



Landscape and New Construction

Home-Owner Risk Assessment Sheet

Keeping Hauser Lake Clean

WORKSHEET 6

ASSESSMENT 1 – Landscaping and Site Management to Control Runoff - The assessment table below will help you identify potential environmental risks related to your landscapes ability to reduce excess water runoff into Hauser Lake and how you manage new construction on the property. For each question indicate your risk level in the right-hand column. Your goal is to lower your risks. Some choices may not correspond exactly to your situation. Choose the response that best fits. When finished turn to the **Action Checklist** on page 6-12 and record your medium and high-risk practices. Use the BMP recommendations in Section #6 *Landscape and New Construction* to help you decide how to best reduce pollution.

	LOW RISK	MEDIUM RISK	HIGH RISK	YOUR RISK
Site plan:	A site plan has been developed for preventing erosion and pollutants from being transported off-site.		No site plan has been developed for making clean water a priority.	<input type="checkbox"/> Low <input type="checkbox"/> Medium <input type="checkbox"/> High
Topography, slope of site from potential pollution source toward the lake or a stream:	0-2% slope $\frac{\text{Rise}}{\text{Run}} \times 100 = \% \text{ slope}$	3-4% slope	5% and above	<input type="checkbox"/> Low <input type="checkbox"/> Medium <input type="checkbox"/> High
Retention of existing native vegetation:	Plants and trees that help hold soil in place and prevent erosion are protected and preserved whenever landscaping or doing new construction.	Not all trees and plants are retained during construction projects. Areas that are under construction are re-vegetated when finished.	Preserving vegetation is not taken into consideration when constructing or landscaping.	<input type="checkbox"/> Low <input type="checkbox"/> Medium <input type="checkbox"/> High
Landscaping and buffer strips:	Yard is landscaped to slow the flow of stormwater and provide areas where water soaks into the ground. Buffer strips of thick vegetation are left along streams or lakeshores.	No areas are landscaped to encourage water to soak in, but yard is relatively flat and little runoff occurs. Mowed grass or spotty vegetation exists adjacent to a stream or lake.	There is no landscaping to slow the flow of stormwater, especially on steep slopes, erodible properties. Stream banks or lakeshores are eroding.	<input type="checkbox"/> Low <input type="checkbox"/> Medium <input type="checkbox"/> High

ASSESSMENT 1 CONTINUED – Landscaping and Site Management to Control Runoff

	LOW RISK	MEDIUM RISK	HIGH RISK	YOUR RISK
Roads, driveways, and openings:	All BMPs required to prevent erosion and protect water quality are identified during the design and construction of roads, trails or driveways, which is done in consultation with an engineer. BMPs are frequently inspected and maintained.		Roads, trails and openings are bare and eroding. No effort is taken to reduce road or skid construction in a riparian area.	<input type="checkbox"/> Low <input type="checkbox"/> Medium <input type="checkbox"/> High
Control runoff:	Rainfall and snowmelt runoff is directed into areas appropriate for collecting runoff, so that water will not scour and wash away soil.		No landscape changes made to slow the flow of stormwater, especially on steep erodible slopes.	<input type="checkbox"/> Low <input type="checkbox"/> Medium <input type="checkbox"/> High

ASSESSMENT 2 – Other Landscaping Considerations - When finished turn to the **Action Checklist** on page 6-12 and record your medium and high-risk practices.

	LOW RISK	MEDIUM RISK	HIGH RISK	YOUR RISK
Landscaping maintenance to protect property from forest fire:	Leaf clutter, dead trees and branches, firewood, and unused old timber is taken to an approved landfill and/or stored away from the house and other out buildings.		Leaf clutter, dead and down trees, and old unused lumber are not stored away from buildings.	<input type="checkbox"/> Low <input type="checkbox"/> Medium <input type="checkbox"/> High

ASSESSMENT 3 – Construction site erosion prevention – is important in protecting existing and future water quality. Construction sites close to water bodies have a greater potential for affecting water quality. Maintaining natural vegetation and stabilizing exposed soil surfaces helps prevent erosion. When finished turn to the **Action Checklist** on page 6-12 and record your medium and high-risk practices.

	LOW RISK	MEDIUM RISK	HIGH RISK	YOUR RISK
Timing of construction:	Construction work and erosion prevention applications are scheduled for optimal conditions; dry, low runoff periods when erosion is lowest.	Construction work is performed during the wet season, but erosion prevention BMPs are used to help reduce runoff.	Construction work is performed during the wet season and no erosion prevention BMPs are used.	<input type="checkbox"/> Low <input type="checkbox"/> Medium <input type="checkbox"/> High
Sediment control:	On construction sites close to water bodies sediment control devices like temporary berms, straw bale barriers, or silt fencing are used. And on steeper slopes (greater than 30%) additional measures are taken with professional assistance.	Construction site is protected by natural vegetation, but no man-made sediment control devices are used.	No sediment control BMPs are used during construction to keep water laden with sediment from running directly into the lake or stream.	<input type="checkbox"/> Low <input type="checkbox"/> Medium <input type="checkbox"/> High
Bare soil during construction projects:	Areas of bare soil are seeded and topped with a layer of mulch or straw. Sediment control devices (straw bales, silt fence, or berms) are used especially on steeper slopes until grass is established.	Soil is left bare during a construction project, but natural features slow and treat most runoff.	Soil is left bare and no natural features or sediment control devices are used.	<input type="checkbox"/> Low <input type="checkbox"/> Medium <input type="checkbox"/> High
Proximity to surface water:	>500 feet to surface water.	300-500 feet to surface water.	10-300 feet to surface water.	<input type="checkbox"/> Low <input type="checkbox"/> Medium <input type="checkbox"/> High

