

How Do I Get Started?

Visit the Green Shores for Homes website at:

www.greenshoresforhomes.org

Where you can learn more about the GSH program and fill out and submit an application online or print and submit the application by post.



Before Green Shores for Homes

For More Information Regarding GSH

Washington State Waterfront Properties

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A duck stops by to compliment a homeowner on their new green shore.

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Green Shores[™]
for Homes

Washington State & British Columbia



Green Shores for Homes (GSH) is a *voluntary, incentive-based* program that helps waterfront homeowners protect or restore natural shorelines and enjoy the many recreational, scenic, environmental, and shoreline protection benefits this shoreline brings.

How Do Green Shores for Homes Benefit the Homeowner?

Green Shores...

Makes shorelines accessible—eliminating drop-offs and walls and creating opportunities for strolling, kayaking, foraging, wildlife viewing and simple beach fun.

Beautifies shorelines—adding native vegetation, wildlife habitat, and access to waterfront activities.

Makes shorelines secure—providing protection against erosion and flooding and alternatives to costly bulkheads.

Provides potential financial benefits—depending on your local jurisdiction, technical assistance, reduced permit fees, and/or tax incentives may be available.

How Do Green Shores for Homes Benefit the Environment?

Green Shores...

Preserves and restores physical processes—the natural actions of water and sediment help maintain healthy shorelines.

Preserves and enhances shoreline habitats—natural shorelines increase habitat for both plant and animal communities, and increase biodiversity.

Prevents or reduces pollution of the aquatic environment—native vegetation absorbs pollutants and less impervious surface reduces stormwater runoff.

Reduces cumulative impacts—small individual development actions add up to large impacts on the shoreline environment.

What Is Green Shores for Homes and How Does It Work?

Green Shores for Homes is a program for residential waterfront property that can be used by either the homeowner or a contractor/consultant to help guide the design of a project to achieve a shore friendly design. It's modeled after the LEED and Built Green programs.



A shoreline project is assessed against a series of **credits** for which a homeowner or builder can achieve **points**.

There are **four general application requirements** that provide the baseline information for all the credits. These four requirements are:

- Pre-design site assessment
- Site design plan
- Environmental management plan for construction
- Avoidance of critical and sensitive habitats

The **four credit categories** are:

- Shoreline physical processes
- Shoreline habitats
- Water quality
- Shoreline stewardship

A shoreline project can achieve one of **two credit rating levels**: Chinook or Orca.



After Green Shores for Homes