

Timber Shores Beach Restoration Plan

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October 15, 2019

Since the abandonment of the original Timber Shores Recreational Vehicle Park over 30 years ago, the beachfront has been colonized by various woody and herbaceous vegetation species. When Timber Shores was operational, the beachfront was the epicenter of the recreational activity by campers and RV'ers and the beach was maintained as clean sand. The proposed Timber Shores Recreation Vehicle Resort proposes a similar focus for the beachfront as the prior campground, which will require a restoration of the beach along Grand Traverse Bay.

The existing condition of the beachfront is not suitable for the water-based recreation that is an essential amenity for Timber Shores RV Resort. Woody and herbaceous vegetation have colonized the beachfront and near-record water levels of Grand Traverse Bay has altered the shoreline by erosion and caused mortality of some species of plants that were previously growing on the higher portion of the beach. Some of those dead woody plants are presently standing near shore in the water or are washed up on or near the beach. Some very small areas of woody and herbaceous species of vegetation have persisted or colonized due to the rising water levels and are also not conducive to the use of the beach for recreation.

The restoration of the beach at Timber Shores RV Resort would involve the following activities, some of which may be regulated by State and Federal statutes. These activities will be described in the Application for Permit that will be submitted to the Department of Environment Great Lakes and Energy (EGLE).

1. Removal of all dead and living herbaceous and woody vegetation within or directly adjacent (i.e. in the wave wash zone) of the water of Grand Traverse Bay within the beach area as shown on the project plans;
2. Removal of woody and herbaceous vegetation on the upland (i.e. "high beach") portion of the beach as shown on the project plans. The "high beach" is not wetland;
3. Grading the beach sand, including removal of rocks, stones, and debris up to the water's edge of Grand Traverse Bay; and,
4. Augment the sand on the beach up to the water's edge of Grand Traverse Bay by hauling in clean sand from commercial sources.