

Collier County
Growth Management Division -
Natural Resources Department

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LITTORAL SHELF PLANTING



Adapted by Project Greenscape Coordinator





LITTORAL SHELF PLANTING AREA (LSPA) REQUIREMENTS



Planting Requirements

Area Requirement

Location Within Lake

Location on Lake Bank

Shelf Configuration (Slope)

Plant Selection

Signage

Requirement for Site Plan

Area Requirements

- Nov 13, 1991 – Nov 5, 2001
10% of finished lake bank
- Nov 6, 2001 – July 1, 2003
2% of total area of lake at control elevation
- July 2, 2003 – Present
7% of total area of lake at control elevation
- July 22, 2003 – Present
30% of total area of lake at control elevation for RFMUD only.

Location Within Lake

- Where possible, locate LSPAs adjacent to preserves and other open space areas, and away from residential dwelling units.
- For interconnected lakes, can be configured within a single lake and at one location, such as in a golf course. Individual LSPAs must be no smaller than 1,000 square feet.
- Locate LSPAs no closer than 20 feet from control structures.

Location on Lake Bank



- Elevations of LSPAs based on expected hydroperiod for plant species utilized, and are determined during permitting for water management lakes. Information included on approved site plan kept at the Collier County Growth Management Division

Shelf Configuration

- Must have an average slope of 8 : 1 or flatter
- Undulating bottoms to allow for pooling during the dry season are encouraged
- Shelves may be terraced to provide for a variety of elevations for different plant species

Plant Selection and Specifications

LSPAs must be initially planted with at least 3 different species of native wetland plants

No species shall constitute more than 50% coverage and at least one must be herbaceous



Plant Selection and Specifications

- Spacing: 20 feet for trees; 5 feet for shrubs; and 36 inches on center for herbaceous plants
- Minimum size at planting: 3 gallon container (4 foot high) for trees; 1 gallon for shrubs; and 12 inches high for herbaceous plants
- Clustering of plants shall be allowed to provide for scattered open areas as long as the open areas do not constitute more than 20 percent of the required shelf area and the elevations of the open areas are at least a foot deeper than the surrounding planted area.

Signage



- The boundary of the LSPA must be posted to identify and protect the LSPA (LSPAs must not be mowed or sprayed with herbicide, except to control exotic or nuisance vegetation).
- Signs must be spaced no further than 150 feet apart. A minimum of 2 signs must be provided to make the boundary of each LSPA.
- Maximum height of sign: 4 feet.
- Maximum size of sign: 2 square feet.
- Sign must comply with County sign regulations.

Requirement for Site Plan

Required information. The planting plan for the LSPA shall provide the following information:

- a. Calculation table showing the required area (square feet) for the LSPA and its percentage of the total area at control elevation;
- b. Control elevation and dry season water table;
- c. Maximum water depth (feet) and estimated number of months of flooding for the range of planted elevations within the LSPA;
- d. A plant list to include the appropriate range of elevations for each specified plant species, spacing requirements, and plant size;
- e. Planting locations of selected plants.

Operational Requirements

Application to Existing Lakes

Minimum Coverage of Native Plants



- Eighty percent vegetative coverage of the LSPA is required within a 2-year period following the initial planting and shall be maintained in perpetuity. Native plants that recruit within the LSPA will be counted towards this coverage requirement (***excluding nuisance species such as cattails***). The LSPA must be kept free of refuse and debris.

Removal of Exotic and Nuisance Vegetation

- Prohibited exotics and nuisance species shall be removed as they occur, manually or with U.S. Environmental Protection Agency approved herbicides. Prohibited exotics are those species as listed in section 3.05.08 of the Land Development Code. For the purpose of this section, nuisance species include those species listed as Class I and Class II Prohibited Aquatic Plants specified in Chapter 62C-52.011, Florida Administrative Code. Cattails shall be removed manually or with U.S. Environmental Protection Agency approved herbicides when they exceed ten percent coverage of the required LSPA area.



Corrective Measures

Projects with previously approved littoral planting requirements constructed according to standards required at the time of approval, that do not meet the operational requirements, shall meet the current standards subject to the following criteria:

- a. The amount of planted area shall be the same as that required in the original approval;
- b. The property owner shall assess the existing slopes and elevations in order to determine the appropriate location of the plantings subject to the criteria found in section 3.05.10 A.3 (hydroperiod criteria). The planted area shall be consolidated as much as possible subject to the criteria found in 3.05.10 A.2 (location within lake criteria).
- c. Subject to the assessment described in b., the existing planting slopes should be as flat as possible but the 8:1 requirement of 3.05.10 A.4 shall not be required. Re-grading of existing slopes will not be required;
- d. Plant selection and specifications shall conform to section 3.05.10 A.5;
- e. Signage of the planted littoral areas shall be required subject to 3.05.10 A.6; and
- f. A written assessment and site plan shall be required if it is determined by the assessment of the lakes that the new littoral shelf planting area will differ from the approved plan of record.