



KITSAP

Helping one beach at a time

Did you know: there are alternatives to bulkheads that can protect your waterfront property?



Oyster Bay soft-shore/restoration project. Fifty feet of wooden bulkhead were removed, and a log and plants were installed for soft-shore protection.









On many beaches hard bulkheads are not necessary and can be removed completely. However, when protection is needed, bulkheads can often be replaced by alternatives that are functional, attractive and better for the environment.

These alternative, soft-shore methods are designed to protect your waterfront property, and carefully consider your site's specific conditions. Many factors affect the most appropriate design technique for your site like:

- Geology and soil types
- Wave energy and coastal dynamics
- Upland drainage

One size doesn't fit all! The simpler design, the better!

You'll find below a description of various soft-shore design techniques, and their benefits.

| Soft-shore method | Example | Benefit | Cost |
|---|---|---|----------|
| Vegetation  |  | Holds soils together, stabilizes slopes, filters and absorbs rainwater | Low |
| Log Placement  |  | Provides natural erosion protection for uplands, traps and builds up sand, improves habitat | Medium |
| Beach Nourishment  |  | Slows beach erosion, provides protection from wind and waves, provides space for recreation | Low |
| Reslope and revegetation  |  | Stabilizes bluffs and banks, (plantings) protect slope from erosion | Variable |

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To learn more about your marine waterfront and bulkhead alternatives click [here!](#)

Shore Friendly Kitsap

(360) 337-5777 or email: shorefriendly@co.kitsap.wa.us

<http://shorefriendlykitsap.com/>