



Federal Clean Water Act Section 319 Grant

Tracking code 2004-0113
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Fumee Creek Watershed - Information & Education Grant

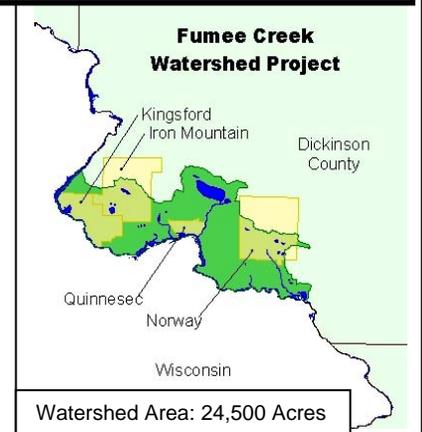
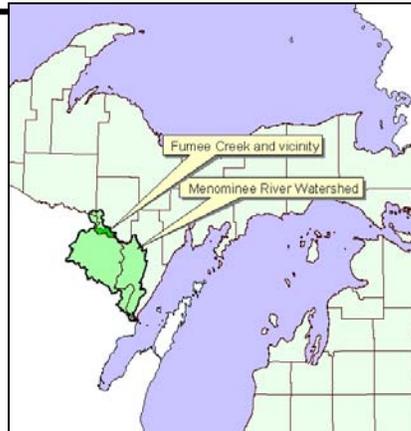
September 15, 2004 - June 29, 2007

This grant was meant to implement the information and education strategy set forth in the 2003 Fumee Creek Watershed Management Plan and complement a Clean Michigan Initiative (CMI) Nonpoint Source Pollution (NPS) Control Implementation Grant (CMI # 2002-0079). One goal of the grant was to draw attention to NPS pollutants contributed via storm water and to encourage the passage of local post-construction storm water ordinances in the three cities and one township within the watershed. Much energy and research was focused on educating the governmental partners on the value, purpose, and components of storm water ordinances. Two additional goals included increasing awareness of NPS pollution amongst both school and community groups, which was accomplished in a number of ways including "Know Your Watershed" Field Trips, bus tours, news articles, billboards, and illustrated presentations of many types. A fourth goal sought to highlight the physical BMP projects being installed concurrently with CMI funds. Identification and interpretive signage was installed at twelve sites. Finally, the institution of an outdoor classroom at the Norway Wetland/White Creek Relocation will be promoted with an interpretive kiosk, trail signs, brochures, a teacher curriculum guide for field trips, and a series of proposed biological studies.

Grant Amount: \$ 46,700

Match Funds: \$ 62,925

Total Amount: \$ 109,625



I & E Activities:

- Storm Water Management Ordinance Ed & Development: A Storm Water Work Group met 14 times, held two workshops, and made 22 public presentations. A draft ordinance developed but not yet adopted.
- Area School Education Programs: 680 students participated in "Know Your Watershed" Field Trips; 1,100 students received in-class presentations; two teacher in-services held; stenciled all storm drains in City of Kingsford; two stream clean-ups.
- Promotion of Norway Wetland Restoration & White Creek Channel Restoration projects as outdoor classroom; brochure, interpretive kiosk, six trail signs & curriculum/field trip materials prepared.
- Fumee Falls Roadside Park Slope Restoration: Informational signage.
- Signage for BMPs : Twelve signs installed to identify projects & partners who support water quality protection through watershed BMP installations.
- Increase community awareness relating to watershed protection from NPS through newsletters, "Bring Your Own Boots" event, billboards, news articles, radio, TV, website.
- Brought CMI-approved Fumee Creek Management Plan into full compliance with EPA's "Nine Elements."
- Aquatic Invasive Species Ed Campaign

Partners involved:

Over 30 partner groups contributed a total of 3662 Hours

- Dickinson Conservation District Board
- Cities of Iron Mountain, Norway, Kingsford & Breitung Township
- Dickinson County Board, Economic Development Authority, Planning Commission, Code Commission, Township Association
- Natural Resources Conservation Service; Central UP RC & D
- Iron Mountain, Norway, Breitung Township and Dickinson Area Catholic Schools, Dickinson-Iron Intermediate School District
- Dickinson Area Community Foundation
- Dickinson County Lakes & Streams Coalition, Cowboy Lake Area Association, Crystal Lake Residents
- We Energies and Zonta Club
- WJNR Radio, WHTO radio, Iron Mountain Daily News, The Advertiser, The Norway Current, Oakhill Internet
- Wildlife Unlimited of Dickinson County
- Robert E. Lee & Associates, Oneida, WI
- Land Information Access Assoc., Traverse City
- Pat Peterson, Norway DQ and approx 50 other adult volunteers
- Christian Welter, Mike Schwamlein, & David Lies: BSA
- White Water & Associates Inc.



“BYOB (Bring Your Own Boots) Events” were used to encourage watershed residents to understand the watershed and its NPS issues. Participants did hands on activities, toured the whole watershed, and individual BMP sites. Most popular were the “behind the scenes” at the Waste Water Treatment Plant and the retention basins behind the big box stores.



‘Know Your Watershed’ Field Trips for area schools helped acquaint 680 students with the Fumee Creek Watershed. Students traced the water flow from their school yard to the nearest body of water and did a whistle stop tour the watershed boundaries, waterbodies, and sites illustrating various NPS concerns.



Storm drain stenciling is a project that many school groups have had a share in. This activity was preceded by a presentation with the Enviroscape model and made students aware of how things travel in the storm drains to reach the water bodies within the watershed. In-class presentations were made to 1,100 students from three school districts in the watershed. An Eagle Scout candidate and his Boy Scout Troop took on the stenciling for the entire City of Kingsford, MI.



Billboards such as this one pictured near Crystal Lake in Iron Mountain, MI were used to bring greater awareness to local residents and was coordinated with an educational initiative for the local governments. In this case some 350 acres of stormwater are discharging directly to Crystal Lake and the water quality has drastically deteriorated. A series of five news articles in the Iron Mountain Daily News utilized similar graphics and text to bring awareness about Pet Waste, Fertilizer, Litter, Car Washing, and the need for local ordinances.