



**DEQ**  
Michigan's  
Nonpoint Source  
Program

**Clean Michigan Initiative**  
**Clean Water Fund**  
DEQ Tracking Code: 2001-0032



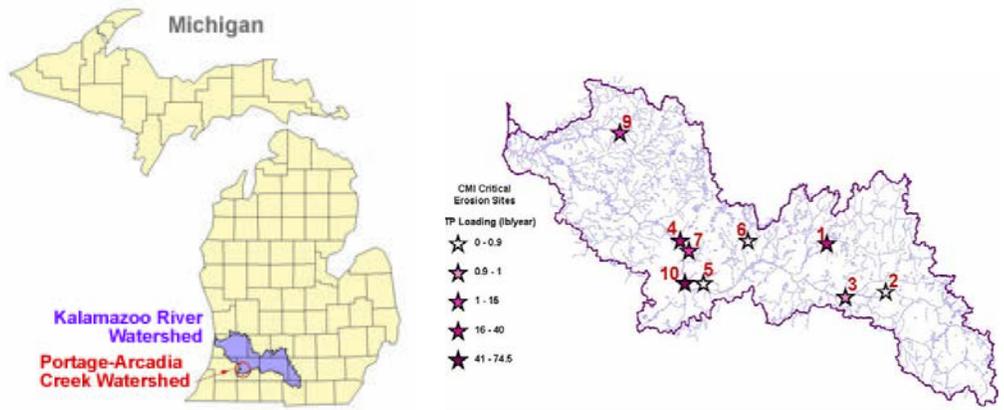
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## Kalamazoo River Watershed Critical Erosion Restoration Project

The Kalamazoo River Watershed Erosion Project was a unique partnership of agencies from Calhoun, Kalamazoo, and Allegan counties implementing Best Management Practices at ten critical sites along the Kalamazoo River. The original grant application for CMI funding was submitted in November of 2000. The grant was awarded on July 17 of 2001. The Kalamazoo River Watershed has been identified as an Area of Concern by the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ). The project addressed primary pollutants in a Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) watershed, which are sediment, nitrogen and phosphorus. The project also assisted in the reduction of phosphorus loading in the downstream Lake Allegan, which is a goal of the TMDL for the Kalamazoo/Lake Allegan watershed. The project brought a diverse group of partners working in three counties to reduce pollutants. The project accomplishments were also noted in the Kalamazoo River Watershed web site, one of the first of its kind in 2003.



The grant amount awarded was \$213,500 with a local match goal of \$82,600. At the end of the project, it should be noted that \$96,500 was given in local match, which is \$13,900 over the original amount. The final total for the critical erosion site project was \$163,000.



Images courtesy of Kieser & Associates at [www.kalamazooriver.net](http://www.kalamazooriver.net)

### Pollutant Reductions:

1,940 feet of bank stabilization measures were installed and 1,955 feet of river buffer strips were installed. In addition, 14,100 feet of road was shaped to decrease sediment runoff and 9,800 feet were paved. Pollutant load reductions include sediment reduction of 265 tons, phosphorus reduction of 170 pounds and 219 pounds of nitrogen.

Partners involved: Allegan, Calhoun and Kalamazoo County Road Commissions, Allegan, Calhoun and Kalamazoo Conservation Districts, Calhoun County Community Development, Kalamazoo River Watershed Council, Kieser & Associates, Potawatomi RC&D, Sauk Trails RC&D, USDA-Natural Resources and Conservation Service and the MDEQ.



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## Kalamazoo River Watershed Critical Erosion Sites Mitigation Project - Clean Michigan Initiative Clean Water Fund



Site #10. The City of Kalamazoo received a Region 5 USEPA Operations and Maintenance Excellence Award for participation in a stream bank erosion control project with the Natural Resources Conservation Service, resulting in the stabilization of 1,000 feet of river bank adjacent to the wastewater treatment plant.



Planting at the Kalamazoo Remediation Plant.



1,500 live sandbar willow stakes and dogwood prepared to be planted by volunteers along 900 feet of stream bank. (Orange end up!)



Stream bank restoration management practices included the use of geotextile materials and rip rap toe protection along the areas most affected by storm water flooding. Bio-engineering practices along less critically eroding areas included wetland seed mix, live plugs and the planting of aquatics.

Maintenance practices the following spring required the removal of invasive weeds and maintenance on the 15-foot upland vegetative buffer of native prairie species.