

# 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!



## One reason why

