LIVING SHORELINES PROGRAM

BUFFALO NIAGARA RIVERKEEPER®

Supporting Healthy Water and Habitat through the Restoration of the Watershed's Living Infrastructure

Buffalo Niagara Riverkeeper® is a non-profit organization that has taken on the region's biggest environmental challenges for over 25 years. We clean up toxic contamination, work to eliminate sewage overflows, restore critical habitat and advocate for the health of the Great Lakes. Our actions protect drinking water, connect people to waterways and build a thriving blue economy. For more information about Buffalo Niagara Riverkeeper, please visit *bnriverkeeper.org*

PROGRAM GOALS

I. Address the complete land-water interface

+ In-water: habitat creation & improvements
+ Shoreline: land-water edge stabilization
+ Upland: riparian function, wildlife corridors, public access

II. Restore shorelines to a more naturalized state

+ Transition away from traditional hardened structures, such as bulkheads and rip rap
+ Employ bioengineering techniques to address bank stability and erosion issues
+ Restore natural slope and utilize native/naturalized plants

III. Create functional, beautiful & convincing spaces

+ Design to meet the largest number of goals/benefits
+ Incorporate public access (where desired) and maintain a connection/ draw to the water
+ Create unique spaces that inform, educate, and encourage replication

IV. Connect to restorative & resilient living infrastructure

+ Create & enhance wetlands, floodplains and riparian corridors
+ Create continuous lengths of resilient shorelines

To learn more please visit *bnriverkeeper.org/livingshorelines*

WHAT ARE LIVING SHORELINES?

Living Shorelines are an alternative way of protecting a shoreline from erosion through the strategic placement of plants, stone, logs and other organic materials.

BENIFITS OF LIVING SHORELINES

+ Reduced bank erosion and property loss to you or your neighbor
+ Provides an attractive natural appearance
+ Creates recreational use areas
+ Improves marine habitat & spawning areas
+ Allows affordable construction costs
+ Improves water quality and clarity

If you would like to be a part of the Living Shorelines program please contact Emily Sadowski at (716) 852-7483 ext. 16