



**Federal Clean Water Act
Section 319 Grant**
Tracking code: 2008-0026



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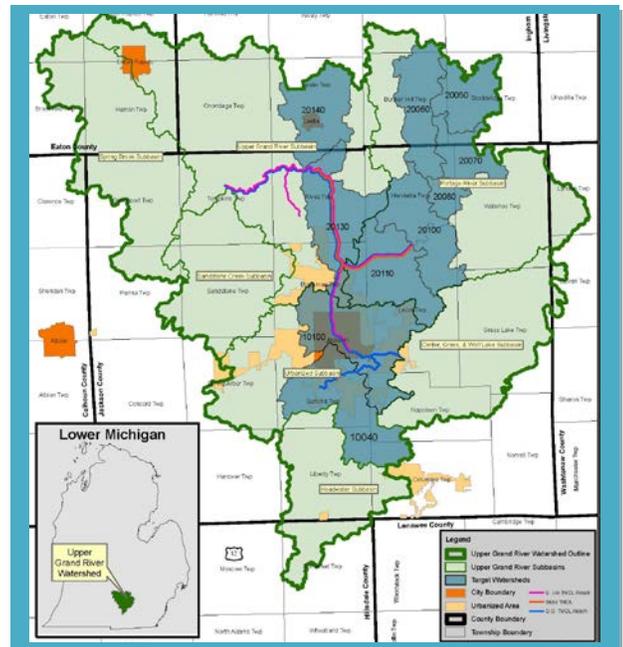
Upper Grand River Implementation Project

January 2009 - September 2012

The Upper Grand River Implementation Project (UGRIP) was designed to reduce sediment and *E. coli* pollution in a targeted area of the Upper Grand River Watershed (see map below). UGRIP efforts have included working directly with landowners and local governments to plan and implement Best Management Practices for managing erosion and sedimentation, as well as educating the public about water quality issues in the watershed and providing opportunities for volunteers to get involved in protecting the Grand River and its tributaries.

Grant Amount: \$323,400
Match Funds: \$213,100

Total Project: \$536,500



Partners involved:

- ASTI Environmental
- City of Jackson—Wastewater Treatment Plant
- City of Leslie
- Dahlem Conservancy
- Ducks Unlimited
- Farm Bureau—Jackson County
- Grand River Environmental Action Team (G.R.E.A.T.)
- Henrietta Conservation & Recreation Conservancy
- Ingham Conservation District
- Ingham County Drain Commissioner
- Jackson Ag Council
- Jackson County Drain Commissioner
- Jackson County Parks
- Legacy Land Conservancy
- Leoni Township
- MI Department of Environmental Quality
- MI Water Stewardship Program
- Michigan Audubon Society
- Potawatomi RC&D Council
- Upper Grand River Watershed Alliance
- USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service

Demonstration Sites:

- 250-foot shoreline stabilization site at Vandercook Lake County Park
- Bioretention basin (rain garden) at Russell Park
- Annual Pollutant Reduction for sites: 50.7 tons of sediment, 17.2 pounds of phosphorous, 34.3 pounds of nitrogen

I&E Activities:



- 12 educational workshops/tours for the public
- 31 media releases about the project
- 19 informational mailings to watershed residents
- 227 youth education programs for 8208 students
- 3 volunteer river cleanups
- Educational displays at special events reaching 3507 people
- 3 rain barrels installed
- 12 volunteer river monitoring events for the Adopt-A-Stream program
- Natural Resource Inventory and Planning & Zoning Review for Leoni Township

Best Management Practices:

Although grant dollars were not used to fund agricultural BMPs in this project, a partnership with several agencies allowed for the implementation of these BMPs in the targeted area:

- 716 acres of wetland restoration
- 120 acres of conservation cover
- 47 acres in 2 conservation easements
- 115 acres of prescribed grazing
- 550 feet of grassed waterway
- 8 landowners receiving Farm/Crop assessments
- 1 MAEAP Verification





The Ingham Conservation District and City of Leslie worked closely together to design and install a bioretention basin (rain garden) at Russell Park. The garden used native wildflowers to address gully erosion problems, while also visually improving the park and educating the community about the Upper Grand River Watershed.



Vandercook site-BEFORE



Vandercook site-AFTER

At the shoreline stabilization site at Vandercook Lake County Park, 250 feet of eroded lakeshore was stabilized with coir fiber logs and native plants. Watershed volunteers contributed 115 hours of hard work hauling materials and planting, resulting in a project that is calculated to reduce annual sediment pollution in the watershed by 19.7 tons per year!



Lending a Hand to
Keep it GRAND!



Public education and volunteer opportunities were a key component of the UGRIP. Three river cleanups and 12 educational workshops were held in the watershed. Displays at special events reached 3507 people, and 8208 students learned about water quality in the Upper Grand during the project.