

# How to Effectively Manage and Maintain your Shoreline Property

## Slope Stability:

- Recognize erosion, and address any issues promptly.
- Compost lawn clippings or let them lay where they are cut; do not dump clippings along the slope or shoreline.
- Minimize the use of water near the shoreline—increased flows contribute to erosion and slope instability.
- Encourage stormwater on your property to slow down and seep into the ground rather than runoff.
- Limit foot traffic on the slope.

## Manage Vegetation:

- Create or maintain a buffer or a “no mow” area between mowed areas and the top of slope. This will slow down runoff before it flows across the slope, reducing erosion.
- Plant native plants; do not plant or encourage the growth of invasive or non-native plants.
- Maintain natural vegetation, such as trees, shrubs, ground cover —do not clear vegetation along the shoreline.
- Contact your local nursery or view the link provided under “Additional Resources” for suitable plantings.

## Water Quality:

- As the stencil reads—“Keep Water Clean—Drains to Casco Bay”. Catch basins collect stormwater (rain that does not soak into the ground), and discharge it via outfalls that are located on the slope of the shoreline.
- What goes in a catch basin on your street drains directly to Casco Bay.
- Minimize the use of fertilizers near catch basins and along the shoreline.

## Additional Resources:

- For Healthy Lawn Tips, visit: [www.cumberlandswcd.org/yardscape](http://www.cumberlandswcd.org/yardscape)
- To learn more about stormwater visit: [www.thinkbluemaine.org](http://www.thinkbluemaine.org)
- For a list of native plants, visit: [www.yardscaping.org/plants](http://www.yardscaping.org/plants)

Keep in mind that construction along the shoreline will most likely require some kind of permitting.



FMI: Contact the Falmouth Conservation Commission or visit: [www.town.falmouth.me.us/Pages/FalmouthME\\_Bcomm/conservation](http://www.town.falmouth.me.us/Pages/FalmouthME_Bcomm/conservation)