

ANNUAL HEALTHY LAKES CHECKLIST

SPRING

- Create a **shoreline buffer** to reduce runoff to your lake or capture it with a rain garden or rain barrel
- Use **lake-friendly fertilizers** with the middle (phosphorus) number as "0"
- Use a **mulching lawn mower** and clean clippings off of driveways and away from the lake, ditches that provide nutrients for weeds and algae
- Begin **monitoring for Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS)** in your lake (Eurasian Watermilfoil, Zebra Mussels, Starry Stonewort, etc.)
- Avoid use** of weed rollers (permit required) and blowers (do not point at lake bottom) until after fish spawn
- Abide by **No Wake postings** to limit erosion of shoreline
- Check and empty **septic system** (minimum every 3 yrs.) to ensure compliance and it's working properly



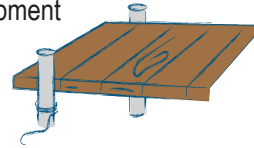
SUMMER

- Become a member** of your Lake Association and attend meetings regularly
- Pay your lake association **membership dues** proactively
- Follow local zoning regulations for **alterations to shoreline**
- Enjoy** your lake and its wildlife!



FALL

- Rake leaves away** from the lake, ditches and gutters and compost
- Inspect** boat, trailers, docks, and other lake equipment for AIS. If anything is suspect, contact the MNDNR and Sherburne County Soil & Water Conservation District



WINTER

- Limit salt use** on slippery steps, sidewalks; use sand or calcium chloride instead
- Clean up** ice fishing areas—leave no trace
- Have a **"restroom plan"** while fishing
- Read up** on AISs
- Visit local **water conservation websites** (MNDNR, MN COLA, SC COLA, Sherburne SWCD or your local lake association site)



SC COLA
Sherburne County
Coalition Of
Lake Associations
www.sherburnecola.org



**Sherburne
SWCD**
www.sherburneswcd.org

YEAR ROUND

Clean up after your pet so feces do not enter the lake and provide nutrients for unwanted plants