



Natural shoreline



Non-structural living shoreline



Marsh toe



Living shoreline with sill



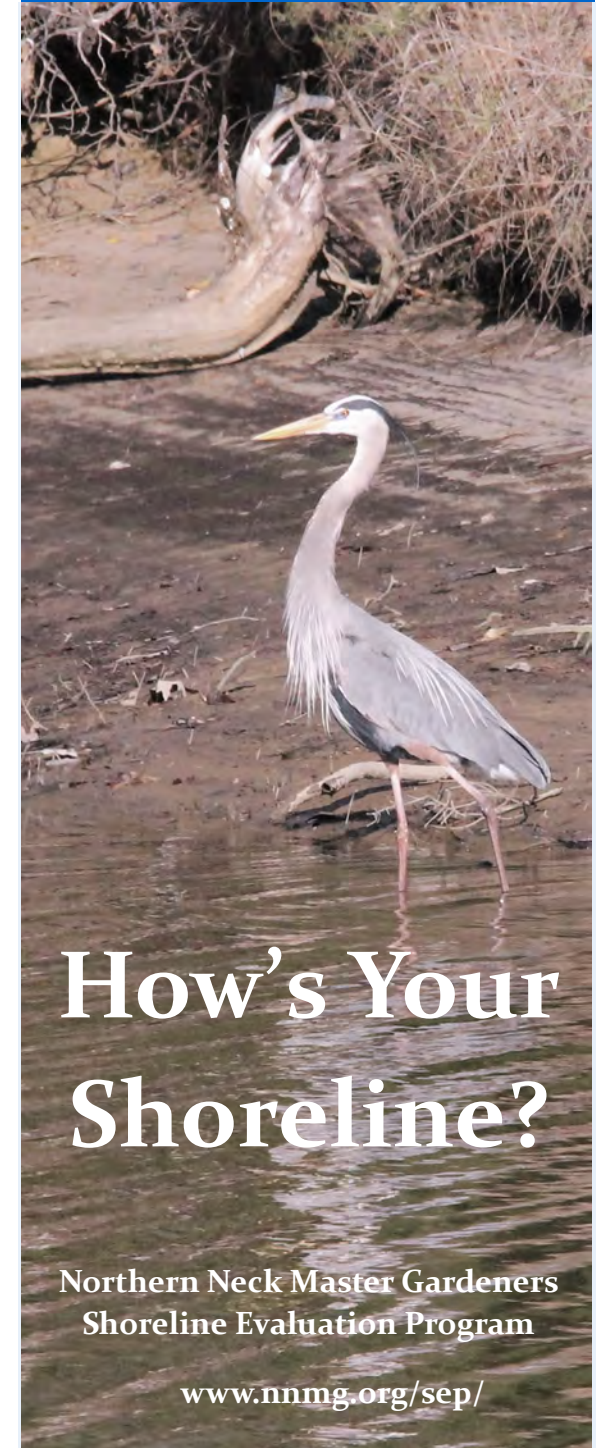
**Northern Neck  
Master Gardeners**  
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Virginia Cooperative Extension Master Gardeners are volunteers who work within their communities to encourage and promote environmentally sound horticulture practices through sustainable landscape management, education, and training. Northern Neck Master Gardeners are part of the education outreach of Virginia Cooperative Extension that brings the resources of Virginia's land-grant universities, Virginia Tech and Virginia State University, to the people of Essex, Lancaster, Northumberland, Richmond, and Westmoreland Counties.



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If you are a person with a disability and desire any assistive devices, services, or other accommodations to participate in an activity, please contact Trent Jones, Northumberland County Extension Office, at (804) 580-5694 during business hours (9 a.m. to 4 p.m.) 5 days prior to the event to discuss accommodations.



# How's Your Shoreline?

Northern Neck Master Gardeners  
Shoreline Evaluation Program

[www.nnmg.org/sep/](http://www.nnmg.org/sep/)

## Do you have a shoreline problem?

Is your shoreline receding?



Is your bank eroding?



Are trees on the bank leaning/falling?



Are there areas of bare soil?



If you have a marsh, does it appear healthy?



Do you know your rights and responsibilities as a waterfront property owner?

## Shoreline Evaluation Program

The Shoreline Evaluation Program (SEP) is an educational program designed to help waterfront homeowners protect their property from erosion, control upland runoff, and reduce sedimentation, thus contributing to the restoration of the Chesapeake Bay. Launched in 2012, SEP was developed by the Northern Neck Master Gardeners with support from the Virginia Institute of Marine Science (VIMS). Members of SEP are trained in horticulture and stormwater management through the advanced Master Gardener Water Steward Program offered by Virginia Cooperative Extension (VCE) and Virginia Tech. They receive continuing education through VCE and shoreline assessment training through a partnership with VIMS.

For more information on the Shoreline Evaluation Program or to request a shoreline evaluation application and questionnaire, please visit our website at [nmg.org/sep](http://nmg.org/sep) or call the Lancaster VCE office at (804) 462-5780.



Cover photograph courtesy of Bill Bell

## The SEP Assessment



For each assessment, we:

- Conduct an on-site evaluation
- Analyze the specific situation
- Prepare a comprehensive written report
- Present homeowners with a guide to waterfront property management
- Provide a list of appropriate plants
- Offer follow-up visits



Giant coneflower (*Rudbeckia maxima*) at the Reedville Shoreline Garden