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FFL Principle #9: Protect the Waterfront

Today on Gardening in a Minute: Florida-Friendly Landscaping™ principle #9: protect the waterfront.

Florida is filled with lakes, ponds, streams, and rivers. Many homeowners have property adjacent to water, and enjoy the beautiful scenery and fun water-based activities.

Because everything you put in your landscape can wash into the water, waterfront property takes special care.

To protect water bodies from nutrient and pesticide runoff, create a "maintenance-free zone" between the lawn or landscape and the water body. Don't mow, fertilize, or use pesticides in this area, which should be at least ten feet wide.

Try adding Florida-Friendly, low-maintenance plants in this zone. They won't require much maintenance, and can help filter out pesticides and fertilizer runoff from adjacent lawns and landscaped areas.

For more information on Florida-Friendly Landscaping™ and many other gardening topics, contact your county Extension office or visit Gardening in a Minute dot com.

Gardening in a Minute is a production of the University of Florida's Center for Landscape Conservation and Ecology, IFAS Extension, and WUFT-FM.

your solution for Florida-friendly gardening