15 WAYS TO PROTECT WATER QUALITY

1 Pick up pet waste from your yard **2** Use only phosphorus-free fertilizer **3** Know the rules and permits required before you build, dig, or clear vegetation in shoreland areas **4** Restore and maintain your shore with a thirty-five-foot vegetative buffer **5** Learn the value of native aquatic plants and keep them in place **6** Keep roadside ditches clear of debris, grass clippings and leaves **7** Prevent sediments from reaching waterways **8** Control storm runoff by installing rain barrels, rain gardens, or splash blocks **9** Respect slow and no-wake zones when boating **10** Inspect and maintain your septic system regularly **11** Fire pit ashes contain phosphorus: prevent them from reaching the water **12** Remind visitors of water use and recreation regulations **13** Inform new neighbors of water quality issues **14** Be a good shoreland steward **15** Get involved!

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One reason why

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