



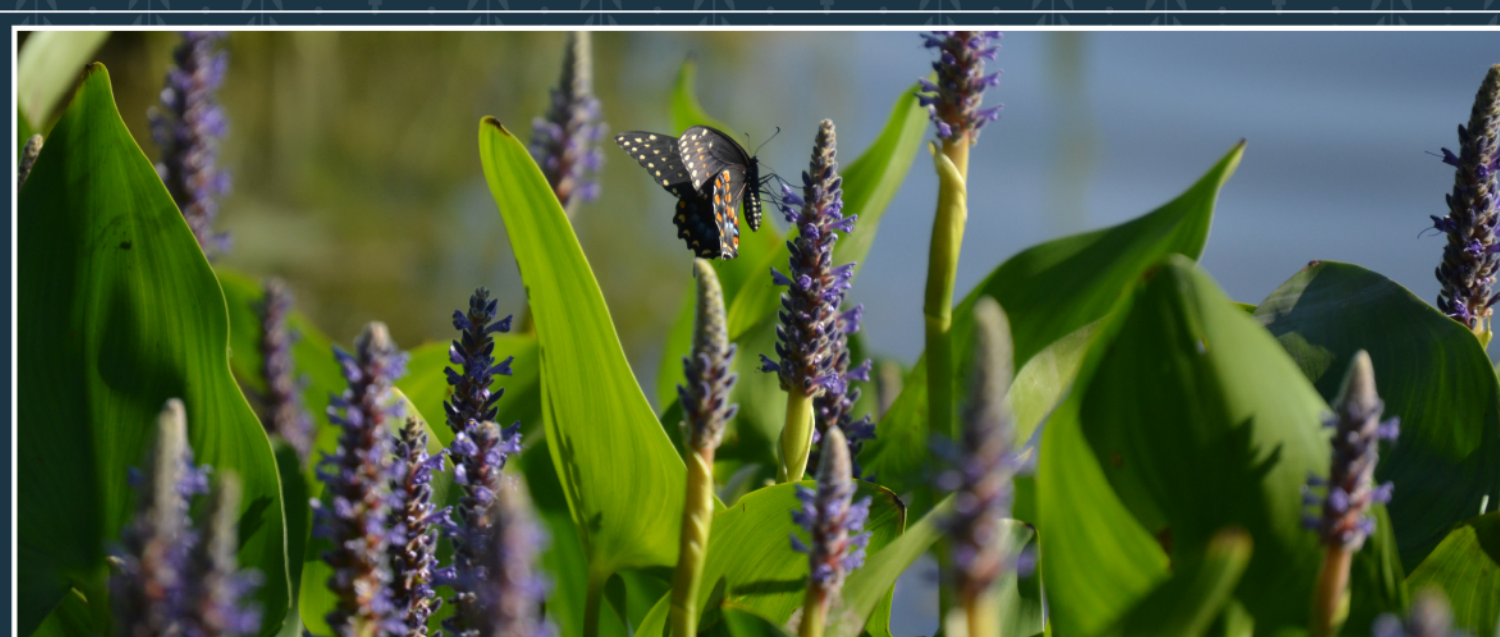
LIVING SHORELINES

RESTORATION AT TIFFT NATURE PRESERVE



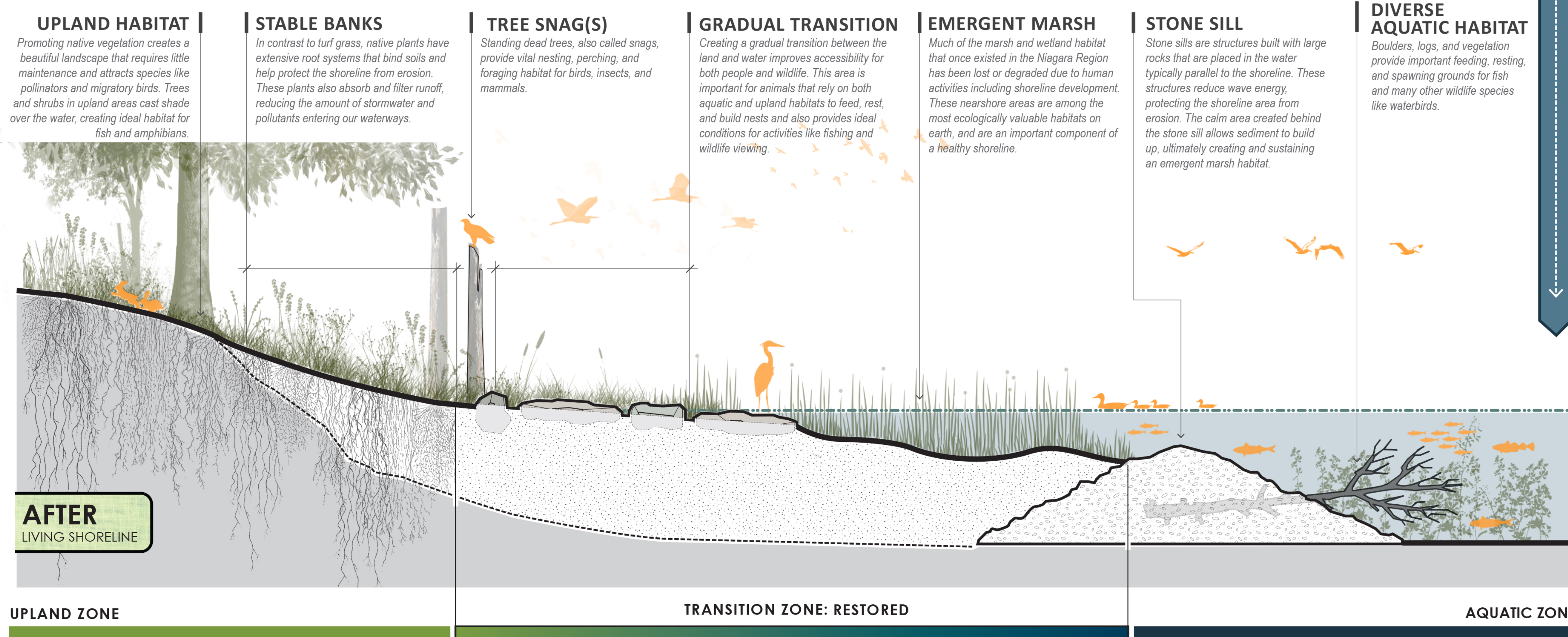
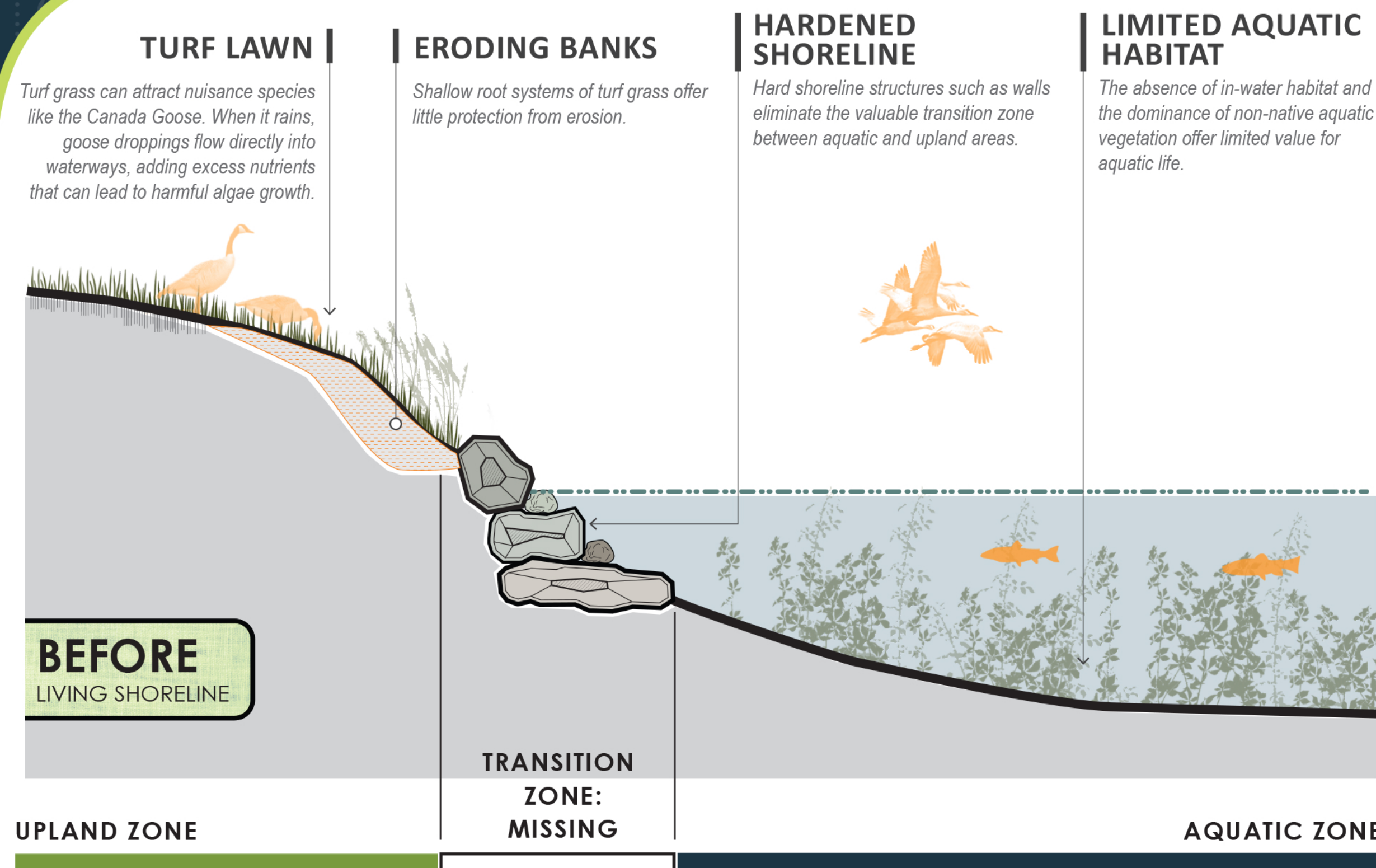
Lake Kirsty: Before Living Shoreline Restoration (2018)

The shoreline you see here today once looked very different. Before the Living Shoreline was constructed, a hardened edge made of boulders and concrete rubble lined the lake. A gradual slope between land and water was lacking and patches of invasive plant species threatened to outcompete the limited number of native plants occupying the shoreline. Upland vegetation was dominated by turf lawn which appealed to the large goose population and did little to reduce runoff and erosion of upland slopes. Stormwater runoff flowed into Lake Kirsty carrying with it sediment, excess nutrients, and goose droppings.



Living Shoreline Restoration

Living Shoreline projects remove walls and other barriers, restore gradual slopes, protect shorelines with logs and boulders, and re-establish native plants to create a more natural and seamless transition between land and water. It is estimated that 90% of life found in freshwater ecosystems is born and raised in these vital water-land transition areas. The Living Shoreline at Lake Kirsty re-establishes this "ribbon of life" along the water's edge, supporting numerous wildlife species including waterbirds, fish, amphibians, and beneficial insects.



LIVING SHORELINE HABITAT ZONES



UPLAND ZONE

Pollinator species around the world are in decline due to habitat loss. The meadow habitat included in this living shoreline provides beneficial habitat for many insect and pollinator species, including the Monarch Butterfly.



TRANSITION ZONE

Turtles, unlike mammals and birds, need to regulate their body temperatures which they do by basking in the sun. You may see Midland Painted Turtles or other species basking on logs and rocks throughout the living shoreline.



AQUATIC ZONE

Yellow Perch are attracted to shorelines with dense aquatic vegetation and gravel bottoms. Perch are an important food source to many fish and waterbird species.