

RIPARIAN MANAGEMENT PLAN

May 3, 2006

For the purposes of the Timeline Subdivision in Alburg, Vermont, the riparian area is defined as those lands between either Route 129 or West Shore Road and Lake Champlain. The purpose of this plan is twofold: 1) to protect the waters of Lake Champlain by providing undisturbed, naturally-vegetated buffers; and 2) to establish clear guidelines for appropriate activities within the buffer and ensure that future residents respect and preserve the riparian buffer.

The riparian management plan has been prepared in response to comments from the Agency of Natural Resource in pursuit of an ACT 250 permit. The riparian buffers are to be left undisturbed and naturally vegetated with the only exceptions being stated below. Activities inconsistent with the undisturbed, naturally vegetated conditions would need prior approval from the District Commission and ANR.

1. Removal of trees with a 4 inch diameter or greater is not allowed; however, dead or diseased trees can be removed if they threaten a structure such as a dock.
2. Limited branch pruning of existing trees is allowed in order to partially open up a view, but such pruning should not endanger a tree's survival.
3. The creation of a small clearing (20x20 feet) at the lakeshore for access purposes is allowed. In developing such clearing it should not involve soil disturbance. Placement of limited amounts of loose stone or rock in order to create stable access is acceptable; the use of concrete and/or cement is not acceptable. The Lot Owner will consult with the Agency of Natural Resources in advance of placing any stone or rock in order to ensure that the measures won't unintentionally destabilize the area.
4. In general, saplings within the riparian area should be allowed to grow to serve as replacement trees as the mature ones age. Saplings that develop can be thinned in order to promote the growth of healthy woodlands, however the maximum distance from one sapling to another should not exceed ten feet and stumps and roots from removed saplings should be left in place.
5. No trees, saplings or other vegetation should be removed within 10 feet of either side of the culverts that carry water under the highway to the Lake.
6. Saplings within the access paths may be removed for maintenance.
7. Invasive species may be removed.
8. All grass areas outside the highway ROW should be allowed to naturally revegetate and grow-up with saplings. Saplings that develop can be thinned in order to promote the growth of healthy woodlands, however the maximum distance from one sapling to another should not exceed ten feet and stumps and roots from removed saplings should be left in place.