



Michigan's
Nonpoint Source
Program

Federal Clean Water Act
Section 319 Grant
2008-0030



Huron River Watershed Council

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Mill Creek Streambank Stabilization

12 October 2008 through 30 September 2010

The Huron River Watershed Council and the project partners stabilized two of the most severely eroding spots on Mill Creek where erratic stream flows had eaten away the banks. Preferred bioengineering techniques were employed such as whole tree revetments and live stakes. These sites represent the first examples of these techniques on this creek system. Through a combination of practices, a combined 360 feet of streambank were stabilized representing an annual pollution reduction of 33 pounds of phosphorus and 37 tons of sediment. To keep the repaired sites intact and prevent future problem sites in the drainage area, HRWC and Legacy Land Conservancy assisted landowners who were interested in negotiating permanent protection of their lands. Landowners received information about their properties' importance to Mill Creek and the conservation options available to them. A conservation easement was finalized on one property in the project area.

Grant Amount: \$ 127,895

Match Funds: \$ 50,794

Total Amount: \$ 178,689

Partners involved:

- Washtenaw County Water Resources Commissioner
- Legacy Land Conservancy
- Environmental Consulting & Technology, Inc.
- Restoration Dredging • Urquhart's Tree Farm
- Volunteers of HRWC • Robert & Else Heller
- Carol Schaper & Dan Fischer • Christianson Design

I&E Activities:

- Two public information meetings for targeted landowners
- Five mailings to landowners to promote land conservation tools including NRCS and local programs and resources from HRWC and Legacy Land Conservancy
- Print and web content highlighting bioengineering practices used at two sites
- Interpretive signage installed at the two sites



Before. Bare, vertical banks at this site were the result of dredging and upstream changes to hydrology in Mill Creek.

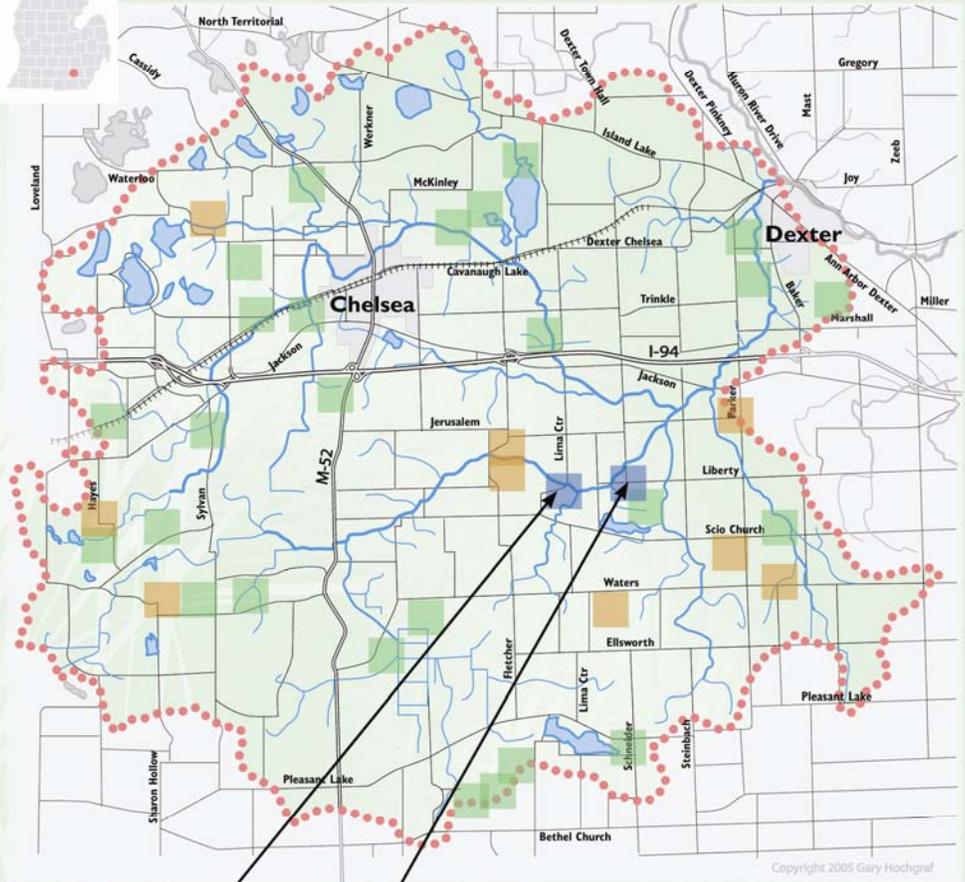


During. Crews pull back the slope and install soft engineering techniques such as erosion control blankets and trees sourced from a local tree farm. Photo: ECT



After streambank restoration. Nearly one year after construction and high flows, the banks are vegetated with native trees, shrubs and grasses.

Our work in the Mill Creek watershed:



Areas that have been permanently protected with help from Legacy Land Conservancy.

Explore permanent land protection

options offered by the Legacy Land Conservancy. A conservation agreement can ensure your land remains in its natural state forever, while providing tax benefits to you and your heirs. Go to www.legacylandconservancy.org.

Lima Center streambank stabilization site.

South Dancer streambank stabilization site.

Natural areas assessed by the Bioreserve Project.

Consider streambank stabilizations like the Mill Creek project for your property. Visit the sites on South Dancer and Lima Center roads or go to www.hrwc.org to learn more.

Participate in HRWC's **Bioreserve Project** which identifies, assesses, and prioritizes natural areas in the watershed that best contribute to a healthy Huron River. Learn detailed information about your land that can help you make decisions for maintaining or protecting it. Go to www.hrwc.org.

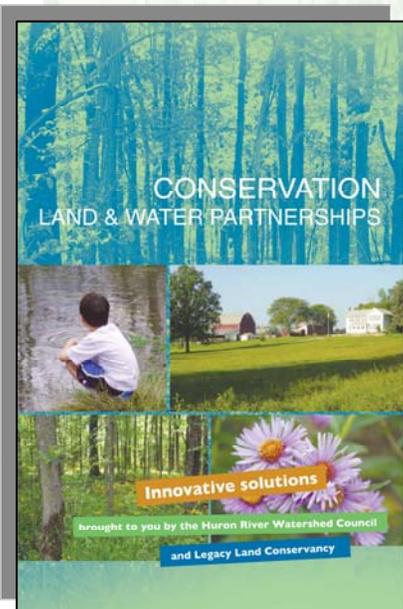


Image above: Map of the Mill Creek watershed with protected lands and bioengineering demonstration sites

Image left: Cover of mailing to project area landowners and watershed partners about options and resources to protect land and water.