

## CRITERIA – SHORELINE/RESIDENTIAL PROPERTIES

This category is for shoreline properties, rural or urban residential properties, or undeveloped rural properties. (**S**: shoreline properties, **RS**: rural/residential/shoreline)

- **S** - Is the area back from the shore well treed? Is there a range of tree species and sizes appropriate to the site? Are the species native to Muskoka?  
Comments:
- **S** - Is the water's edge undisturbed (i.e. no retaining wall, no artificial sand beaches, no or minimal lawn, native shoreline vegetation)?  
Comments:
- **S** - Is lot development (docks, boathouses, decks, accessory buildings, gazebos, parking lots, bunkies, etc) minimal?  
Comments:
- **S** - If there is a septic system does it meet current standards? If there is an outhouse, is it located well back from water (at least 30 m with gradient away from lake)?  
Comments:
- **S** – If there is a dock, is it floating, cantilevered, suspension or pipe/pile? If the dock is a crib dock, do the cribs occupy a small footprint (i.e. less than 15 sq m)? Is there a low dock to shoreline ratio?  
Comments:
- **RS** - Are there minimal impervious surfaces? (ie. are the walkways etc. made of wood chips, pea gravel, or wooden slats spaced well apart so that rainfall can soak into the soil?)  
Comments:
- **RS** - Is there dark sky friendly lighting?  
Comments:
- **RS** - Does the design and colour of the buildings harmonize with the natural environment?  
Comments:
- **RS** - Is there a good understory and natural ground cover on the property? Is lawn cover minimal? Are natural lawn management methods are being used?  
Comments:
- **RS** - Has there been restoration done by planting of native trees and shrubs or removal of invasive plant species?  
Comments:
- **RS** - Has there been sustainable forest management or habitat management for wildlife (i.e. wetland management, natural pond creation, habitat restoration, bird/bat houses)?  
Comments:
- **RS** - Has the owner entered into a conservation easement or some other form of land protection agreement? Are conservation efforts evident (e.g. rain barrels, solar panels, lawn mower type)?