



## **Cass River Watershed Planning Grant**

January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2011 - September 15<sup>th</sup>, 2014

The Cass River is approximately a 578,812 acre watershed located in Genesee, Huron, Lapeer, Saginaw, Sanilac and Tuscola counties. Nonpoint source pollution has impacted the biological integrity of the Cass River. The objective of this project was to obtain water quality information about the Cass River and to use this data to produce a watershed management plan. The completed plan includes results of the hydrologic, physical and biological assessments, along with recommendations and an information and educational plan for improving the function and quality of the Cass River. This plan will be utilized by local units of government, business owners, and concerned citizens to make accurate decisions about land management for the Cass River Watershed. Both nature and people benefit from the ecosystem of the Cass River Watershed. The watershed provides spawning habitat for fish and greatly contributes to abundant farm land. It also offers many recreational opportunities.

**Grant Amount: \$293,487.15**  
**Match Funds: \$52,548.29**

**Total Amount: \$346,035.44**

### **Recommended Best Management Practices:**

- Agricultural BMPs (conservation tillage, cover crops, livestock management, filter strips)
- Natural Lands BMPs (stream bank stabilization, wetland restorations)
- Urban BMPs (storm water outlet controls, on-site septic management)

### **I&E Activities:**

- "Get to know your Cass River" brochure
- "How Farms Protect the Cass River"
- Cass Flyer
- Virtual Watershed Tour
- Conservation District Board Meetings
- Conservation District Field Days
- Local county Fair Booths
- Parks & Recreation Commissions Board Meetings
- Cass River Greenways Committee quarterly meetings



### **Partners involved:**

- Cass River Greenway Committee
- U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
- Spicer Group
- MDEQ
- U of M-Flint
- Conservation Districts
- Business Leaders
- Landowners
- Local Units of Government
- Saginaw Bay WIN
- Local Conservation Clubs
- Road Commission
- Drain Commission



Cass River display @ local event.