

Attachment 2

Café and Restaurant Table Mat

WHAT'S RIGHT WITH THIS PICTURE?

Be a good neighbor to lakes, rivers and streams. Waterfront property owners have a special responsibility to ensure that their landscaping practices do not harm water bodies they live on or next to. A well planned and maintained Florida-friendly yard helps conserve water, reduces pollution, and minimizes erosion.

Test your Florida-friendly "know how" by matching landscape practices shown on the right with action tips listed below.

- A. Plant a ten foot buffer of native trees and shrubs to reduce erosion and absorb runoff.
- B. Leave grass clippings on the lawn to decompose and return nitrogen to the soil. Grass clippings are a significant source of nitrogen so keep them on the lawn.
- C. Compost and reuse yard trimmings return valuable nutrients to the soil as well as reduces the impact on landfills.
- D. Redirect gutter runoff into porous or vegetated areas, but away from the waterfront. Replace solid surfaces with porous materials.
- E. Maintain a 3" layer of natural mulch (leaves and pine needles) to retain soil moisture, prevent erosion, and suppress weeds.
- F. Repair and maintain the septic system to improve waste disposal and prevent contamination of neighboring water bodies.
- G. Plant groundcovers and low growing shrubs to stabilize slopes and prevent bank erosion.
- H. Rowing is an environmentally-friendly way to propel a small boat and is a great form of exercise.
- I. Remove aquatic weeds from along the shoreline. They block boat traffic, destroy habitats and cost millions of tax payer dollars to remove.

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For more information on Florida-Friendly yards, please visit Floridayards.org, SolutionsforYourLife.org or contact your local University of Florida/IFAS Extension

LIVING BY THE WATERS EDGE