

# **PROTECTING OUR MOST VALUABLE ASSET LAKE ROYALE**

Email [protectourlake@LakeRoyalepoa.org](mailto:protectourlake@LakeRoyalepoa.org) and visit our web site at  
<http://www.lrpoa.com/Protectourlake/>

## **Property Owners' Checklist for Reducing Contaminants and Silt in Lake Royale:**

- 1. Make places for gutters and run off to collect (i.e. a rain garden). Plant grass or ground cover everywhere possible to prevent erosion. Where there are steep areas or areas that have a large flow of run off, a check dam or swale application may be needed. **Slowing down the speed of running water is critical.****
- 2. When mowing, raking, or cleaning up, keep yard materials out of the lake. **Don't blow grass and leaves into the lake and make sure your landscaping service follows these rules.**** The *Protect Our Lake Committee* is working on establishing a place for homeowners to deposit these materials that promote the growth of algae. Be careful not to destroy grass when burning leaves and do not burn leaves in road ditches or in other grassy areas.
- 3. Limit the use of fertilizers. Use 1/3 the amount called for, water immediately, and repeat each of the next two months. This process will allow the nutrients to be used by the grass and gardens decreasing the run off to the lake. **The proper application of fertilizers is very important.****
- 4. **Septic tanks should be pumped according to proper recommendations.**** Your system may require pumping as often as every 3 years (for more detailed information see the POLC website). This process will also extend the life of your system.
- 5. **Pet owners are responsible for their pets.**** Pets should not be allowed to use the lake as a potty. Duck waste is another animal waste that we need to limit. **Do not feed the ducks;** this encourages an increasing duck population problem.
- 6. For property on the water, **sea walls (rip-rap or wood) are very helpful for preventing erosion.****
- 7. For new home construction and for improvement construction, insist that your contractor follow approved measures to prevent silt from running into the lake, road ditches, and others' properties. **A properly installed silt fence will go a long way in protecting our lake,**** however, they must be checked and adjusted periodically to prevent blowout. Additional silt fences are often needed on all sides including the road front of your property. The sooner grass can be started the better.

Concerned Property Owners of Lake Royale submitted these common sense suggestions.

**Please consider joining our committee.**