

## Introduction to Lake\*A\*Syst

Lake\*A\*Syst or Lakeshore Assessment System, is a voluntary educational program to assist property owners to make well informed decisions in the management of their property throughout the Hauser Lake watershed. Although the information in the Lake\*A\*Syst booklet was written primarily for Hauser Lake shoreline home and business owners, much of the information is applicable to anyone in the Hauser watershed concerned with protecting surface and groundwater quality and their drinking water supply.

The booklet consists of nine sections, each addressing a specific topic. They include: 1) Stormwater Runoff Management, 2) Lawn and Garden Management, 3) Ensuring a Safe Drinking Water Supply, 4) Household Wastewater Treatment, 5) Household Hazardous Waste and Petroleum Products Management, 6) Landscape and New Construction, 7) Access Roads and Driveway Runoff, 8) Forest Lot and Riparian Management, and 9) Pasture and Riparian Management. Also included is a brief section on Eurasian Watermilfoil. Each section is divided into two parts: an information section and a self assessment to be completed by the property owner. Not all sections are appropriate for every landowner, but taken individually they contain a great deal of information to assist the landowner in becoming an informed steward of the land and water.

A Resource Directory is located at the end of the booklet to put landowners in contact with appropriate local, state and federal resources as well as non-profit organizations concerned with water quality. Most of these agencies exist to provide assistance to private landowners and some can provide detailed on-site assistance. A section recommending further reading is provided, as well as a glossary that defines underlined words throughout the text. Please consider the enclosed material as a *reference manual* to be kept by the property owner and to be shared with friends and neighbors.

Thank you for your interest and efforts in protecting our (your) natural and recreational resources in the Hauser Lake watershed.