

There is an allowed area that can be completely cleared of 33 feet along the lake and 25 feet back. This property is cleared the entire extent of the lake within 22 feet, so is already cleared well beyond ordinance standards. The intent of the ordinance is to maintain native vegetation for screening, nutrient uptake, erosion prevention, preserve shoreland aesthetics and protect fish and wildlife habitat, to name a few.

White pines are the largest and oldest living trees in Minnesota. Their size cannot be compared to other trees to make a determination that they are nearing the end of their life. Because of the size of these trees and the height of the canopy/branching, adequate sunlight will reach the understory to enable growing shade tolerant trees. Sugar maple (hard maple) is one of the tree species that will tolerate shaded conditions. Additional tree and plantings can be done in the shore impact zone.

No further vegetation removal can be done in the shore impact zone. The wall of the cabin is 52 feet from the ordinary high water line, so all of the trees to the left of the cabin in the photo below must remain. There is no regulation in removing trees or shrubs beyond the 50 feet, except that the property cannot be clearcut.



Limited pruning of trees is allowed by ordinance to provide a view to the lake, however, in this case, the view to the lake is not disrupted by branching, so pruning would not make a difference to the view. The branch that overhangs close to the cabin roof can be pruned back, as indicated in the photo below.

