

Conversation Starters

The following worksheet can be used to help your lake group's welcome wagon committee build a script to help remember key points when greeting newcomers.

- Emphasizing personal stories and connections you have to the lake in a peer-to-peer dialogue is a great way to build connections between your lake organization and new waterfront property owners. Consider ways to illustrate the meanings and attachments you associate with your lake.
- Spend some time thinking about what makes your lake special and important to you.
- Write down experiences or images that you associate with your lake.

Worksheet

Why did you decide to live on this lake?

What prompted you to become active in your lake organization?

What has changed since you've been on the lake? What has stayed the same? Are these changes positive or negative?

What are you doing to help your lake?

Does your lake have a courtesy code?

What future do you envision for your lake? What do you hope your lake will look like in the future?

How to Be a Responsible Steward of your Shoreland Property

- Minimize run off into the lake
- Protect or restore your shoreland buffer
- Make your shoreline as natural as possible
- Prevent the spread of invasive species
- Encourage property owners to minimize the size of their lawns and to keep trees and natural shoreline vegetation
- Leave or restore woody debris and aquatic plants along your shoreline
- Encourage property owners to use environmentally-friendly building techniques
- Share information about local lake clean-up and protection programs
- Encourage lakefront property owners to learn about the lakes' attributes, health, and water quality
- Get involved in the lakeshore community to help increase property values and protect the lake
- Perform lake CPR – be Courteous, Polite, and Respectful