Grants and projects

Educational Signs

Partners include: GT and Antrim Conservation Districts, Tip of the Mitt, US Fish and Wildlife Service, Grand Traverse Resort. Signage design: Corbin Design & Britten Banners. Sign manufacturer: Pannier

Funded by: MDEQ

Approximately 20 signs placed throughout watershed during fall 2004 at marinas, parks and public access sites.

Kid's Creek Soil Erosion Project

Partners include: Grand Traverse Conservation District, Garfield Township, Grand Traverse Regional Land Conservancy, National Park Service, Great Wolf Lodge, Hinman Group, GDO Investment, Gourdie-Fraser Inc.

Funded by: Great Lakes Bain Program for Soil Erosion and Sediment Control — Great Lakes Commission. Additionall,y we have contributions and in-kind services from partners for this project.

Project area is located on a north branch of Kid's Creek between Great Wolf Lodge and Kohl's Department Store

Restore and stabilize streambank along a 3,000-foot section of creek, reducing sediment inputs from 150 tons/yr to 5 tons/yr (natural levels) — Summer 2004

Demonstration site for public; woodchip pathway, foot bridges and trail, and educational signs will be placed throughout the property — Summer 2004

Demonstrates how stream restoration can work in a community and how Planned Unit Developments (PUDs) may fund such activities

MONITORING

Partners include: Grand Traverse and Benzie/Leelanau Health Departments. Lab services provided by SOS Analytical.

Funded by: Federal (EPA) and State (MDEQ) grants

Monitoring public beaches on Lake Michigan and inland lakes, Memorial Day — Labor Day.

Recently completed two year monitoring project on nine area rivers and creeks for *E. Coli* (included follow up DNA source testing of select samples)

PROTECTION PLAN TRANSITION GRANT

Partners include Northwest





Michigan Council of Governments, Land Information Access Association, Antrim and Grand Traverse County Conservation Districts, Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indians, Pathfinder School and others.

Awarded by USEPA/MDEQ to do work required to meet new EPA guidelines for watershed protection plan and begin implementation of recently approved plan

Project elements include further inventory and assessment work, development of public information materials, meetings to introduce local governments and the general public to the plan, and develop a stormwater task force

KID'S CREEK STORMWATER PROJECT

Partners include: City of Traverse City, GT Conservation District Funded by USEPA/MDEQ

Project tasks include updating city stormwater ordinances and developing appropriate Best Management Practices to manage Traverse City stormwater

Cost sharing project in the Kid's

Creek neighborhood to encourage owners to establish buffer strips and install rain gardens to help control the flow of rainwater

Rehabilitation of two sections of streambank on Kid's Creek north of Meijers

Restoration of the Boardman River banks at the Farmer's Market

CLEAN WATER CORPS

The Watershed Center is one of four organizations chosen to receive the first water quality monitoring grants awarded by the recently established Michigan Clean Water Corps (MiCorps).

The \$7,700 grant will help support the Center's Stream Search program, a volunteer-based monitoring program. Approximately 40 volunteers assess benthic macroinvertebrates populations in eight area tributaries to the bay and Boardman River twice a year in early June and late September. The small bottom-dwelling insects are good indicator species for gauging general stream health.

"We hope to expand Stream Search to include all key tributaries in our watershed and eventually add basic chemistry monitoring to the mix," said Sarah U'Ren, the Center's project coordinator. "When you add Stream Search to the inland lake monitoring programs run by volunteer groups and lake associations, we will have a very comprehensive monitoring program for our watershed."

The MiCorps grants support efforts to obtain reliable, high quality water data by providing funding, training, and support to monitoring groups. The water quality data is critical to the Department of Environmental Quality's efforts to protect and manage the state's water resources.

If you are interested in becoming a Stream Search volunteer, please contact The Watershed Center at 231/935-1514 or email suren@gtbay.org.



