



Michigan's  
Nonpoint Source  
Program

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**Mona Lake  
Watershed Project  
Muskegon, MI**

## Mona Lake Watershed Management Plan Project

Mona Shores High School (match) Demonstration Project

April 14-15, 2006

The Mona Lake Watershed Council was awarded a \$167,571 federal Clean Water Act Section 604(b) planning grant (#2004-0116) in October 2004 to develop a watershed management plan for the Mona Lake Watershed. We used this grant to help secure additional funding from the ERM Foundation for a rain garden community demonstration project. The primary impairments to the Mona Lake Watershed are the result of sedimentation, high nutrients, stormwater runoff, pathogens, and contaminated sediments. Through the information and education (I&E) incorporated into demonstration projects like this one, we are increasing awareness of the watershed impairments and engaging people to do more in their community and on their own properties to reduce nonpoint source pollution. This is one of four project fact sheets.



### Project Highlights:

- Stop direct storm water runoff from school parking area and driveway from reaching nearby storm drain.
- Installed two rain gardens and a connecting dry prairie garden in front of the highly visible Mona Shores High School.

### I&E Activities:

- Two ecology students led the effort.
- They involved all their classmates in the installation process.
- They developed signage to educate the many parents that drive by daily.

### Photo Legend:

Left to right, top to bottom: Outline of the east rain garden; refilling the excavated west rain garden with compost; students planting native plants in designed plots of west rain garden; both rain gardens and the connecting dry prairie area (around trees) mulched over after planting; rain garden four months after installation; rain garden after 1" rain event - no water entering storm drain.

**Mona Lake Watershed Management Plan Project**  
Mona Shores High School Demonstration Project  
Before and after photos included in signage erected in garden

# Mona Shores Rain Garden

**A community demonstration project**

A "Rain Garden" is designed to collect runoff water and purify it, preventing polluted water from entering our local streams and lakes.



**BEFORE**



**DURING**



**AFTER**

This project was developed by the Mona Lake Watershed Council & Mona Shores High School's 2006 Ecology class, with generous funding provided by ERM Foundation, to demonstrate how anyone can use a rain garden at their home or business to capture and treat polluted runoff.



For more information, contact the Mona Lake Watershed Council @ [www.monalakewatershed.org](http://www.monalakewatershed.org)

