

SCENARIO:

MANAGING FOR WATER CLARITY

(PART 1 – PREVENTION)

Setting the scene

Change is on the horizon for the lake. How can you prevent negative consequences and build resilience?

As a group, read the scenario below, then **discuss**:

5 minutes: How might the lake's water clarity change due to new shoreline development?

5 minutes: What actions could you take to maintain water clarity in the lake?

Record your thoughts to share with the group.

Scenario

A sparkling lake view is one of the many joys of living near the water. Your lake organization aims to preserve these views by managing the lake for water clarity. However, shoreline development is increasing, including new homes. Construction, landscaping, and shoreline disturbance can affect ecosystem processes in ways that diminish water clarity.

Consider

- What are some of the factors that could reduce water clarity in the lake?
- What sorts of ecosystem processes might be affected?
- What are some steps your organization could take to maintain lake clarity in the face of new development?

Remember to think about short- and long-term changes (*slow and fast variables*), and how impacts from other lakes, lake organizations, and management groups (*cross-scale linkages*) could shape changes in the lake.