



Michigan's  
Nonpoint Source  
Program

**Federal Clean Water Act  
Section 319 Grant**

Tracking Code 2011-0066



Huron River Watershed Council

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**Eliminating Pathogens from Honey Creek**

October 1, 2011 through September 30, 2014

The primary objective of the project was to develop a watershed management plan for Honey Creek, a 23 square-mile, mixed land use watershed that is listed as impaired for pathogen contamination. The project included volunteer ambient water sampling for *E. coli* to identify likely sources and genetic Bacteria Source Tracking (BST) to identify the speciation of bacteria. The watershed management plan addressed the federal 9 minimum elements required for section 319 approval and includes prioritized action plan to address the TMDLs (for pathogens and excessive phosphorus downstream) in the watershed and remove Honey Creek from the Impaired Waters list. The plan recommends activities to reduce or eliminate residential and agricultural bacteria sources and includes educational products.

**Grant Amount: \$ 74,500**

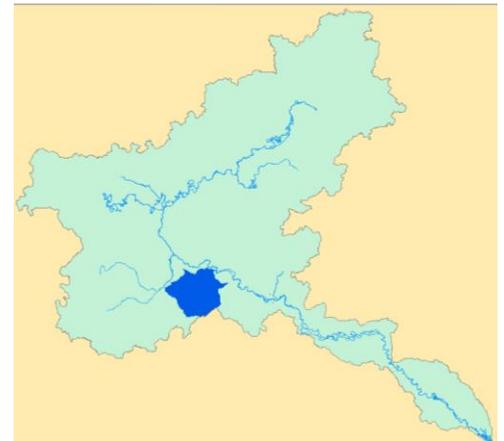
**Match Funds: \$ 21,200**

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**Total Amount: \$ 95,700**

**Project Highlights:**

- Watershed Management Plan
- 3-season Wet/Dry bacteria study
- BST analysis and reports
- Bacteria education web site
- Project web site
- Stakeholder presentations
- Upland windshield survey
- Stream reach survey



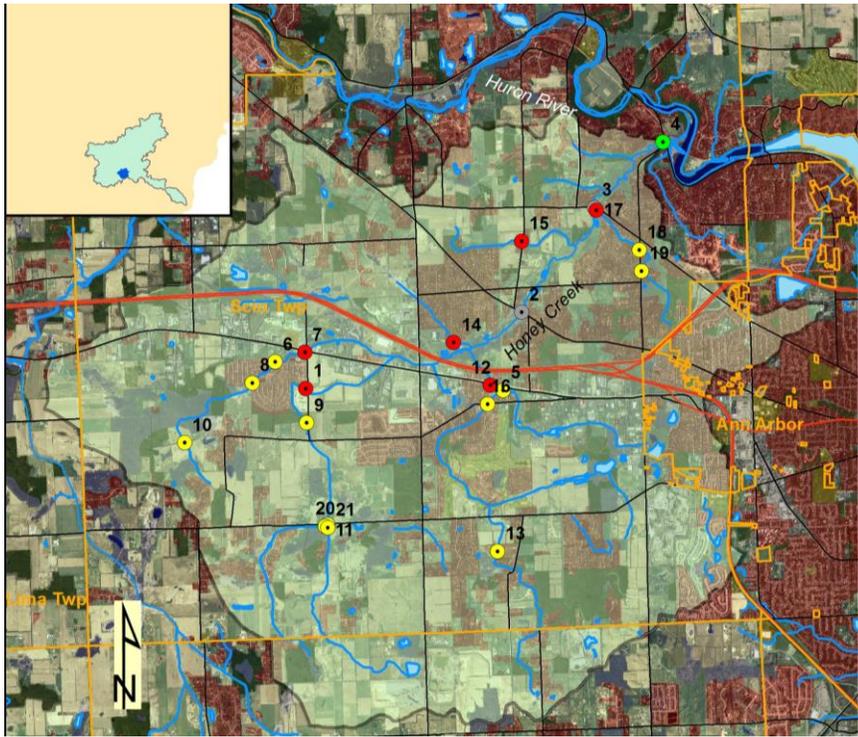
**Partners:**

Washtenaw County:

- Water Resources Commissioner
- Environmental Health
- Conservation District
- Scio Township
- City of Ann Arbor
- Natural Resource Conservation Service
- Helix Biolab

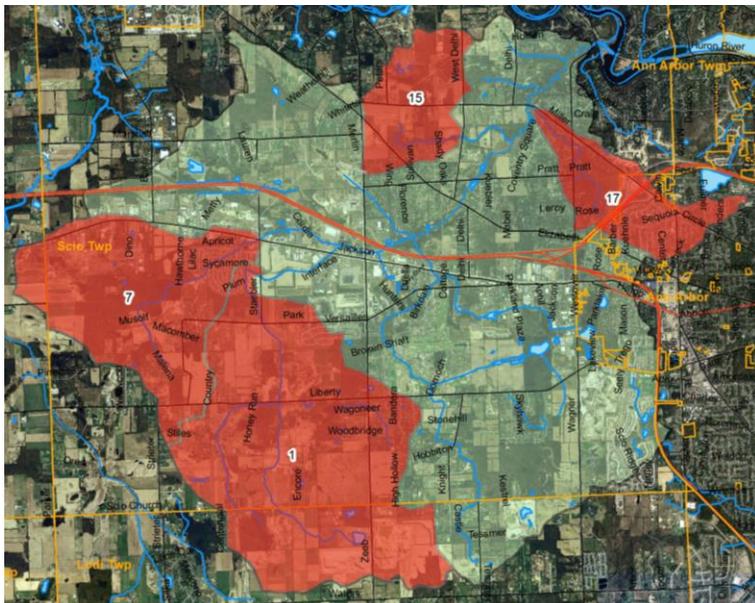
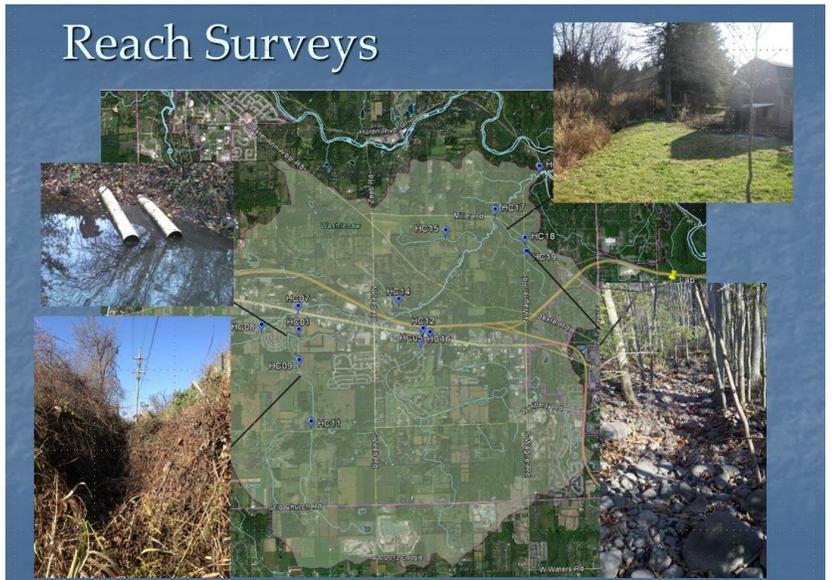


Volunteer Samplers



**Honey Creek Study Sites.**  
**Green = Long term**  
**Red = Primary sampling**  
**Yellow = Secondary follow-up sampling**

**Some discoveries during reach survey.**  
**Clockwise from upper right - chicken shack with open access to creek; dry stream bed with large cobble; typical channelized farm drain "creek"; and potential source connection.**



**Final critical area designations for implementing recommended activities to address pet waste, livestock access, and agricultural manure management.**