





















Mid-Atlantic Living Shoreline Summit 2013

- Share research, tools, techniques and lessons learned
- Explore how to use this shared information to energize programs across the Mid-Atlantic region
- Strengthen and coalesce the Living Shoreline Community





Some Definitions



"A living shoreline is a way of managing coastal areas to protect, restore, or enhance the habitat. This is done through the placement of plants, stone, sand, and other materials. Living shorelines do not interrupt natural relationships between land, wetlands, and bodies of water." - National Geographic

"This approach uses plants, sand, and limited use of rock to provide shoreline protection and maintain valuable habitat." - NOAA Restoration Center

"A "Living Shoreline Treatment" is a shoreline management practice that addresses erosion by providing for long-term protection, restoration or enhancement of vegetated shoreline habitats. This is accomplished through the strategic placement of plants, stone, sand fill and other structural and organic materials. Living Shoreline Treatments do not include structures that sever natural processes & connections between riparian, intertidal and aquatic areas such as tidal exchange, sediment movement, plant community transitions & groundwater flow." - VIMS

"A living shoreline is a natural system for shoreline stabilization that involves buffering rivers and streams with native grasses, shrubs, and wildflowers, which hold soil in place and absorb harmful nutrients. Biologs - rolls of natural fiber that slowly biodegrade as plant roots develop in their place - stabilize steeper slopes and filter runoff before it enters the waterway." - Chesapeake Bay Foundation

"An erosion control project that uses living plant material, oyster shells, earthen material or a combination of natural structures with riprap or offshore breakwaters to protect property from erosion (Boyd, 2007)." - Alabama Sea Grant Program

"The concept of "living shorelines" involves the use of native vegetation and low-lying structures to provide shoreline stabilization, while attempting to mimic the natural landscape." American Society of Civil Engineers







What are the Common Concepts

Shoreline Protection

Habitat Enhancement

Natural Process

Tidal Exchange



Let's Do It Right - And Make These People Happy

