



Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund
Annual Report
2017

Galien River County Park, Berrien County

Message from DNR Director, *Keith Creagh*



For more than 40 years, the Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund has played a significant role in protecting and improving recreational opportunities for residents and visitors in each of Michigan's 83 counties. This year, the Trust Fund board's recommendations will support projects like expanded access at popular fishing destinations, additional snowmobile and multi-use easements to give users broader access to trails, facility and playground improvements at community parks, construction of new pathways and connectors, trail-resurfacing and wildlife habitat enhancements.

These efforts provide many benefits to local communities, including a better quality of life, economic stimulus and the health advantages of a more active and social lifestyle. In partnership with local units of government, Trust Fund dollars help to leverage local funding to create opportunities for public outdoor recreation and to preserve Pure Michigan natural assets.

Message from MNRTF Chair, *Erin McDonough*



First, I would like to congratulate the many successful applicants who received grants in 2017. It is an honor for the Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund Board to partner with agencies, organizations and state and local government to help bring your projects and ideas to life for the communities you support.

Michigan, of course, is known as the Great Lakes State, but it offers so much more – including millions of acres of public land where residents and visitors can enjoy outdoor recreation pursuits that range from hunting, fishing and camping, to wildlife viewing, bicycling and snowmobiling.

These opportunities, in turn, are a big contributor to the state's economic engine. One of the biggest drivers is hunting, a time-honored tradition for generations of Michiganders. To help create better options for more hunters, the Board has developed a new priority of access to hunting in areas of the state that have been identified as lacking in such opportunities – especially for projects that involve 500 or more acres of land. We expect this priority to yield even more quality wildlife habitat and places where hunters can enjoy and share the sport.

Looking to 2018, the Board will work to build and strengthen partnerships. We look forward to more grant applications that continue to set Michigan apart as a state not only defined by but also dedicated to its remarkable natural resources. It is your creativity and vision that elevate the best of what the Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund makes possible.

MNRTF Board

The MNRTF Board of Trustees, authorized by Public Act 451 of 1994, is composed of five members, including the director of the DNR or a member of the Natural Resources Commission and four residents of the state appointed by the governor.

The citizen members serving in 2017 were Erin McDonough of Williamston, Steven Hamp of Ann Arbor, Bill Rustem of Mason and Samuel Cummings of Grand Rapids. The Department of Natural Resources was represented by Director Keith Creagh.

Board priorities for 2017 included: urban area projects, winter deeryards, wildlife corridors, Great Lakes shoreline access and trail acquisition and development, including water trails and the Iron Belle Trail.

Board and Staff Achievements/Actions

- Added Hunting Access Initiative to the list of Board priorities
- Continued to refine usage of the MiRecGrants software system to increase efficiency and improve customer service
- Conducted more than a dozen workshops throughout the state to assist stakeholders in learning more about the program

History of the MNRTF

The Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund (MNRTF) was established under the Kammer Recreational Land Trust Fund Act of 1976 to provide a permanent funding source for the public acquisition of land for resource protection and public outdoor recreation. Funding was provided by revenue derived from royalties on the sale and lease of state-owned oil, gas and mineral rights. In 1984, the MNRTF was expanded to allow for funding of acquisition and development of public land. Per the state constitution, the maximum amount of the accumulation of the non-renewable mineral royalties in the MNRTF is \$500 million. This level was reached in 2011 and represents the permanent investment corpus. Today, the MNRTF functions as a permanent endowment and is entirely dependent on investment income.

To date, the MNRTF has awarded over \$1.1 billion in grants to local units of government and state agencies for projects throughout all 83 counties. Of this total, \$232 million have been invested in trails. In excess of 1,000 public parks have been acquired and/or developed. Other projects funded include ball fields, boat launches, trailheads, restrooms and other amenities, for a total of 2,366 MNRTF-assisted projects since 1976.

View a short video about the Trust Fund at: <https://youtu.be/QIMwnUnEPiY>

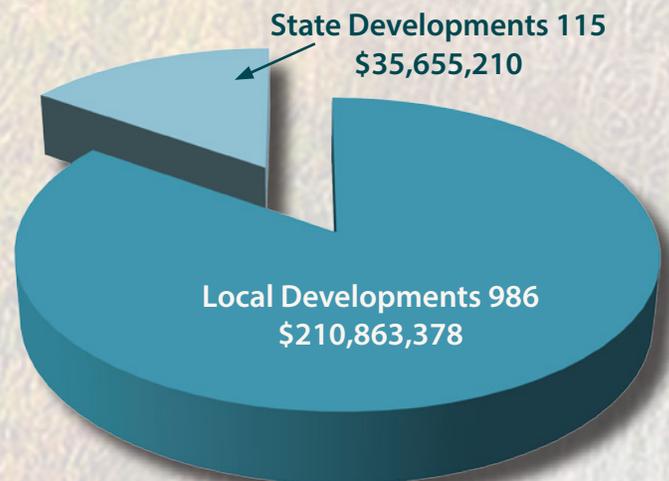
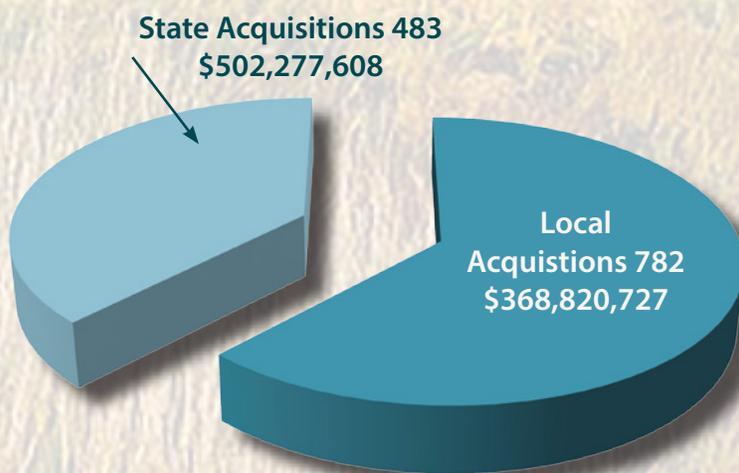
10-Year Grant History

Grant Awards (dollars)

Number of Grants

Application Year	Acquisition	Development	Total	Acquisition	Development	Total
2007	25,278,700	9,263,600	34,542,300	31	34	65
2008	35,632,200	12,902,500	48,534,700	37	44	81
2009	25,918,200	9,740,000	35,658,200	25	42	67
2010	81,155,800	20,942,600	102,098,400	46	71	117
2011	21,711,000	16,054,400	37,765,400	22	77	99
2012	14,276,500	9,072,200	23,348,700	22	54	76
2013	19,033,200	8,644,600	27,677,800	32	44	76
2014	18,249,900	6,479,600	24,729,500	25	44	69
2015	19,926,000	8,031,200	27,957,200	26	44	70
2016	27,670,800	19,940,100	\$47,610,900	27	87	114
Total	288,852,300	121,070,800	409,923,100	293	541	834

Local and State Acquisition and Development Projects 1976 - 2016



Total Number of Acquisitions - 1,265 for \$871,098,335

Total Number of Developments - 1,101, for \$246,518,588

2017 MNRTF Board Recommendations - Development Projects

County	Grantee	Project	Amount
Alcona	Alcona Township	Park Improvements	\$108,700
Antrim	Milton Township	Kewadin Waterfront Park and Water Trail Head	\$295,000
Antrim	Village of Elk Rapids	Dam Beach and Fishing Park Restroom Development	\$99,100
Baraga	DNR - Parks and Recreation Division	Baraga - Arnheim Trail Rehabilitation and Bridge Development	\$300,000
Bay	City of Bay City	Imagination Station Playground Development	\$300,000
Benzie	Village of Elbera	Penfold Park Restroom and Accessible Boat Launch	\$220,000
Berrien	Oronoko Charter Township	Oronoko Township Proposed Recreation Development	\$278,100
Berrien	Hagar Township	Riverside Kayak Park Development	\$300,000
Calhoun	City of Albion	Albion River Trail Expansion	\$255,000
Cass	Ontwa Township	Edwardsburg Connector Path	\$40,000
Cass	City of Dowagiac	Cass Avenue Trailhead	\$175,300
Charlevoix	Boyne Valley Township	Boyne Valley Trailway Development - Phase II	\$295,000
Clare	City of Harrison	Harrison Nature Trail	\$300,000
Clinton	Dewitt Charter Township	Valley Farms Park Path Improvements	\$47,800
Crawford	City of Grayling	* Trailhead and Connector Trail Development	\$300,000
Crawford	Grayling Charter Township	* Iron Belle Trail - Kirtland Community College Connector	\$300,000
Dickinson	Dickinson County	Playground Equipment Replacement	\$30,000
Eaton	Delta Charter Township	Delta Mills Park / Hunter's Orchard Park Connector Pathway	\$298,500
Eaton	Delta Charter Township	Delta Mills Park Canoe Launch & Park Improvements	\$237,500
Eaton	City of Grand Ledge	Jaycee Park Access Improvements and Preservation	\$98,400
Emmet	DNR - Parks and Recreation Division	* Little Traverse Wheelway Reroute/ Iron Belle Trail Connector	\$300,000
Emmet	Village of Pellston	Trailhead Development Project	\$200,900
Genesee	Genesee County	Downtown Flint Fishing Access Improvements	\$296,000
Genesee	Genesee County	Grand Fountain Park Improvements	\$296,000
Genesee	Genesee County	Improving Walkability at Riverbank Park	\$296,000
Genesee	Genesee County	Genesee County Iron Belle Trail Vassar to Irish Segment	\$300,000
Grand Traverse	City of Traverse City	Hickory Hills Renovations	\$50,000
Grand Traverse	Grand Traverse County	Boardman Lake Loop Trail - Medalie Park	\$300,000
Grand Traverse	Grand Traverse County	Boardman Lake Loop Trail	\$300,000
Grand Traverse	Long Lake Township	Timbers Recreation Area Trail Accessibility Updates	\$194,400
Houghton	DNR - Parks and Recreation Division	Hancock to Calumet Regional Trail Development - Phase 1	\$300,000
Huron	City of Bad Axe	Bad Axe Trail Improvements	\$140,000
Ingham	City of Lansing	Canoe and Kayak Launch at Moores Park	\$24,500
Ingham	City of Lansing	Canoe and Kayak Launch at Riverfront Park	\$33,600
Ingham	City of Lansing	Canoe and Kayak Launch at Krugers Landing	\$24,500
Ingham	Meridian Charter Township	Riverside Accessible Pavilion - Meridian Riverfront Park	\$50,000
Ingham	DNR - Marketing and Outreach Division	Dansville Shooting Range Accessibility Improvements	\$39,300
Ingham	Ingham County	Lake Lansing North Park Improvements	\$244,700
Ingham	City of East Lansing	White Park Trail Extension and Natural Features Enhancement	\$300,000
Ingham	Delhi Charter Township	Cedar Lake Trailhead	\$300,000
Ionia	City of Belding	Silk City Nature Trail Gathering Place Connector	\$142,300
Ionia	Ionia County	Fred Meijer River Valley Rail Trail - South Phase	\$290,000
Iron	Crystal Falls Township	* Heritage Trail Extension	\$300,000
Isabella	City of Mt. Pleasant	Island Park Fitness Trail and Bridge Project	\$153,000
Jackson	DNR - Marketing and Outreach Division	Sharonville Shooting Range Accessibility Improvements	\$43,500

* Iron Belle Trail projects

County	Grantee	Project	Amount
Jackson	Spring Arbor Township	Teft Road Trail Development	\$172,800
Kalamazoo	City of Kalamazoo	Improvements to Historic Bronson Park	\$300,000
Kalamazoo	Oshtemo Township	Drake Farmstead Park Improvements	\$136,500
Kalamazoo	Kalamazoo County	Kalamazoo River Valley Trail Galesburg Connection	\$300,000
Kent	Sparta Recreational Authority	Sparta Recreation Complex - Parking Lot and Pathway	\$225,000
Lapeer	DNR - Marketing and Outreach Division	Accessibility Improvements at Ortonville Shooting Range	\$49,200
Lapeer	DNR - Finance and Operations Division	Lapeer Pit Shooting Range Improvements	\$150,000
Lenawee	Lenawee County	Kiwanis Trail Expansion and Improvement Project	\$300,000
Livingston	DNR - Parks and Recreation Division	Island Lake Regional Trail Development Phase 1	\$300,000
Livingston	Unadilla Township	* Lakelands Trail Improvements	\$300,000
Mackinac	DNR - Parks and Recreation Division	* Iron Belle Trail - Bissell Creek Culvert Replacement	\$100,000
Manistee	Filer Charter Township	Magoon Creek Park Improvements	\$71,100
Marquette	Marquette County	Sugarloaf Mountain Natural Area Enhancement Project	\$45,000
Marquette	Iron Ore Heritage Recreation Authority	Iron Ore Heritage Trail Shelters and Fishing Access	\$163,600
Marquette	City of Ishpeming	Lake Bancroft Park and IOHT Trailhead	\$300,000
Marquette	City of Marquette	Williams Park Universal Access and Athletic Court Renovation	\$112,000
Marquette	City of Negaunee	Negaunee Jackson Mine Park IOHT Trailhead & Pavilion	\$291,100
Marquette	Marquette Charter Township	U.S. HWY-41 Underpass & Regional Trail Connector Project	\$300,000
Marquette	DNR - Finance and Operations Division	Marquette Shooting Range Development	\$225,000
Mecosta	DNR - Parks and Recreation Division	White Pine Trail Paving - Big Rapids to Sand Lake	\$300,000
Montcalm	City of Greenville	Fred Meijer River Valley Rail Trail - North Phase	\$290,000
Montcalm	City of Greenville	Flat River Water Trail Launch Project	\$99,900
Muskegon	DNR - Parks and Recreation Division	Muskegon Winter Sports Complex Canopy Tour - Phase 1	\$300,000
Oakland	City of Ferndale	Wanda Park Improvements	\$41,000
Oakland	Orion Charter Township	* Joslyn Road Regional Pathway Rehabilitation Project	\$267,600
Oakland	City of Ferndale	Geary Park Improvements	\$81,700
Otsego	DNR - Parks and Recreation Division	* Iron Belle Trail - Gaylord Gateway Trailhead Development	\$300,000
Ottawa	City of Grand Haven	Sluka Field Restroom/Concession Building Renovation	\$300,000
Ottawa	Ottawa County	Historic Ottawa Beach Waterfront Improvements	\$291,000
Ottawa	Crockery Township	North Bank Trail - Phase 2c Development	\$300,000
Saginaw	Saginaw County	* GLBRT Trailhead Development	\$209,200
Saginaw	DNR - Parks and Recreation Division	Observation Trail Development - Phase 2	\$300,000
Schoolcraft	DNR - Parks and Recreation Division	Snowmobile Trail #8 Bridge Development	\$210,000
Schoolcraft	DNR - Parks and Recreation Division	Sunken Lake Bridge Replacement	\$300,000
Schoolcraft	City of Manistique	Walk Manistique Riverside Pathway, Phase 1	\$296,000
Shiawassee	Shiawassee County	Henderson Park Renovation Project	\$165,800
St. Clair	City of Port Huron	Lighthouse Beach and Park Universal Design Facilities	\$100,000
St. Clair	City of Port Huron	Riverside Boat Launch Restrooms & Parking Lot	\$300,000
St. Clair	St. Clair County	Blue Water River Walk Park Development	\$300,000
St. Joseph	City of Three Rivers	Memory Isle Park Renovations	\$293,700
Van Buren	City of South Haven	Black River Park Skid Pier Replacement	\$37,500
Van Buren	City of South Haven	South Haven Splash Pad	\$300,000
Washtenaw	City of Ann Arbor	Allen Creek Railroad Berm Trail Development	\$300,000
Washtenaw	City of Chelsea	Letts Creek Linear Park	\$130,700
Washtenaw	Scio Township	* Zeeb Road Iron Belle Connector Development	\$300,000
Wayne	City of Detroit	Chandler Park Improvement	\$299,000

* Iron Belle Trail projects

County	Grantee	Project	Amount
Wayne	City of Detroit	Rouge Park Sorenson Renovation	\$300,000
Wayne	City of Detroit	Rouge Park - Brennan Pool Splash Pad	\$299,000
Wayne	City of Dearborn	Lower Rouge River Access and Revitalization Project	\$98,300
Wayne	DNR - Parks and Recreation Division	Belle Isle Oxbow Shoreline Fishing Area Accessibility	\$300,000
Wayne	DNR - Parks and Recreation Division	Belle Isle - Scott Memorial Fountain Accessibility Project	\$300,000
Wexford	City of Cadillac	Cadillac Trailhead	\$265,200
Total 2017 Development Recommendations			\$21,014,000

2017 MNRTF Board Recommendations - Acquisition Projects

County	Grantee	Project	Amount
Allegan	City of the Village of Douglas	Point Pleasant Marina Property Acquisition	\$1,001,400
Allegan	Laketown Township	Laketown Beach Expansion	\$640,000
Bay	DNR - Parks and Recreation Division	* Iron Belle Trail Easement - Lake State Railroad Property	\$850,000
Benzie	Homestead Township	Platte River Property Acquisition	\$222,000
Berrien	Berrien County	Love Creek Expansion	\$56,000
Branch	Branch County	Randall Lake Land Acquisition	\$403,800
Calhoun	Calhoun County	* Eastern Calhoun - Albion - Iron Belle Trailhead Acquisition	\$231,900
Charlevoix	DNR - Parks and Recreation Division	Fisherman's Island State Park Property	\$350,000
Cheboygan	Village of Mackinaw City	Lakefront Acquisition	\$100,000
Chippewa	DNR - Parks and Recreation Division	Former Canadian Pacific Railroad Property	\$193,900
Eaton	DNR - Wildlife Division	Thornapple Land Acquisition Initiative	\$640,000
Gogebic	City of Ironwood	Southern Beltline Trail Acquisition	\$54,300
Hillsdale	DNR - Wildlife Division	Lost Nation State Game Area Land Acquisition Initiative	\$120,000
Houghton	DNR - Parks and Recreation Division	Snowmobile Trail #109 Multi-use Trail Easements	\$56,200
Kent	Kent County	Chief Hazy Cloud Park Land Addition Phase 3	\$1,561,000
Kent	Algoma Township	River's Edge Park Acquisition	\$127,900
Keweenaw	DNR - Parks and Recreation Division	Snowmobile Trail #3 Easements	\$82,500
Lapeer	City of Lapeer	M-24 Pedestrian Tunnel Connection Land Acquisition	\$108,000
Marquette	DNR - Parks and Recreation Division	Longyear Multi-use Trail Easement	\$340,000
Mason	DNR - Parks and Recreation Division	Sargent Minerals Co. Land Acquisition	\$12,500,000
Mason	Pere Marquette Charter Township	Dow Property Acquisition	\$839,400
Montmorency	Rust Township	Lyons Landing Acquisition	\$203,700
Newaygo	DNR - Wildlife Division	Muskegon State Game Area Land Acquisition Initiative	\$213,800
Oakland	City of Novi	ITC Trailhead Park Expansion	\$367,500
Ontonagon	DNR - Parks and Recreation Division	Weyerhaeuser Multi-use Trail Easement	\$206,800
Ontonagon	DNR - Parks and Recreation Division	GMO Multi-use Trail Easement	\$49,200
Otsego	DNR - Forest Resources Division	Storey Lake Acquisition	\$912,500
Ottawa	Ottawa County	Stearns Creek Acquisition	\$528,000
Ottawa	Ottawa County	Ottawa Sands Acquisition	\$4,200,000
Saginaw	Thomas Township	Nature Preserve Acquisition	\$372,000
St. Clair	Casco Township	Township Public Park Acquisition	\$148,000
St. Joseph	St. Joseph County	Kettles Preserve Acquisition	\$166,500
Washtenaw	Pittsfield Charter Township	Waters/Oak Valley Park Acquisition	\$615,000
Washtenaw	Washtenaw County	* Huron River Preserve Acquisition	\$391,600
Total 2017 Acquisition Recommendations			\$28,852,900

* Iron Belle Trail projects

A list of all MNRTF projects, 1976 to present is available online at: www.michigan.gov/mnrtf

Enhancing Communities, Helping Citizens

The Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund was created to provide perpetual outdoor recreation benefits for the people of Michigan for both current and future generations. The positive effects of the Trust Fund help Michigan's economy by:

- Promoting healthier, more active lifestyles
- Providing a sense of place for local communities
- Creating safer routes for commuting

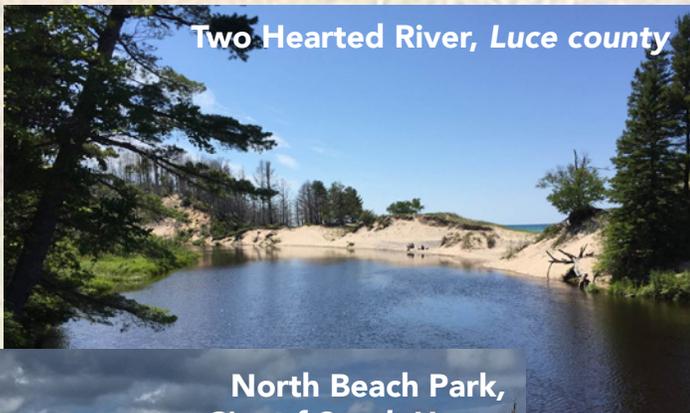
Understanding How the Trust Fund Works

In May 2011, the corpus of the Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund reached \$500 million and, in accordance with the Michigan Constitution, the funding formula of the MNRTF changed significantly. New revenue from state-owned oil, gas and other mineral production stopped being deposited into the MNRTF and started to be deposited in the State Park Endowment Fund. Funds available for grants from the MNRTF as well as Payments in Lieu of Taxes (PILT) and administrative costs now come from interest and earnings on these invested funds.

In response to the end of oil, gas and other mineral revenue deposits to the MNRTF, the board has instituted a thoughtful investment strategy aimed at ensuring that grants will continue to be available for current and future generations. Adequate fund reserves are present to withstand variations in the market and to allow for continued stability in the fund. This strategy will maintain a vital MNRTF for years to come. The 2017 MNRTF investment fund balance total is \$595 million.

Financial Summary

Interest earnings and income:	\$51.5 million
Development project awards:	\$21.0 million
Acquisition project awards:	\$28.8 million
Property taxes paid on state land purchased:	\$1.8 million
Operating expenditures:	\$2.3 million



Two Hearted River, Luce county



North Beach Park, City of South Haven



Galien River County Park, Berrien county



Gallup Park, City of Ann Arbor



Outdoor Adventure Center, City of Detroit



Learn more about the Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund at:
www.michigan.gov/mnr/f

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Questions: 517-28 GRANT (517-284-7268)