



Federal Clean Water Act  
Section 319(h) Grant  
2007-0118



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## Upper Maple River Watershed Planning

April 2008 through March 2010

A cooperative effort of government, business, education, citizen groups, and landowners, worked on the Watershed Management Planning project in the Upper Maple River Watershed. The watershed encompasses portions of Clinton, Gratiot, and Shiawassee counties. The Maple River is one of six major tributaries of the Grand River, which eventually flows into Lake Michigan. The area of focus, known as the Upper Maple River Watershed (Exhibit 1), is made up 16 smaller sub-watersheds and covers approximately 513 square miles. Portions of the Maple River State Game Area, the Gratiot-Saginaw State Game Area, and Sleepy Hollow State Park all fall within the watershed. The Cities of Ithaca, Fowler, and St. Johns are located inside the watershed, as well as the Villages of Maple Rapids, Ovid, Elsie, Perrinton, and Ashley. The dominant land use (Exhibit 2) in the watershed is agriculture. Low-density residential is the second most prominent land use in the watershed. Through an active stakeholder process, this project identified and prioritized sources and causes of pollution entering the river; established clear links and specific targets for enhancing the watershed; and facilitated interagency and intergovernmental cooperation in addressing land use issues and public investments to restore and protect the river. A key objective of the plan is to inform and educate both the general public and local officials about the need to protect the Maple River from land use practices leading to increased runoff and pollution that degrade water quality.

Grant Amount: \$ 238,012  
Match Funds: \$ 61,826

Total Amount: \$ 299,838

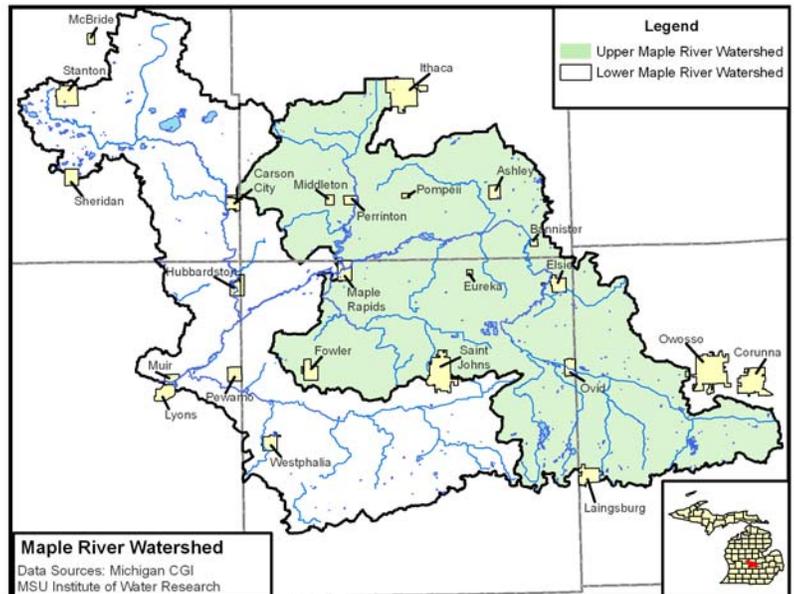
### Erosion sites and estimated Sediment to be controlled:

The Watershed Management Plan identified and ranked erosion sites as follows:

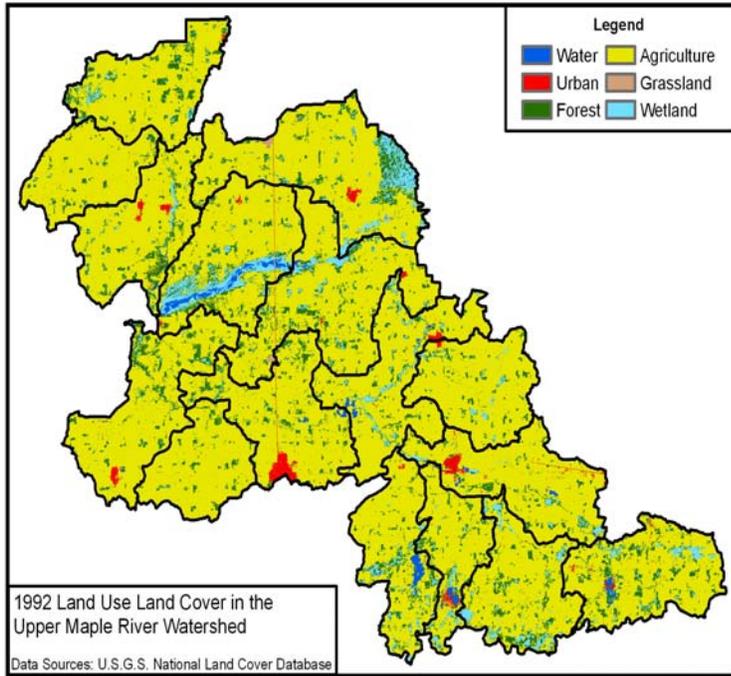
- 3 extreme priority- 80 tons/year
- 8 very high priority - 129 tons/year
- 31 high priority - 795 tons/year
- 51 moderate priority - 1,731 tons/year,
- and
- 22 low priority - 723 tons/year



### EXHIBIT 1 Maple River Watershed



**EXHIBIT 2**  
**Upper Maple River Land Use**



**I&E Activities:**



- The public was engaged and had opportunities for involvement, education, and awareness through a variety of forums, including public meetings, presentations, workshops, events, and news articles. Many of these opportunities allowed the public to comment to the process and progress of the project.
- Public comments were solicited on the Draft Watershed Management Plan.
- The Watershed Management Plan outlines 10 specific goals for future outreach and education.
- The Watershed Management Plan will be sustained through the commitment to continue the Steering Committee, comprised of key partners, with progress and updates presented at the annual meeting of The Friends of the Maple River.

**Partners involved:**



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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Clinton Conservation District</li> <li>■ Clinton County Drain Commissioner</li> <li>■ Friends of the Maple River</li> <li>■ Michigan Dept. of Natural Resources and Environment</li> <li>■ Michigan Department of Agriculture</li> <li>■ Fishbeck, Thompson, Carr &amp; Huber, Inc.</li> <li>■ Michigan State University's Extension offices</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Shiawassee and Gratiot Conservation District</li> <li>■ Shiawassee &amp; Gratiot County Drain Commissioner</li> <li>■ Clinton County Parks &amp; Green Space Commission</li> <li>■ Clinton County Regional Educational Service Agency</li> <li>■ Village of Ovid</li> <li>■ Fulton Township, Gratiot County</li> <li>■ Greenstone Farm Credit Services</li> </ul> |
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