

## CONTOURS

The contoured perimeter of the lake provides hundreds of feet of additional shoreline to Osprey Lake. Shoreline is a unique micro-ecosystem habitat. It is the place where water meets the air, where water meets dry soil, where moist soil, where water plants meet dry land plants, where dryland plants meet water, and where lands meet air. These meeting places of several different micro-ecosystem are called edges and usually have the highest levels of biodiversity.

Oxbow is not an unspoiled wilderness. It has probably been “farmed” in some manner for 6000 years. Up until about 1937 just about every acre of the land currently owned by Oxbow was a large corn field, including the areas that are now lakes. Up until the closing of the Markland Dam, just upriver from Vevey, Indiana, even Oxbow Lake was planted in corn every year. The closing of the dam forced the pool level waters in the Ohio the rise and stay high which permanently flooded Oxbow Lake.

**For more information, visit [www.oxbowinc.org](http://www.oxbowinc.org) or call 812-290-2941.**

**For assistance in the event of an emergency, please call 911 (make sure you advise you are in Indiana) or the Dearborn County Sheriff's Dispatch at (812) 537-3431.**