

Gun River Watershed Implementation Project

The Gun River Watershed Implementation Project was well received in Allegan and Barry Counties. The goals of the Project were to develop and implement a watershed-wide soil testing program to prioritize high phosphorous soils, install best management practices through Farm Bill Programs and reduce phosphorous loading by 10% in the watershed. The Project partnered with the local Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) Field Office and the Gun Lake Tribe of Indians to combine cost-share efforts for producers in the watershed to reduce sedimentation and phosphorous loading to the Gun River. Twelve best management practices were installed by the watershed Project, NRCS and the Gun Lake Tribe of Indians. The Project also developed land use planning maps for all townships within the watershed and cost-shared the point of sale septic and water protection ordinances for the Barry County Planning Commission. The land use planning maps will enable local planning commissions to make informed decisions regarding future development projects and their effects on water quality. The Project was also instrumental in the development and adoption of the Allegan County Residential Phosphorus Ban Ordinance.

Grant Amount: \$224,088
Match Funds: \$74,520

Total Amount: \$298,608

Best Management Practices:

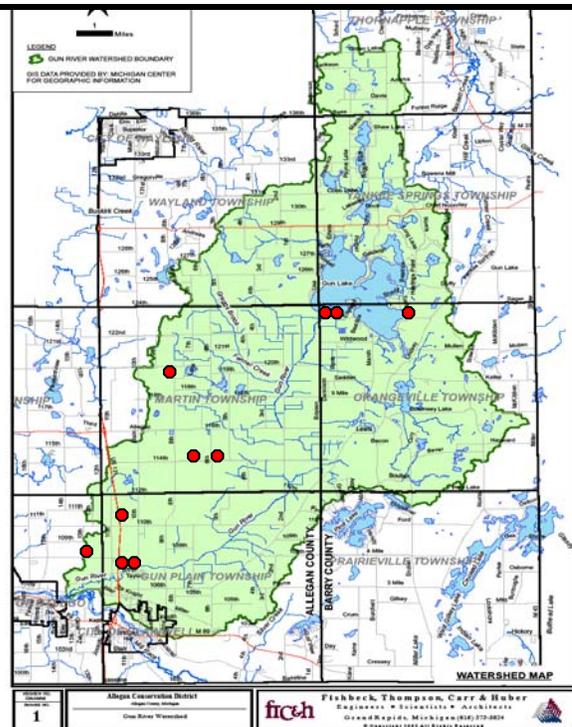


- Critical area planting
- 500 acres in cover crops
- 1,489 acres in no-till
- 1000 linear feet stream bank stabilization/buffers strips
- 2,000 linear feet livestock trails
- 2,000 square feet heavy use area
- Land Use Planning Maps
- 100 linear feet tree-revetment

Reductions

Sediment: 5,660 tons
Phosphorus: 4,333 pounds
Nitrogen: 8,573 pounds

● BMP locations



I&E Activities:

- Annual Best Management Practice Tour 
- Agricultural Equipment Demonstration Day
- Development of macro-invertebrate education kiosk
- Low Impact Development Seminar
- Signage for the geographic boundaries of the Watershed
- Adoption of Allegan County Residential Phosphorus Ban Ordinance
- Water quality sampling program for total phosphorus and total suspended solids

Partners involved:

- Allegan/Barry County Drain Commissioners
- Allegan/Barry County Road Commissions
- Allegan County MSUE
- Municipalities from the Watershed
- Allegan County NRCS
- Local Township Planning Commissions
- Local Sewer and Water Authorities
- Kalamazoo Downstreamers Canoe Club
- Watershed residents



Urban buffer demonstration planting, Gun River