shrubs – 6 feet.

MATURE HEIGHT

Mature height of trees should be between 25 feet and 80 feet high.
Mature height of shrubs should be between 8 feet and 16 feet high.

MINIMUM PLANTING HEIGHT

Minimum above ground planting height for trees and shrubs is 3 feet.

PLANTING LAYOUT

Trees and shrubs must be planted across the lot or parcel and in an alternate pattern to depict a natural setting and not in rows. See example sketch.

CONTACT: Planning and Zoning

Technical Assistance

Toll Free: 1-800-450-9777

Land Use Information

www.stlouiscountymn.gov/PZ

Duluth

Government Services Center
320 West 2nd Street, Suite 301
Duluth, MN 55802
(218) 471-7103

Virginia

Government Services Center
201 South 3rd Avenue West
Virginia, MN 55792
(218) 471-7103

Example Site Sketch Form

The Sketch is to graphically illustrate your proposed projects(s)

Draw and Label on Sketch (in feet)

- *Location of shoreline
- *Location of all property lines
- *All Structures and Dimensions
- *Existing vegetation
- *Trees and shrubs to be planted

Tree/shrub type & number			
Tree species	#	Shrub species	#
WS-white spruce	5	S-shrub	11
B-birch	5		

Planting area	
	2,500 square feet
	2,501-3,750 square feet
	3,751-5,000 square feet
	5,001-7,500 square feet

