



Guardians of the River

Pledge Form

Coming Soon



Name(s):

Property address:

Contact: (phone and/or email):

We pledge to manage our property through actions and practices that will protect the Yellow River's water quality, aquatic and shoreline habit, wildlife, and natural scenic beauty.

We already have or will implement the measures described below (check all that apply):

Action or Practice	Already do this	Will start
Protect the shoreline and near-shore aquatic zone		
Maintain at least a 35-foot buffer of native plants, shrubs and trees to filter runoff and provide habitat. Simply not mowing near the water can achieve this. The buffer protects the shoreline from erosion, provides plant diversity for birds, wildlife and insects, and captures and filters rainwater and runoff.		
Leave downed trees and aquatic plants in place along the shoreline for fish, insect and wildlife habitat.		
Install a Healthy Lakes practice, such as "fish-sticks" (downed trees), rainwater diversion structure or absorption bed, or a rain garden.		

Monitor for and remove invasive species like Purple Loosestrife and Yellow Flag Iris.		
Protect wild rice and other native plant beds. Go around them slowly when boating to prevent uprooting by boat wakes.		
Correct shoreline erosion through an approved and permitted practice. Try soft practices like plantings and “bio-logs” before hard-armoring like rock rip-rap.		
Approach the shoreline slowly with boats and other watercraft to minimize the impact of boat wakes.		
Assess how “water-friendly” your shoreline and waterfront activities are by taking the “Score My Shore” Shoreland Evaluation Tool on the Wisconsin Healthy Lakes website. Search for it name. Implement the recommendations from the completed survey.		
Other:		
Conserve rainwater and keep runoff clean		
Direct rainwater to rain barrels or areas where it can soak in the ground.		
Compost yard waste or take leaves and grass to a city compost facility.		
Keep grass clippings and leaves off sidewalks, driveways and walkways. Prevent yard waste from washing into a lake or river, since significant levels of phosphorus and nitrogen can leach from leaves and grass.		
Reduce or replace areas of mown grass with native plants and flowers for pollinators and rainwater absorption.		
Limit fertilizer, herbicide, and pesticide use; use non-toxic alternatives.		
Collect pet waste for landfilling.		
Wash vehicles at the carwash or on a grassy area so wash water is absorbed (rather than run off hard surfaces to the lake).		
Pick up litter for recycling or proper disposal to keep it out of storm drains, lakes, the river and wetlands.		
Use sand on slippery walks and drives; limit salt use as much as possible.		
Other:		
Help Native Species and enhance their habitat		
Plant native trees, shrubs and wildflowers.		
Remove invasive species, especially buckthorn, purple loosestrife and yellow iris.		

Install and maintain nesting boxes for birds.		
Other:		
Help fight climate change		
Install solar panels or opt-in to a utility green energy program.		
Conserve water and electricity as much as possible.		
Drive a hybrid or electric vehicle.		
Improve home weatherization.		
Implement a home energy audit.		
Other:		
Long-term property protection		
Research and implement long-term conservation protection through protective covenants on the property deed or a conservation easement.		
Other:		
Community Action		
Pick up litter wherever it's found and dispose or recycle it properly. Storm drains and wind carry litter to waterbodies.		
Live on Spooner Lake or the Yellow Lakes? Be an active member of the local lake group and/or the county-wide groups Washburn County Lakes and River Association and Burnett County Lakes and Rivers Association.		
Help with local efforts to remove invasive species from public green spaces and our waterways.		
Participate in local river, lake, wetland, stream or public landing clean-up days or adopt a location to monitor and clean-up on your own.		
Volunteer for Yellow River Protection Conservancy projects.		
Other:		

Thank-you for working to become a Guardian of the Yellow River!

For more information about the Yellow River Protection Conservancy, check our website at yellowriverprotectionconservancy.org or scan this QR code:

