

What Topics Does Lake*A*Syst Address?

The Lake*A*Syst program offers advice on how watershed property owners can minimize water pollution associated with the following practices:

Storm Water Runoff

Storm water runoff occurs when rain or snowmelt flows over the ground. Storm water can carry debris, chemicals, dirt and other pollutants into Hauser Lake and its contributing streams. Polluted storm water runoff has many adverse effects on plants, fish, animals and humans. Sediment can cloud water and destroy aquatic habitats. Excess nutrients can cause algae blooms. Pesticides, herbicides, motor oil, solvents and other hazardous wastes can contaminate the water and poison aquatic life, as well as animals and humans coming into contact with or drinking it.

Lawn and Garden Concerns

Nutrients found in fertilizers can cause problems when they enter the lake. Nitrogen and phosphorus contribute to algae growth, which depletes oxygen in the water and can suffocate fish and the insects that fish eat. The proximity of homes to the lakeshore increases the risk that these materials will enter the water and cause problems.

Landscaping\New Construction Practices

Plants and trees help hold soil and prevent erosion, especially on steep slopes. Anytime existing native vegetation is removed, exposed soil can more easily be washed into Hauser Lake, causing excess sedimentation, killing aquatic bottom life and disrupting spawning.

Driveway and Access Road Runoff

Many roads and driveways are constructed of compacted soil. If not properly managed, they become rutted, allowing runoff to flow freely, scouring away soil and carrying sediment into the lake.

Is Lake*A*Syst for Me?

- Do you have a lawn or garden?
- Are there ruts in your driveway or public access road or does runoff from your driveway run into the lake?
- Are your ditches clogged with sediment or debris?
- Are you adding on or building a new house, landscaping, or putting in a new driveway or road?
- Do you use a nitrogen fertilizer to enhance your lawn or pasture?
- Do you perform vehicle maintenance on your property?
- Do you burn waste in a burn barrel or brush pile?
- Do you have unknown chemicals stored on your property?

If you answered "yes" to any of these questions, Lake*A*Syst can help you minimize the effect of your activities on Hauser Lake.



What are BMPs?

BMPs are best management practices. They are actions that you can take to reduce the impact on the environment. By implementing the Lake*A*Syst BMPs for Hauser Lake, we can help:

- Prevent water pollution and contamination
- Improve water quality
- Enhance property values

Help keep Hauser Lake clean!

Contact Information

Learn more about Lake*A*Syst BMPs by obtaining a free Lake*A*Syst Property Owner's Guide, available at:

- Kootenai Shoshone Soil & Water Conservation District, 7830 Meadowlark Way, Suite C-1, Coeur d'Alene, ID 83815 762-4939, ext 101
- Idaho DEQ, 2210 Ironwood Parkway, Coeur d'Alene, ID 83814 769-1422
- City of Hauser, 11837 N. Hauser Lake Road, Hauser, ID 83854 777-9315
- Hauser Lake Watershed Coalition, P.O. Box 2196, Hauser, ID 83854 777-6967

Want help using this program? A Lake*A*Syst volunteer can assist you with assessing your property to minimize its impact on Hauser Lake. All homeowner information is confidential. Volunteers can be reached through the Kootenai Shoshone Soil and Water Conservation District at 762-4939 ext. 101 or call the Hauser Lake Watershed Coalition at 777-6967.

