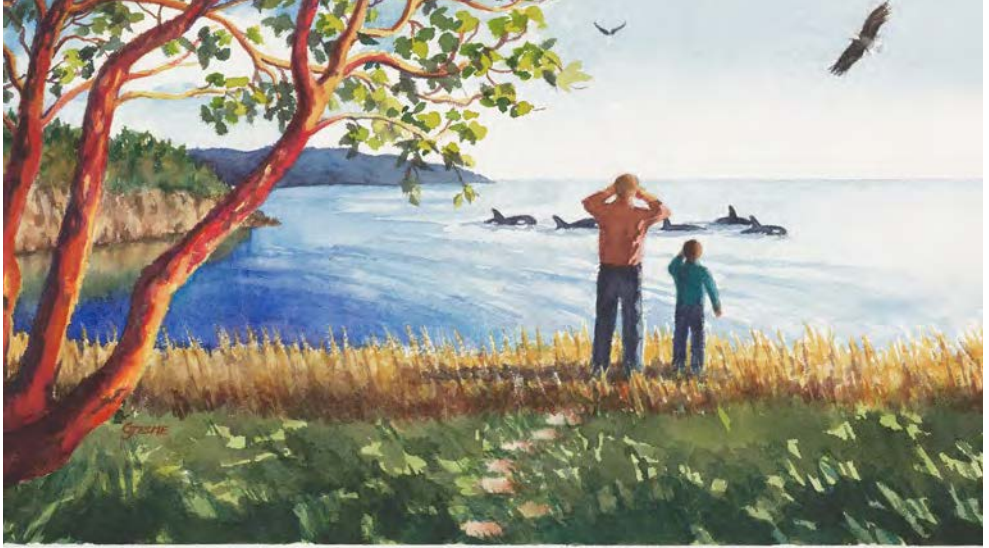


# Waterfront Living



On the  
**Kitsap Peninsula**

# Enjoy Connecting to Nature



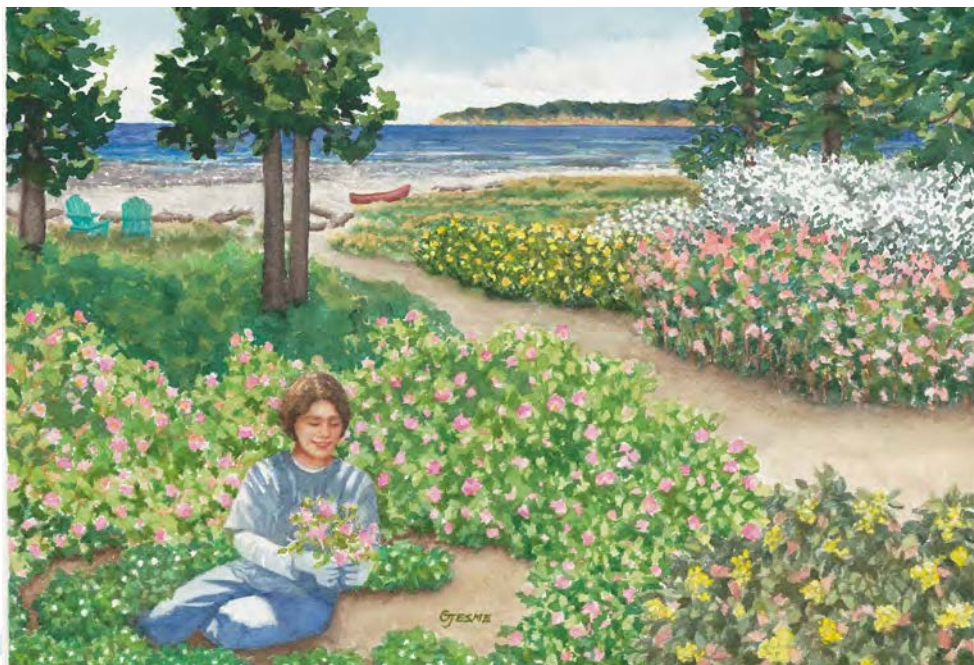
Wildlife on the Kitsap Peninsula includes eagles, heron, fox, kingfishers, mink, otters, seals, sea lions, salmon, orcas, and more!

## *Did you know?*

Migrating salmon from all of Puget Sound use Kitsap's shorelines.

*"We are fortunate to live in a place with such abundant wildlife – it's magical!"*

# Kitsap Peninsula's Special Plant Palette



Native plants are naturally adapted to waterfront conditions. They are tolerant to salt spray and drought, protect against erosion, integrate into soft shore stabilization techniques, and need little to no irrigation, pesticides or fertilizers.

Plants depicted above (clockwise from lower left) include: coastal strawberry, Nootka rose, salal, dunegrass, Puget Sound gumweed, serviceberry, evergreen huckleberry, and Oregon grape.

## *Did you know?*

Salal, a native groundcover, holds soil in place while English Ivy can *accelerate* erosion. For a good list of native plants, see *Your Marine Waterfront*, <http://wdfw.wa.gov/publications/01791>

“I love having native roses along my waterfront.”



# Wait to Trim



Don't rush to trim! When you do, trim to *frame your view*.

## *Did you know?*

Long-time waterfront owners say to wait at least four seasons before you trim your trees so that you can learn privacy needs, sun patterns, and wind and spray directions.

*“Eating breakfast on our deck, we are almost invisible to our neighbors and from the water.”*

# Tilting Trees — Nature's Anchor

Native trees are tenacious and adapted to shoreline conditions. Madrone, cedar, big leaf maple, shore pine, and Douglas fir have landward roots up to 50 feet long and stubby beach-side roots that bend back into the bank, further anchoring and helping them hang on for decades. Their roots hold your bank in place.



## *Did you know?*

Protecting your trees protects your bank.

“I love the unusual shapes of these trees.  
The roots really hold on tight.”

# Watch it Change

Summer beach



**Summer** beaches are wider, flatter and finer grained, while **winter** beaches are narrower, steeper, coarser, and have more driftwood.

Winter beach



## *Did you know?*

Summer and winter beaches are different.

In addition to seasonal changes, your beach is dynamic because it is part of a drift cell. Find out more, [fortress.wa.gov/ecy/coastalatlas](https://fortress.wa.gov/ecy/coastalatlas)

“It’s fun to watch my shoreline change and transform from season to season.”

# Leave it Natural



There is no need for a bulkhead in many places. A natural beach can be more attractive and provide easier beach access.

## *Did you know?*

Natural waterfronts are better for wildlife, including birds, salmon, and the small fish that they eat.

*“Bulkheads are so contrary to the best part of living here.”*



# Alternatives to Bulkheads



Engineered soft shore designs can improve access to your beach, be more attractive, and are often less expensive to install and easier to maintain than traditional bulkheads.

## *Did you know?*

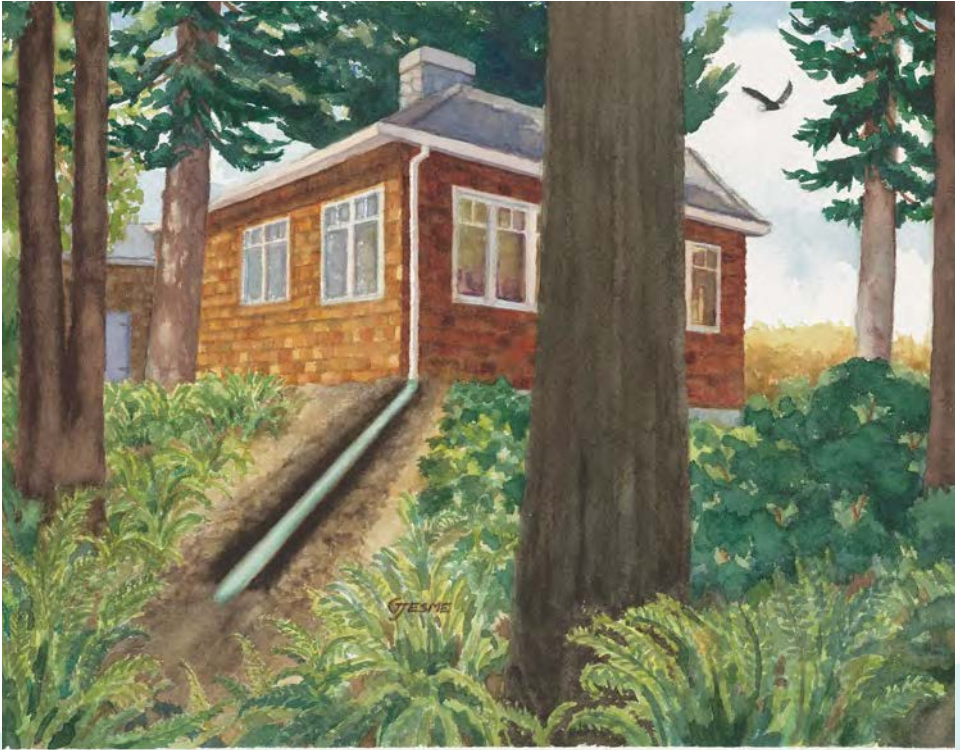
There are *alternatives* to bulkheads. Engineered soft shore stabilization techniques *mimic* nature. Find out more, [\*\*www.shorefriendly.org\*\*](http://www.shorefriendly.org)

“I was going to do a bulkhead replacement but then I found out about the alternatives.”



# Direct Your Drainage

It is usually better to direct runoff to the sides of your home, away from the waterfront. Always consult a drainage professional to prevent erosion problems caused by runoff.



## *Did you know?*

Directing runoff into the ground helps refill our drinking water aquifers.

“Water is precious on the Peninsula. We don’t have rivers and glaciers, so recharging our aquifers is really important.”

# Kitsap County: The Heart of Puget Sound



## ***Did you know?***

Kitsap County has 216 miles of waterfront.

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***For more information: [shorefriendlykitsap.com](http://shorefriendlykitsap.com)***  
***Artwork by Kristy Gjesme, San Juan Island artist***



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