

Federal Clean Water Act Section 319 Grant Tracking code: 2009-0003



Chippewa/Luce/Mackinac CD

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Munuscong River Watershed Planning Project

February 1, 2010 through March 31, 2013

Michigan's Eastern Upper Peninsula (EUP) depends on water resources, including recreation and thriving fisheries. Unfortunately, poor land use management has influenced and continues to threaten these resources. Since the area was first settled, approximately 28,170 thousand acres of wetlands have been drained and 26,690 thousand acres of forest have been harvested and cleared. The lower Munuscong River, which includes Parker Creek, is listed on the 303(d) list for sediment/siltation nonpoint source pollution. Water quality in the watershed has been compromised by a number of identified sources that are contributing bacteria, pathogens, nutrients, and sediment to its creeks, streams and rivers. The restoration, protection and preservation of the Munuscong River Watershed are a priority for the EUP community.

Grant Amount: \$ 154,165.00 Match Funds: \$ 37,044.09

Total Amount: \$ 191,209.09

Best Management Practices:

• Identify sites and implement wetland restoration projects, i.e. WRP

- Bacterial source tracking
- Prescribed grazing systems



- Stream bank restoration
- Heavy use protection, i.e. fencing
- Identify failing on-site septic locations
- Monitor water in TMDL watersheds
- Restore stream bank riparian buffers
- Protect waterways and outlets, i.e. Riprap and geotextile

Annual Load Reductions:

- 3,530 tons/year from agricultural sites
- 53 tons/year from road/stream crossings
- 8,109 pounds of nitrogen
- \cdot 4,055 pounds of phosphorus

I&E Activities:

 \cdot Promote BMPs, cost share programs, and MAEAP with farmers

- $\boldsymbol{\cdot}$ Provide on-site septic system education
- Provide education material regarding land preservation options
- Planning and zoning ordinances
- Expand student water monitoring





The collective Munuscong River watershed consists of two separate watersheds: the 187 square mile Munuscong River and the 46 square mile Little Munuscong River. The watersheds are located in the Eastern Upper Peninsula of Michigan.

Partners involved:

- Lake Superior State University
- Munuscong River Watershed
- Association
- Pickford High School
- Pickford Township Board
- Marquette Township Board
- Chippewa County Health Department
- EUP Regional Planning and Development
- Michigan Department of Environmental Quality
- Natural Resources Conservation
- Service



Enviro

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The Munuscong River Watershed Management plan identifies Best Management Practices (BMPs) which will reduce the tons of sediment currently entering the streams and rivers, and ultimately the mouth of the Munuscong Rivers.



The management plans proposes educational and implementation projects to correct problems with waste treatment facilities serving Pickford and Kinross, as well as the hundreds of residential septic systems in the outlying areas.



Grazing along streams and removal of vegetation near stream banks for farming has accelerated deposition of sediment into the creeks of the Munuscong watershed. BMPs such as riparian buffers, fencing and prescribed grazing will help to stabilize eroding banks and reduce nutrient loads in the creeks.



Stream bank restoration projects will help stabilize eroding banks, thus reducing sediment load in the streams.