What is shoreline restoration?
Shoreline restoration involves the use of native vegetation to provide a buffer between your yard and the water’s edge. This buffer (10–50 feet) replaces turf grass.
Although shoreline restoration does not reduce your exposure to flooding, it can reduce your vulnerability. Unlike turf grass, native trees, shrubs, forbs, and grasses have long roots that better withstand the effects of flooding. Under lengthy, high-water conditions, this may prevent the need to replace flooded turf.

How do I restore my lakeshore?
“Restore Your Shores,” offered by the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR) (https://www.dnr.state.mn.us/rys/index.html) provides online guidance for implementing shoreland restoration projects, including steps and techniques, a plant guide, and references and resources. Comprehensive guidance, pertinent to Minnesota landscapes, is also available in the book, “Lakescaping for Wildlife and Water Quality,” published by the Minnesota DNR. Or, consult a local landscaper who specializes in shoreline restoration.

Other considerations
• Some shoreline restoration projects will require a local or Minnesota Department of Natural Resources permit.

Helpful websites:
https://www.dnr.state.mn.us/lakescaping/index.html
https://www.dnr.state.mn.us/publications/waters/shoreline_alteration.html

For more information on flood resilience, contact the Engineering Department at 952-826-0371.
Parts of the City of Edina are within the Nine Mile Creek Watershed District, which offers cost-share grants for rain gardens. The minimum grant is $500 and requires a 25% match. To see if your home is located within the district and to learn more about the grant program, go to https://www.ninemilecreek.org/.