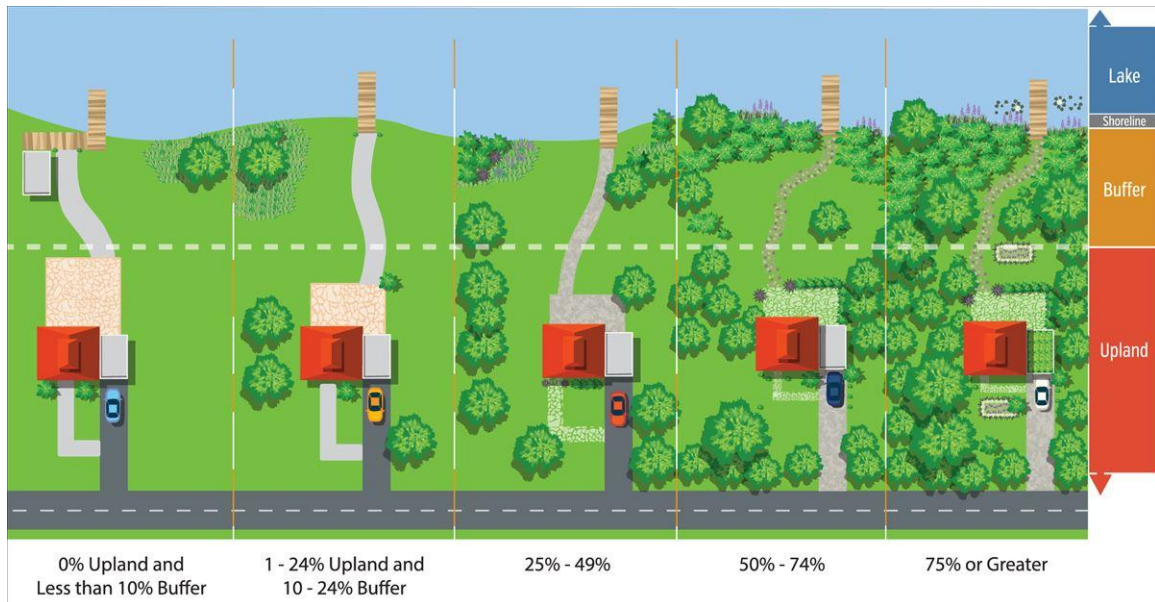


Which Property Looks Like Yours?



How Well Are You Protecting Our Lakes?

Take the online self-assessment, Michigan Shorelands Survey (15 min.), to find out how your property may impact our lake health. The Shorelands survey includes background information, definitions, and tips, which address most question about how to protect our lakes and how to maintain your property value. Those who've taken the survey find it fun and informative. (High scores: Bronze, Silver, or Gold ratings.)

1. Go to: www.mishorelandstewards.org
2. Select "Rate Your Shoreland"
3. Take the survey anonymously or you can register
4. Answer a short list of questions, such as:
 - Do you maintain a natural barrier between your lawn and the shoreline?
 - Do you maintain your septic system (serviced every three to five years)?

IMPORTANT:

- Water flows to the lowest point. See the connection between hard (impervious) surfaces in the Upland Zone and the Lake Zone
- Use native trees, shrubs and perennial plants to provide a **Buffer Zone to reduce erosion and runoff to the lake**

BENEFITS:

- Learn which actions you've already taken that protect our lakes
- Get recommendations for new actions you can take to do an even better job