



# SOFT SHORE PROTECTION

## UNDERSTANDING YOUR PROJECT

### WHAT IS IT?

Soft shore protection strategies slow the erosion process similar to hard armor, but with lesser environmental impacts. Where appropriate, soft shore stabilization can offer a better and less expensive choice for the homeowner and environment.

Soft shore protection methods are designed to work closely with specific site conditions. They mimic nature, using elements like logs, gravel berms, sand replenishment, slope re-sloping and native plantings. The finished product will look and feel natural, but is carefully configured to reduce erosion.



### WHY SOFT SHORE?

Many years ago, it was thought that hard armor like bulkheads and seawalls would stop erosion at the shoreline on properties. In many cases, it turns out that they do more harm than good.

Instead of absorbing wave energy, the bulkhead reflects the energy, creating even more erosion of the beach, while also destroying native plant and animal habitats.

Creating structures that absorb wave energy, like soft shore methods, has shown to be a better approach. Soft shore methods help dissipate the wave energy before it crashes onto land. This helps to maintain beach sands and gravels.

### DESIGN TECHNIQUES USED

- Beach Nourishment
- Logs and Berms
- Landscaping
- Drainage
- Structure Replacement
- Re-sloping

