

## Restoring Lake Banks Reduces Labor Costs

**Peridia Golf and Country Club**  
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### Issue

Erosion of the lake banks at Peridia Golf and Country Club was causing issues for both golf and maintenance. The erosion created steep drop offs that were difficult to maintain and made it difficult to retrieve balls from along lake edges.

### Action

The goal was to create gradually sloping lake banks that would be more manageable for golfers and maintenance practices. The club decided that a 4:1 slope—i.e., 25-percent slope—or less was their target. Peridia Golf and Country Club began restoring several eroded lake banks and installing geotextile tubes to stabilize shorelines and prevent future erosion. The process costs \$35 per foot and, with more than 13,600 feet of shoreline to stabilize, it is going to take a few years to complete the entire project.



*Figure 1 - Lake banks with steep contours require considerable hand labor with string trimmers (left). The foreground of the two images shows the same lake bank before and after the slope was softened and stabilized: notice the difference in maintainability*

## Results

The primary reason for restoring the lake banks at Peridia Golf and Country Club was to reduce erosion and make it easier to retrieve golf balls, but the staff soon discovered that the new lake banks also required considerably less maintenance.

Previously, it took three staff members an entire eight-hour day to maintain the steep and eroded lake banks with string trimmers. The newly reconstructed shorelines can be maintained with a riding mower. Superintendent Ray Bartels estimates that it will take less than one day for one person to mow all of the lake banks once all the slopes are softened—a savings of 400 to 500 labor hours each year that will be redirected into other areas of the golf course.



***Figure 2 - The shoreline stabilization process involves placing a series of geotextile tubes along the shoreline (upper left), filling them with sediment from the bottom of the pond (upper right, lower left), covering the tubes with soil (lower right) and eventually sodding the slope.***