



Living by Water A New Approach



Nature Alberta

A community connected by a love of
nature.



Who We Are

- A federation of Alberta naturalists
- Established in 1970
- More than 40 natural history member clubs
- Not-for-profit, charitable organization
- Part-time and seasonal staff



What We Do

- Encourage Albertans to increase their knowledge and understanding of natural history and ecological processes.
- Promote the exchange of data and information among clubs and other conservation organizations.
- Promote the formation of new natural history clubs throughout the province.
- Provide a unified voice for naturalists on conservation issues.
- Deliver core programs.



Core Programs

Birds and Biodiversity

- Important Bird and Biodiversity Areas (IBA)
- Protecting Birds of Alberta postcards
- Field Guide to Alberta Birds and more

Nature Kids

- Engage children ages 4-12 and their families
- Provide education materials and organize field experiences (e.g. Family Nature Nights and Explorer Days)



Living by Water

- Unique educational program
- Operating in Alberta for 15 years
- Targeting lake property owners
- Aimed at improving the health of Alberta's lakes
- Beneficial management practices implementation



Property Consultations

- One-on-one
- Property owner present
- Front to back of property
- Can be backlot



907

Living by Water consultations completed
at 32 lakes across Alberta since 2002



Shoreline Assessments

- Created by Love Your Lake
- Done from boat—no disruption to shoreline property owner
- Observe structures and docks, retaining walls, vegetation and habitat visible from water





Shoreline Assessments

Lake Wabamun

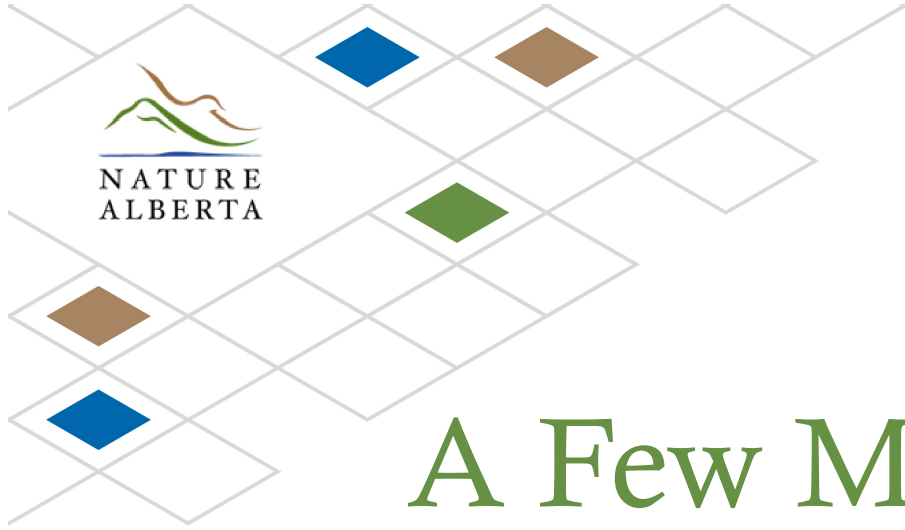
- 2016: 488
- 2017: ≈ 300

Lake Isle

- 2017: ≈ 300



How do we
measure impact of
education and
awareness?





Shoreline Naturalization Incentives

A cost sharing incentive program which encourages planting of native trees, shrubs, groundcovers, wildflowers and grasses along the water's edge

Partnering with the Parkland County Green Acreages Program

Project 1: Before



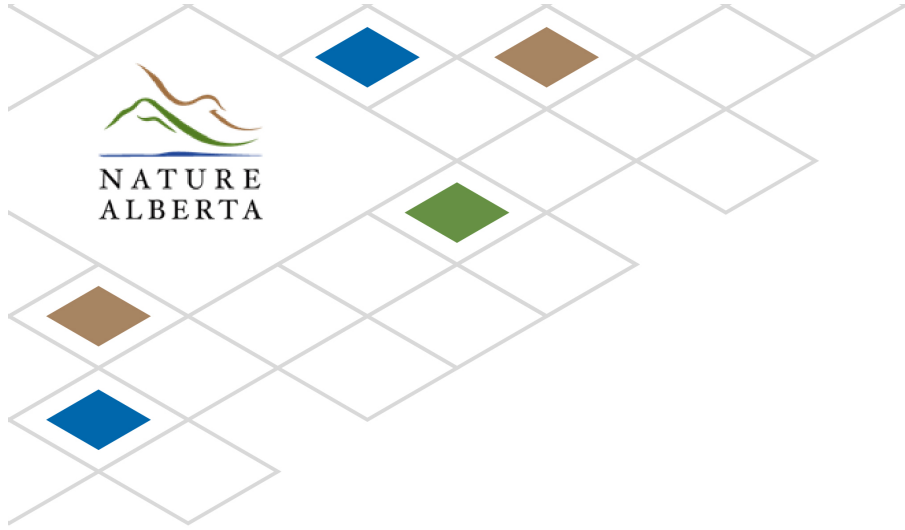


Project 1: During



Project 1: After





Project 2: Before





Project 2: During





Project 2: After





Project 3: Before





Project 3: During





Project 3: After





Results

- Erosion is main issue that residents engage with our incentive
- Projects range from small projects 8 plants (8 m²) to 111 plants (144m²)
- Some people just want the information then want to implement on their own



Successes

- Building a sense of community around projects
- Residents taking ownership of projects
- Word of mouth has been instrumental
- Building trust with our organization
- On-the-ground impact



Challenges

- Permitting has multiple layers
- Bureaucracy when dealing with government
- Overcoming property owner's fear of unknown
- Elevating level of awareness around issues and property ownership e.g. MR/ER



Opportunities

- We will work with groups interesting in bringing this program to their lake
- We have a dedicated staff member, Shoreline Naturalization Technician, for the incentive program



Special Thanks

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