

Edward E. Gillen Co. and Shabica & Associates, Inc.

PRESENT

# Beachworks

Design • Permitting • Build

**INSIDE:**

**Residential  
Projects**

**Boathouses,  
Ramps and Lifts**

**Piers, Breakwaters,  
Stairs, Firepits  
and More**

## Discover an entirely new dimension of lakeside living

Realize your dream of a beautiful beach or accessible waterfront and enjoy everyday vacation living at your own home. Beachworks offers you customized solutions and one convenient source for professional site evaluations, design, engineering, permitting and construction of coastal improvements.

Create your ideal lakefront retreat by restoring your waterfront to a natural, usable sanctuary.

- Coastal site inspections and monitoring
- Beach design and coastal restoration
- Bluff stabilization and ecological restoration
- Ravine restoration and stabilization

# Beachworks Transforms Bluff Property

While they chose a beautiful location on Lake Michigan, the owners of this property saw greater potential to enjoy their shoreline. Along with an unstable and unsightly bluff

devoid of vegetation, the site lacked a beach and safe access to the water.

The Beachworks team of Gillen Company and Shabica & Associates worked closely with the owners' landscape architect

to restore the bluff and design and build a breakwater-protected, sustainable beach. A quarystone revetment and flat-topped breakwater help to inhibit erosion and protect against fluctuating lake levels.

The boathouse was designed with a rooftop deck and a ramp for hassle-free boat launching. Native prairie and beach grass plantings complete this remarkable transformation.



**Ready for a bonfire,** this patio appeals by day overlooking the beach, and by night with plenty of room to gather around the fire. ←



**Natural stone steps**  
bordered by glorious blooms make a  
stunning pathway to the beach.

## Elegant Terraces Grace Historic Home

When you welcome frequent visitors – especially grandchildren – you want them to enjoy your home as much as possible. This Illinois property on a Lake Michigan bluff had

no safe access to the beach, as the beach and bluff were covered in concrete and rubble.

On the bluff, three terraced patios were designed and constructed to match the style of the historic home, creating

areas ideal for patio furniture or entertaining. Debris was removed from the beach and lakebed, stone revetments were built, and new sand was placed to make the beach safer for the owner's grandchildren.

This is a fine example of how Beachworks can envision, design and build coastal improvements based on how you want to use your property – and increase your property's value.



### Beautifully arranged

boulders surround steps leading from terraced patios down to the beach.



### An inviting beach

area is easily reached by meandering stone steps built into the restored hillside.





**Strategically placed** natural stones create a low-maintenance revetment that protects the bluff from Lake Michigan waves and creates a breathtaking beachscape.



**Majestic views** will treat family and guests on bluestone terraced patios, designed to complement the home's architecture.

## From Unusable Lakefront to Resort-like Retreat

Once considered the worst coastal property in Illinois by the State Geological Survey, this private residence underwent an amazing transformation to restore its bluff and ravine.

The 60-foot-high sheer bluff is now stable with a sustainable beach that the owners can easily reach to enjoy this pristine area on their property. The Beachworks team designed a bay beach and a

flat-topped revetment with stone steps for access to the water. Gillen Company performed site work and a hillside tram was installed for beach access, avoiding the grading and drainage needed

to construct an extensive stairway on the high, steep bluff. A large, eroding ravine on the property was restored with stone and native plants.



### A sandy beach

now offers a sanctuary for the homeowners, their friends and family.





Photo by HNK Architectural Photography, Inc.



**With its bluff stabilized,**

this property now features protective stone structures, sustainable beach areas and a motorized tram for easy access up and down the steep hillside. The sandy pocket beaches provide additional shore protection and an improved coastal ecosystem.

## Boathouses and Ramps

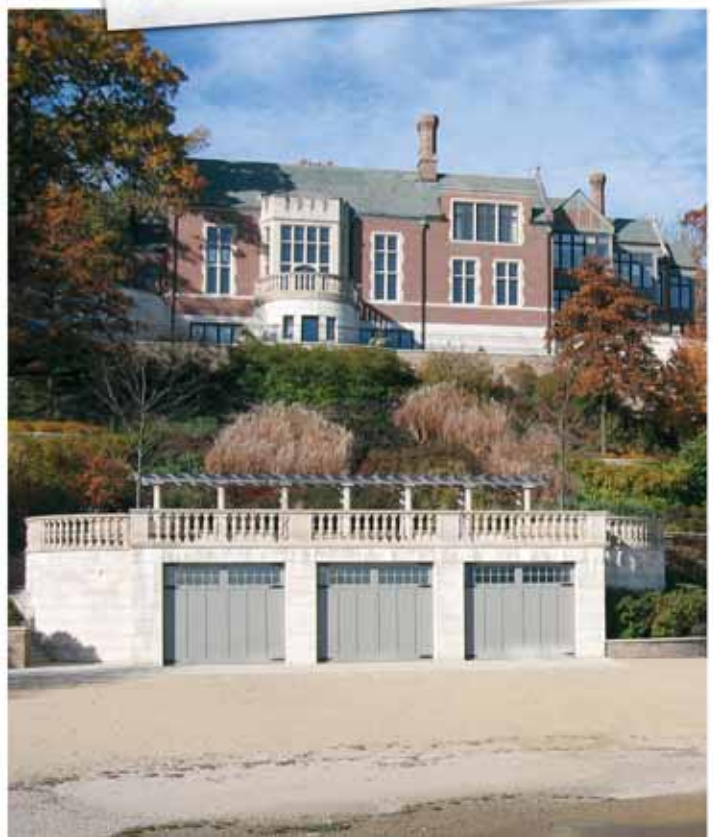
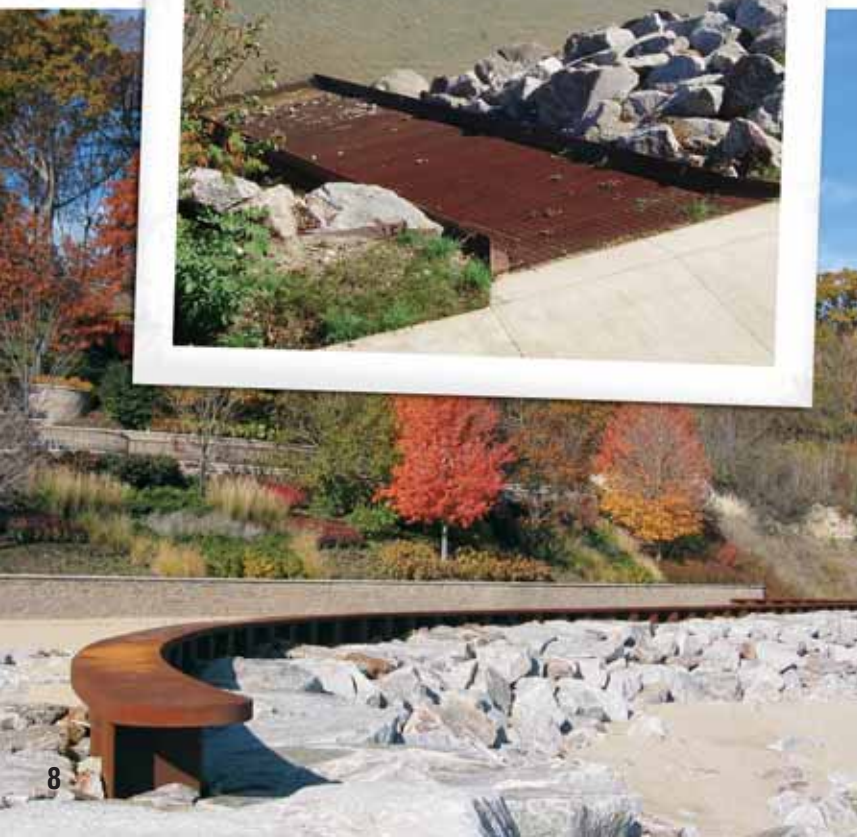
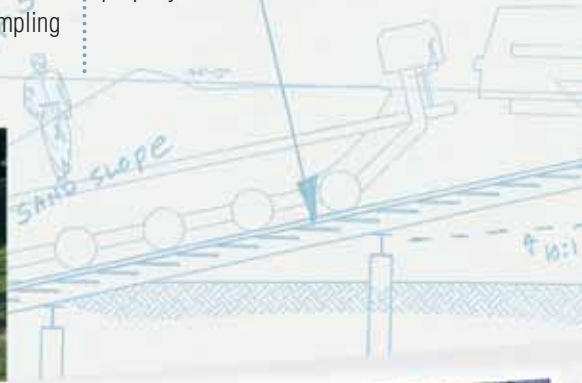
Easy-to-use boathouses and ramps offer great opportunities to enjoy the lake right from your own property. If a boathouse is not for you, you might opt for a ramp to conveniently launch a

boat when you have the urge to get out on the lake.

We'll consult with our team of architects and structural engineers to determine the feasibility and placement of a boathouse and ramp, and

design them to complement the architecture of your home if desired. We can also apply for the required state and federal permits for these structures. Here is a sampling

of our boathouse and ramp projects that have made life easier and more enjoyable for several Lake Michigan property owners.



## Beachlauncher

For spontaneous, hassle-free boat launching, consider a Beachlauncher™ self-propelled boat launching system (top four photos at right). The Beachlauncher can transport your boat in and out of the water in just a few minutes, and is dependable and easy to operate. Beachlauncher safely carries

your boat from your boathouse, slab or beach right into the water and has its own walkway attached for easy access to your boat. After your excursion, it's ready to take your boat out of the water via wireless remote, and back into storage. Learn more at [www.thebeachlauncher.com](http://www.thebeachlauncher.com).



## Golden Elevator

Golden elevator boat lifts, attached to your dock or pier, safely raise boats and WaveRunners above the battering waves of Lake Michigan. Each boat lift cradle is engineered and designed to

fit your boat manufacturer's recommended support specifications. Used in coastal areas worldwide, a Golden elevator boat lift is a smart choice to protect your watercraft.



## A Range of Possibilities

How would you like to use your shoreline... boating, fishing, sitting by a bonfire, relaxing on the beach or just watching the waves? Your property is unique in its location, structure and geological features. Our customized approach considers solutions that will not only protect the integrity of your property, but is also designed for how you'd like to use, maintain and enjoy your lakeshore.

With more than 100 years of experience along Lake Michigan's shores, Gillen Company and Shabica & Associates provide unique design-build expertise for residential coastal property owners. We will assess your



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specific site and learn what type of beach-front you're dreaming of. We'll help you determine what's possible, conduct the site work, and create a natural-looking, professionally constructed beachscape.

Improve your lake access with a pier or stone walkway. Restore your beach by rebuilding the stonework. Add a lakefront firepit, patio or grilling area. These are just some of the features we have designed and built for Great Lakes coastal residents. If you have other ideas you're wondering about, let's discuss the possibilities!



**Breakwaters**

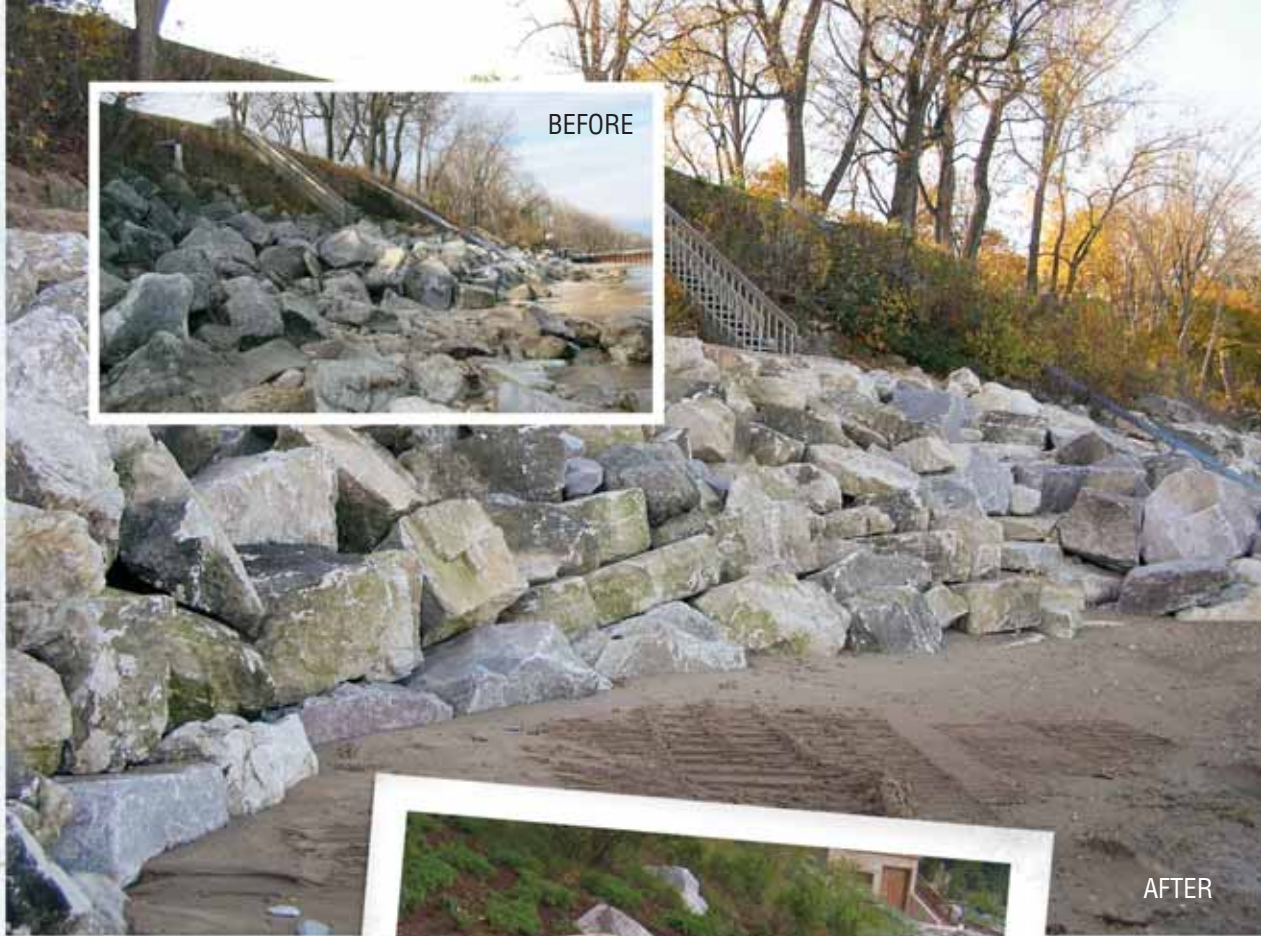


## Construction

With the ability to build from a barge, Beachworks minimizes disturbances for you and your neighbors during construction, while eliminating the yard damage that trucks create.



**Piers**



**Beach Maintenance**

Skilled machinery operators used existing materials to transform this lakefront property into a more appealing, easier-to-access beach.

Contact us at (847) 446-1436 or [info@shabica.com](mailto:info@shabica.com).

**Firepits/Patios**

**Stone Walkways**



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# Beachworks

Imagine your shoreline reshaped and restored to a natural and sustainable sanctuary.

With extensive experience in improving shoreline and coastal areas, we provide unmatched expertise and will work with your design team or handle the entire project to deliver a sustainable solution for your property – not just offer a short-term fix. We will gladly meet with you to determine how we can improve your shoreline. To arrange a consultation, contact Shabica & Associates at

**(847) 446-1436 or [info@shabica.com](mailto:info@shabica.com).**

Gillen Company  
218 West Becher Street  
Milwaukee, WI 53207



## Illinois' Lake Forest Beach

Gillen received the 2008 national award from the American Shore & Beach Preservation Association for meeting goals for shore protection, recreation, aesthetics and durability for over 20 years.

Gillen has also won numerous other awards, including Civil Works Contractor of the Year from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. Gillen was chosen from more than 2,000 contractors worldwide, among Corps contracts totaling \$4.5 billion.

### Edward E. Gillen Co.

Founded in 1894, the Gillen Company has a reputation for dependable work, timeliness, innovation and cost-effectiveness. We work closely with coastal engineering and geology experts such as Shabica & Associates, who know local shoreline and permitting agencies well. Together, we're dedicated to continuing high levels of customer service and success that generations of Gillen staff have worked hard to achieve.

The Gillen Company specializes in:

- Deep foundations – piles and caissons (drilled piers)
- Marine structures ■ Piers ■ Shore erosion projects
- Earth retention systems ■ Barge rentals – fireworks/bands
- Prestressed earth anchors ■ CHANCE® piers and tiebacks
- Beachlauncher – [www.thebeachlauncher.com](http://www.thebeachlauncher.com)
- Bluff analysis and stabilization drains – [www.bluffdrains.com](http://www.bluffdrains.com)



**GILLEN  
COMPANY**

[www.gillenco.com](http://www.gillenco.com)

### Shabica & Associates, Inc.

Shabica & Associates is an internationally recognized coastal consulting firm based in Illinois. We specialize in design, coastal engineering, permitting, construction observation, and project management for coastal and steep slope stabilization, as well as research in this highly specialized field.

Shabica & Associates works with residents, Realtors, contractors, engineers and government agencies to provide state-of-the-art, sustainable shore protection systems for private and public lands to increase the environmental quality, stability, usability and value of coastal property.



**SHABICA  
& ASSOCIATES, INC.**

[www.shabica.com](http://www.shabica.com)