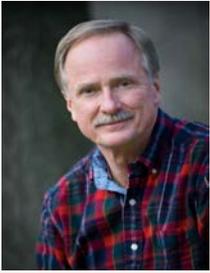




*Michigan Natural Resources
Trust Fund*
Annual Report
2015

Message from DNR Director, *Keith Creagh*



For more than 39 years, the Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund has made it possible for Michigan citizens to enjoy better, broader public access to our state's world-class natural resources and outdoor recreation opportunities. Through this fund, thoughtful investment is made both in projects for active recreation - such as parks, boat launches, trails and athletic fields - as well as in the protection and conservation of natural resources vital to a memorable outdoor experience.

These efforts bring real benefits to local communities, including a richer quality of life, economic stimulus and the health advantages of a more active lifestyle. In partnership with local units of government, Trust Fund dollars help to leverage local funding for efficient use of public money in creating opportunities for public outdoor recreation and in preserving Pure Michigan natural assets. No matter where you go in the great state of Michigan, you're within a short distance of a quality outdoor recreation opportunity or attraction that exists today because of Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund support.

Message from MNRTF Chair, *Brad Canale*



In many ways, Michigan is defined by its natural resources. A unique state, which includes two separate land masses surrounded by over 3,000 miles of fresh water shoreline, Michigan is recognized globally for its natural resources. Whether it be the Great Lakes that provide a natural border or our inland wildlife and landscape, Michigan boasts some of the most outstanding and diverse outdoor recreation in not only the United States but the world. The citizens of Michigan have long benefited from outdoor recreation, including hiking, biking, fishing and wildlife enjoyment. Important recreation projects, such as the Iron Belle Trail, will provide many new recreation opportunities. I am proud to be part of a program that not only improves both the quality and quantity of public outdoor recreational opportunities in this beautiful state but also contributes to economic growth through enriched tourism attractions.

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 2015 were Erin McDonough of Williamston, Steven Hamp of Ann Arbor, Brad Canale of Ann Arbor and Samuel Cummings of Grand Rapids. The Department of Natural Resources was represented by Director Keith Creagh.

Board priorities for 2015 included: urban area projects, winter deeryards, wildlife corridors and trail acquisition and development, including water trails.

Board and Staff Achievements/Actions

- Partnered with outside agencies, philanthropists and nonprofits to leverage Trust Fund dollars in support of Governor Snyder's "Iron Belle Trail", extending from Belle Isle to Ironwood
- Focused on regional collaboration to fill gaps in access to public outdoor recreation
- Implemented a new online grant application and management system, making the entire grant process (from application through project completion) easier from start to finish
- Completed a stakeholder review of the Trust Fund program
- Completed a review of innovative funding opportunities with experts from the Department of Treasury and the private-sector financial industry.

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/foundation without an influx of new revenue and is entirely dependent on investment income to make grants and for asset growth.

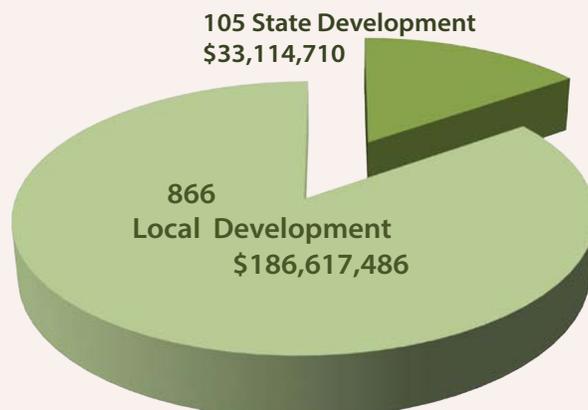
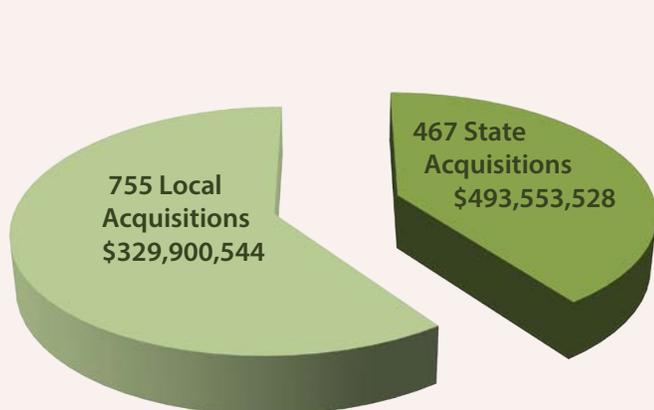
To date, the MNRTF has awarded over \$1 billion in grants to local units of government and state agencies for projects throughout all 83 counties. Of this total, \$196 million have been invested in trails. In excess of 1,000 public parks have been acquired and/or developed. Other projects funded include ball fields, tennis courts, trailheads, restrooms and other amenities, for a total of just under 2,200 MNRTF-assisted projects since 1976.

10-Year Grant History

Application Year	Grant Awards (dollars)			Number of Grants		
	Acquisition	Development	Total	Acquisition	Development	Total
2005	29,514,000.00	7,825,500.00	37,339,500.00	22	30	52
2006	27,846,600.00	8,301,500.00	36,148,100.00	34	27	61
2007	25,278,700.00	9,263,600.00	34,542,300.00	31	34	65
2008	35,632,200.00	12,902,500.00	48,534,700.00	37	44	81
2009	25,918,200.00	9,740,000.00	35,658,200.00	25	42	67
2010	81,155,800.00	20,942,600.00	102,098,400.00	46	71	117
2011	21,711,000.00	16,054,400.00	37,765,400.00	22	77	99
2012	14,276,500.00	9,072,200.00	23,348,700.00	22	54	76
2013	19,033,200.00	8,644,600.00	27,677,800.00	32	44	76
2014	18,249,900.00	6,479,600.00	24,729,500.00	25	44	69
Total	298,616,100.00	109,226,500.00	407,842,600.00	296	467	763

Local and State

Acquisition and Development Projects 1976 - 2014



Total Number of Acquisitions - 1,222 for \$823,454,072

Total Number of Developments - 971 for \$219,732,196

2015 MNRTF Board Recommendations - Development Projects

County	Grantee	Project	Amount
Alger	DNR - Parks and Recreation Division	Laughing Whitefish Falls Scenic Site Access Improvements	\$300,000
Alpena	DNR - Parks and Recreation Division	Alpena to Hillman Trail Development Phase 1	\$300,000
Bay	Hampton Charter Township	Finn Road Park Improvements	\$182,300
Calhoun	City of Albion	Albion River Trail Expansion Project	\$294,000
Cass	Cass County	Dodd Park Water Trail Development Project	\$277,500
Clare	Village of Farwell	Farwell Park Placemaking Improvements (Phase 1)	\$25,000
Delta	City of Gladstone	Bay de Noc Trail System	\$300,000
Eaton	Delta Charter Township	Hawk Meadow Restrooms	\$49,500
Genesee	Genesee County	Atlas Township Section - Iron Belle Trail	\$300,000
Gogebic	Watersmeet Township	Whitefish Trail Restoration Project	\$108,000
Gogebic	Marenisco Township	Donald McKenzie Memorial Park Enhancements	\$295,000
Grand Traverse	Garfield Charter Township	Boardman Valley Nature Preserve Improvements	\$100,000
Grand Traverse	City of Traverse City	Clancy Park Improvements	\$45,000
Huron	City of Harbor Beach	Waterfront Enhancement Project	\$295,000
Ingham	Meridian Charter Township	Accessible Pavilion - North Meridian Road Park	\$50,000
Iosco	Iosco County	Iosco Exploration Trail, Phase 1	\$296,000
Isabella	Village of Shepherd	Mid-Michigan Community Pathway Phase I	\$296,000
Jackson	DNR - Parks and Recreation Division	Lakelands Trail Development: M-52 to Parnall Road	\$300,000
Jackson	Summit Township	Horton Road Trail Development	\$94,000
Jackson	Jackson County	Sparks Park Inter-City Trail Connector Development Project	\$173,500
Jackson	City of Jackson	Fourth Street Connector Development Project	\$300,000
Kent	City of Grand Rapids	Huff Park Boardwalk Renovation & Restroom Improvements	\$300,000
Mackinac	City of St. Ignace	Little Bear East Recreation Park Development	\$280,000
Marquette	Marquette Charter Township	Schwemwood Iron Ore Heritage Trailhead Parking/Path/Wetland	\$50,000
Marquette	City of Marquette	Father Marquette Park Accessibility/Improvement Plan	\$140,000
Menominee	Spalding Township	Veterans Memorial Park Improvement Project	\$81,900
Muskegon	City of Roosevelt Park	Fordham Street Playfield Improvements	\$15,000
Oakland	City of Ferndale	Martin Road Park Improvements	\$75,000
Oakland	City of Ferndale	Harding Park Improvements	\$75,000
Oakland	Orion Charter Township	Clarkston Road Regional Pathway Connection Project	\$300,000
Ottawa	Holland Charter Township	Dunton Park Shoreline Renovation & Barrier Free Kayak Launch	\$300,000
Ottawa	City of Zeeland	Zeeland Splash Park Expansion	\$50,000
Ottawa	Crockery Township	Phase 2a. Extension of North Bank Trail	\$45,000
Roscommon	DNR - Parks and Recreation Division	Higgins Lake Regional Trail Connector	\$300,000
Saginaw	City of Frankenmuth	Frankenmuth Memorial Park Boat Launch Improvements	\$225,700
Saginaw	Bridgeport Charter Township	Bridgeport Cass River Trailhead	\$275,800
Saginaw	Bridgeport Charter Township	Cass River Water Trail - Hoffmann Site	\$50,000
St. Clair	City of Algonac	Riverfront Park Lighting Replacement	\$50,000
Van Buren	City of South Haven	North Beach Park Improvements	\$300,000
Van Buren	City of South Haven	Black River Park Skid Pier Replacement	\$37,500
Washtenaw	City of Ann Arbor	Gallup Park Universal Access Playground and Site Amenities	\$300,000
Wayne	DNR - Parks and Recreation Division	Belle Isle Lake Okonoka Picnic Area Development	\$300,000
Wayne	Redford Charter Township	Kraft Park Multi-Sports Complex Renovation	\$50,000
Wayne	City of Southgate	Market Center Park - Pavilion Improvements	\$49,500

Total 2015 Development Recommendations \$8,031,200

2015 MNRTF Board Recommendations - Acquisition Projects

County	Grantee	Project	Amount
Allegan	DNR - Parks and Recreation Division	Saugatuck Dunes State Parks Property Acquisition	\$400,000
Antrim	Milton Township	Waterfront Park Acquisition	\$464,300
Bay	Williams Charter Township	Williams Township Park Acquisition	\$140,600
Chippewa	Superior Township	Superior Township Riverview Park Acquisition	\$96,200
Eaton	City of Grand Ledge	Oak Park Expansion	\$42,000
Emmet	Littlefield Township	Hay Lake Water Access Site Acquisition	\$167,800
Emmet	DNR - Parks and Recreation Division	Petoskey State Park Addition	\$200,000
Grand Traverse	DNR - Wildlife Division	Petobego State Game Area Land Acquisition	\$2,475,000
Houghton	DNR - Parks and Recreation Division	Douglass Houghton Waterfall Acquisition	\$600,000
Ionia	City of Portland	Land acquisition for expansion of Two Rivers Park	\$82,500
Iosco	Oscoda Charter Township	Oscoda Beach Park Property Acquisition	\$416,200
Kent	Plainfield Charter Township	Grand Rogue Campground	\$863,300
Kent	Algoma Township	River's Edge Park Acquisition	\$138,000
Kent	Caledonia Charter Township	Caledonia Lakeside Park - North Shore Land Addition	\$945,000
Kent	City of Grand Rapids	Acquisition/Expansion of Monroe North	\$7,584,100
Kent	Kent County	Millennium Park Land Addition	\$276,000
Macomb	City of New Baltimore	City of New Baltimore Land Acquisition of Schmid Marina	\$2,850,000
Macomb	DNR - Parks and Recreation Division	St. Clair Boating Access Site	\$1,000,000
Manistee	Bear Lake Township	Bear Lake Frontage for Kayak/Canoe Launch	\$82,500
Muskegon	City of North Muskegon	North Muskegon Property Acquisition	\$167,500
Muskegon	White River Township	Barrier Dunes Sanctuary Addition	\$300,000
Saginaw	Saginaw County	Great Lakes Bay Regional Trail Land Acquisition	\$104,400
St. Clair	St. Clair County	Pine River Property Acquisition	\$97,500
St. Clair	St. Clair County	Belle River Property Acquisition	\$65,800
Tuscola	Tuscola Township	Tuscola Township Park Acquisition	\$100,000
Washtenaw	Washtenaw County	West Lake Preserve Expansion	\$267,300

Total 2015 Acquisition Recommendations \$19,926,000

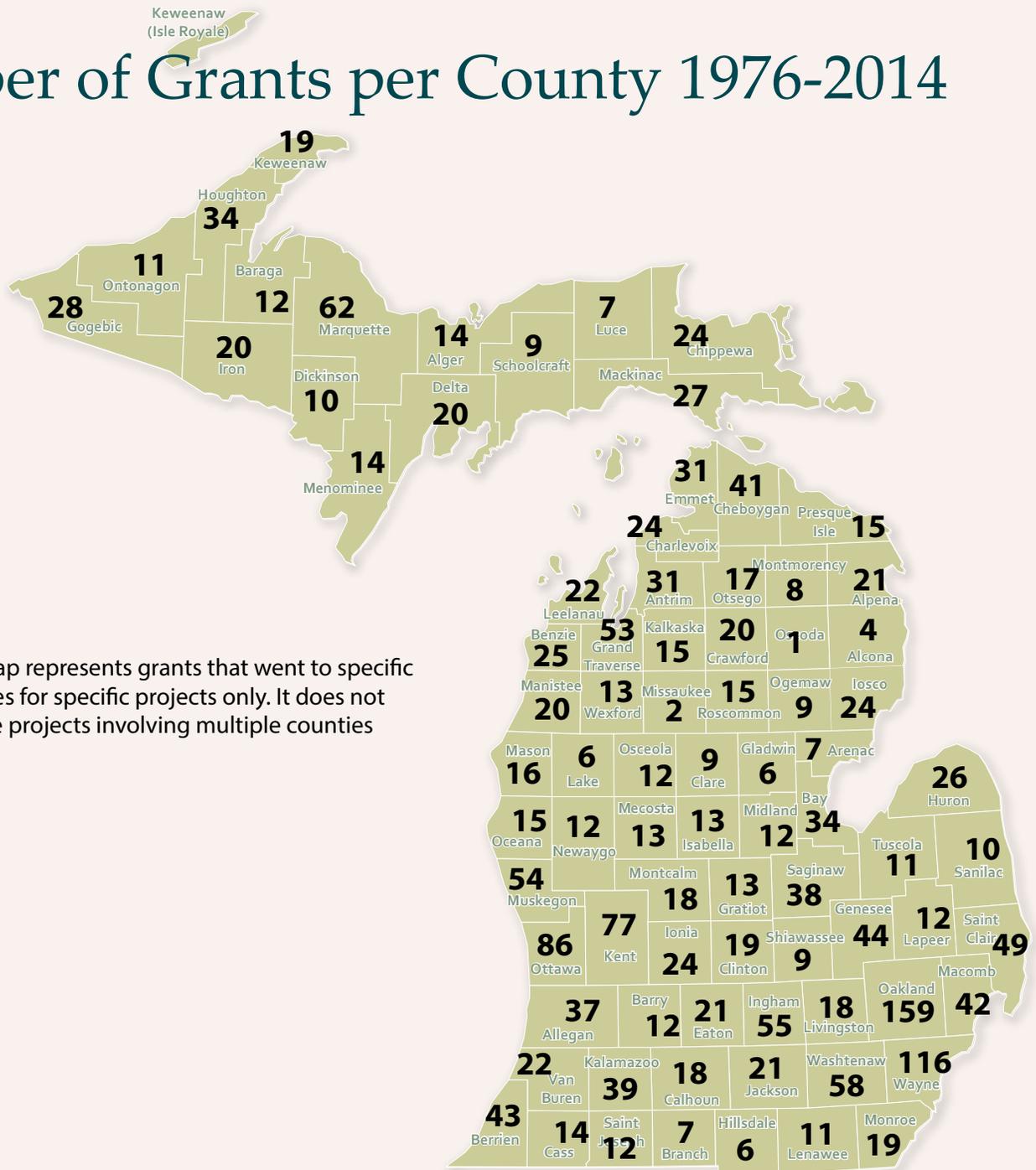


Enhancing Michigan Communities, Helping Michigan Citizens

The Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund was created to provide long-term 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 through:

- Promotion of healthier, more active lifestyles
- Stronger "placemaking" for local communities
- Making safeways for commuting

Number of Grants per County 1976-2014



This map represents grants that went to specific counties for specific projects only. It does not include projects involving multiple counties

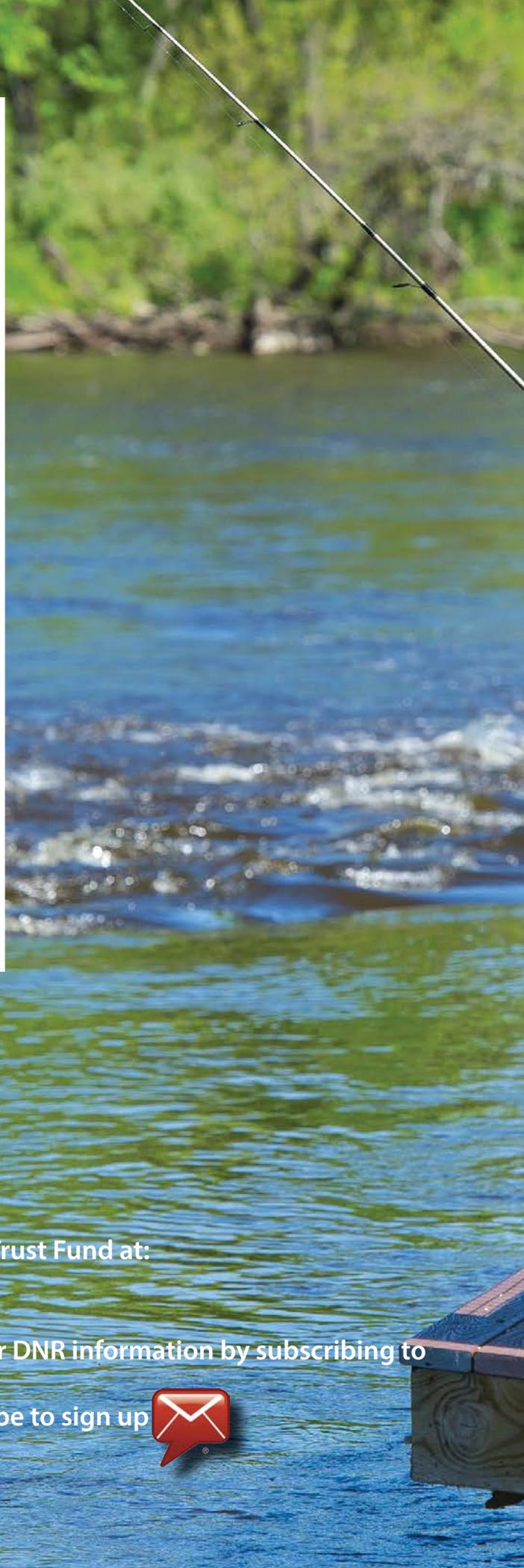
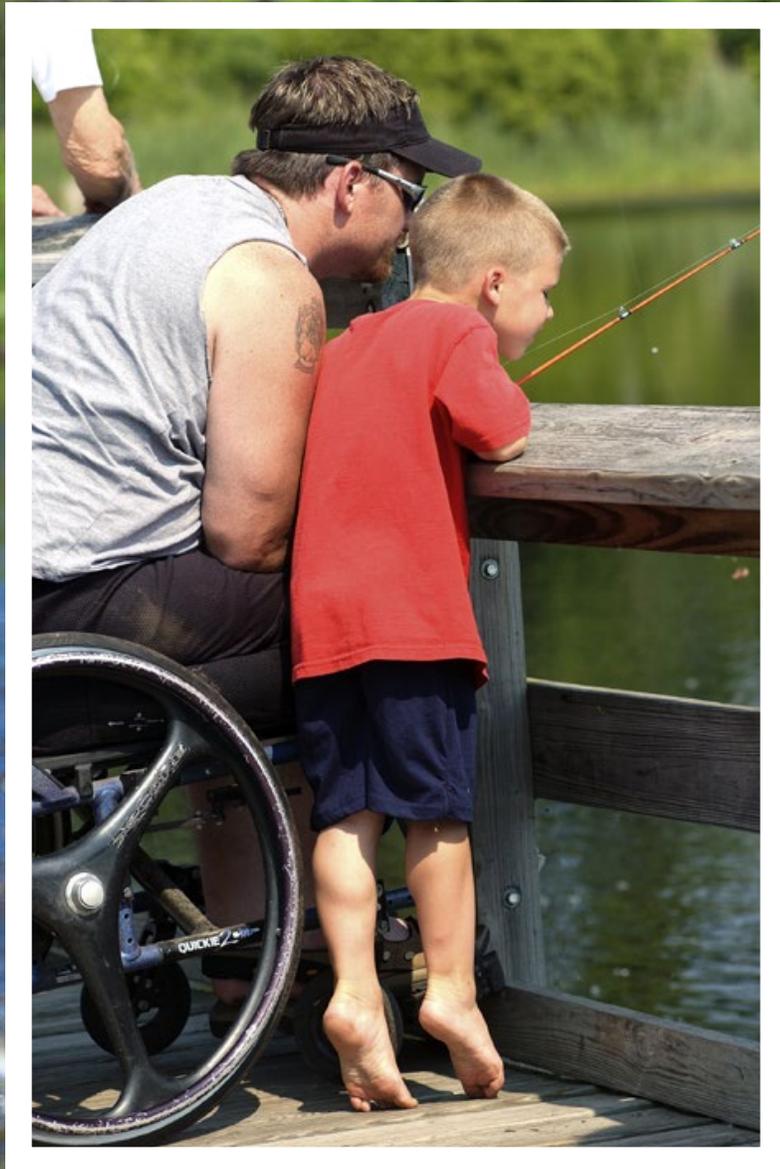
Understanding How the Trust Fund Works

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, while adequate fund reserves are present to withstand variations in the market and to allow for growth in the fund. This strategy will maintain a vital and growing MNRTF for years to come.

Corpus:	\$500 million	Interest earnings and income:	\$13.3 million
Stabilization reserve:	\$40 million	Development project awards:	\$8.0 million
Growth reserve:	\$38 million	Acquisition project awards:	\$20.0 million
Total:	\$578 million	Property taxes paid on state land purchased:	\$1.6 million
		Operating expenditures:	\$1.7 million





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

Stay current on the latest Trust Fund news and other DNR information by subscribing to email updates. Visit:
www.michigan.gov/dnr and click on the red envelope to sign up



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