

## MICHIGAN COASTAL MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

### 2022 GRANT AWARDS

The Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy, Water Resources Division, Michigan Coastal Management Program (MCMP) is awarding \$1,114,577 in grant funds to coastal partners for 17 grant projects and program initiatives. The MCMP is committed to provide creative grant funding to support the efforts of coastal communities, non-profit organizations, universities, and Tribal governments to protect, preserve, restore, enhance, and wisely develop our coastal resources along the longest freshwater coastline in the nation.

The MCMP was approved by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration in 1978, under the federal Coastal Zone Management Act. The MCMP provides technical and funding assistance to Michigan's coastal communities for land use plans, zoning ordinances, and other local policies and programs that balance community growth with protection of coastal natural and maritime heritage resources, reduces risks from coastal hazards, and encourages commerce and recreation focused on the Great Lakes coast. The MCMP promotes federal, state, and local government coordination.

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### PROGRAM INITIATIVES

**Project:** Resilient Michigan Collaborative

**Partner:** Land Information Access Association (LIAA)

**Grant Amount:** \$75,000 grant / \$75,000 match

**Location:** Michigan coastal communities

**Project Description:** In collaboration with the MCMP, the LIAA will continue to assist coastal communities to become resilient through the Resilient Michigan Collaborative Initiative (RMC). The MCMP and Grantee will continue their coordinated outreach on the Initiative; recruit and assist participating coastal communities to conduct a sustainability assessment of municipal plans and regulations; generate recommendations for revisions, amendments, or additions that will help the participating communities increase their ability to anticipate, accommodate, adapt, and thrive amid dynamic and changing conditions.

**Program Contact:** Adam Arend, [ArendA@Michigan.gov](mailto:ArendA@Michigan.gov), Coastal Community Development Coordinator

## PROGRAM INITIATIVES

**Project:** Coastal Leadership Academy

**Partner:** Michigan Association of Planning

**Grant Amount:** \$100,000 grant

**Location:** Michigan coastal communities

**Project Description:** The goal of the 2022 work is to expand the reach of the Coastal Leadership Academy (CLA) and build upon on the community work accomplished in 2020 and 2021. The purpose of the CLA is to bring together community leaders and training professionals in a collaborative setting to collectively learn and advance the knowledge of resiliency principles, specifically targeting coastal communities. The MCMP and MAP will collaboratively conduct regionally focused CLAs and a Coastal Resilience Summit in 2022.

The target audience for the CLA is local elected leaders, appointed planning and zoning officials, community planners, water resource managers, developers, engineers, real estate professionals, and other key leaders and stakeholders in the community. Teams of 20-35 individuals will be formed in each of the regional locations. The intention is to use the time together at the CLA to form strong local relationships and engage in shared goal setting that will allow participants to address coastal environmental challenges and problem solve as a team going forward.

**Program Contact:** Adam Arend, [ArendA@Michigan.gov](mailto:ArendA@Michigan.gov), Coastal Community Development Coordinator

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**Project:** MCMP Adaptation Toolkit Technical Support Team

**Partner:** Michigan Technological University and GEI Consultants of Michigan, P.C.

**Grant Amount:** \$75,000 grants

**Location:** Michigan coastal communities

**Project Description:** The Michigan Technological University and GEI Consultants of Michigan, P.C. are assisting as technical support to the MCMP with the development of the MCMP Resilient Coastal Communities Adaptation Strategies Toolkit. The Toolkit is to provide technical guidance on adaptive approaches for shoreland protection for local decision makers for softer shore protection alternatives; nature-based solutions to coastal erosion and flooding; and resilient public access that protects riparian rights and the public trust doctrine. The Technical Team will also assist in the development of the technical guidance referred to as “Living and Thriving on Michigan’s Coastline”. All materials will be public facing and posted on the Water Resources Division webpage.

**Program Contact:** Karen Boase, [BoaseK@Michigan.gov](mailto:BoaseK@Michigan.gov), Coastal Habitat Coordinator

COASTAL PLANNING GRANTS

**Project:** Keeping Water Clean in the White Lake Area

**Partner:** West Michigan Environmental Action Council (WMEAC)

**Grant Amount:** \$16,115 grant / \$16,115 match

**Location:** Muskegon County

**Project Description:** White Lake flows into Lake Michigan in northern Muskegon County where the scenic resort community spent the last several decades cleaning up legacy contamination associated primarily with the chemical industry. Now, to preserve the water quality in the lake and surrounding areas, pollution from potentially failing septic tanks need to be addressed. The WMEAC will collaborate with partners from local government and middle school science programs from the area's two public school systems to develop and deliver educational materials; host water quality panels; and conduct property owner workshops to elevate the importance of proper maintenance and self-inspection of on-site disposal systems for overall water quality.

**Program Contact:** Karen Boase, [BoaseK@Michigan.gov](mailto:BoaseK@Michigan.gov), Coastal Habitat Coordinator

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**Project:** Developing a Resilient Management Plan for the Macatawa Watershed

**Partner:** Macatawa Area Coordinating Council (MACC)

**Grant Amount:** \$42,605 grant / \$42,605 match

**Location:** Allegan and Ottawa Counties

**Project Description:** Lake Macatawa is a drowned river mouth connected to Lake Michigan near the city of Holland. The surrounding 175 square miles of land that drain to the lake have significant impacts on water quality and coastal resiliency. High water levels in Lake Michigan combined with increasingly severe weather events have amplified the need to refocus local efforts and update the local management strategy to ensure the watershed is resilient to these changes. The MACC will update the Macatawa Watershed Management Plan to guide management decisions to improve water quality and quantity through watershed hydrology, prevent flooding, and manage storm water.

**Program Contact:** Melissa Letosky, [LetoskyM@Michigan.gov](mailto:LetoskyM@Michigan.gov), Coastal Waters Coordinator

COASTAL PLANNING GRANTS

**Project:** Community Driven Water Protection Planning in Alpena, MI

**Partner:** Huron Pines

**Grant Amount:** \$58,833 grant / \$58,833 match

**Location:** Alpena and Alpena Township

**Project Description:** The Huron Pines will work with community leaders in Alpena and Alpena Township to raise awareness about water quality, storm water management, coastal resilience, and advance community-driven planning efforts. The grantee will conduct community input sessions and create conceptual green infrastructure plans, then present final plans to city officials. These activities will result in community driven decisions to plan large- and small-scale green infrastructure projects that improve water quality, reduce the volume of runoff, and build local coastal resilience. Additionally, a natural features overlay will be generated for the city of Alpena and Alpena Township for future local and regional planning and zoning efforts. This data can be used in the future as a tool for collaborative and comprehensive land protection for building resiliency on the Lake Huron coast.

**Program Contact:** Melissa Letosky, [LetoskyM@Michigan.gov](mailto:LetoskyM@Michigan.gov), Coastal Waters Coordinator

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**Project:** Green Infrastructure Assessments for Coastal Resilience in Southeast Michigan

**Partner:** Southeast Michigan Council of Governments (SEMCOG)

**Grant Amount:** \$62,204 grant / \$62,204 match

**Location:** Macomb, Monroe, St. Clair, and Wayne Counties

**Project Description:** Changing rainfall patterns with increasing intensities and frequency, combined with resulting flood impacts and rising water levels, continue to impact coastal communities in Southeast Michigan. Threatening public and private property, ecosystem health, water quality, infrastructure assets, and accessibility of water resources. The SEMCOG will identify priority publicly owned properties with stakeholder input, assess properties for green storm water infrastructure feasibility, and develop concept plans for the priority sites to strengthen coastal resiliency to coastal storms and flooding. Green storm water elements may include natural features such as shoreline softening, wetland enhancements, or other natural feature restoration while constructed features may include bioretention or other storm water treatment practices that manage runoff from impervious surfaces. The primary outcome of the project will include 10-15 concept plans for public property sites using green infrastructure to strengthen coastal resiliency.

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COASTAL PLANNING GRANTS

**Project:** Resilient Launching Access for Boats and Paddlecraft

**Partner:** Bay City

**Grant Amount:** \$80,000 grant / \$80,000 match

**Location:** Bay City

**Project Description:** Bay City will develop design and construction plans to reactivate and enhance four waterfront boating access sites on the Saginaw River. Planning will evaluate access options for both motorized vessels and paddlecraft. Coastal resilience principles and the use of green infrastructure are forefront in planning consideration. Public engagement will help inform plan development. Reconnecting residents and visitors to the river will support the local blue economy and encourage coastal tourism.

**Program Contact:** Weston Hillier, [HillierW@Michigan.gov](mailto:HillierW@Michigan.gov), Public Access Coordinator

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**Project:** Veterans Memorial Park Improvements Master Plan

**Partner:** City of Marysville

**Grant Amount:** \$24,000 grant / \$24,000 match

**Location:** City of Marysville

**Project Description:** The city of Marysville will develop a Master Plan for improvements at Veterans Memorial Park along the St. Clair River. Priority will be placed on barrier-free paddlecraft water access and increasing green infrastructure. Feasibility for softening a section of riverfront shoreline with nature-based solutions will be perused. The grantee will undertake the public engagement process to evaluate proposed site enhancements and incorporate input into the final Master Plan.

**Program Contact:** Adam Arend, [ArendA@Michigan.gov](mailto:ArendA@Michigan.gov), Coastal Community Development Coordinator

COASTAL PLANNING GRANTS

**Project:** Lakeshore Drive Managed Retreat Feasibility Study

**Partner:** Allegan County Road Commission

**Grant Amount:** \$45,000 grant / \$45,000 match

**Location:** Saugatuck Township

**Project Description:** The Allegan County Road Commission, in partnership with Saugatuck Township, will conduct a feasibility study for the managed retreat of a portion of Lakeshore Drive. Erosion threatens an approximately 2-mile long section of public road sitting atop a 60-foot high bluff along Lake Michigan. This road is the only means of access for many homes and businesses in Saugatuck Township. The study will provide a better understanding of; current and future risk to the road, inform the public of that risk, determine long-term options utilizing a benefit-cost analysis, seek public input on alternatives, and select alternatives that will lead to the implementation of future mitigation projects. Results will guide future road management, mitigation grant applications, and growth and development for the area.

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**Project:** Coastal Hazards Education in the Western Upper Peninsula

**Partner:** Western Upper Peninsula Planning and Development Region Commission (WUPPDR)

**Grant Amount:** \$11,109 grant / \$11,109 match

**Location:** Houghton and Keweenaw Counties

**Project Description:** To increase understanding of western Upper Peninsula (U.P.) community vulnerability to Lake Superior hazards, the WUPPDR will develop place-based education programs and conduct outreach on coastal hazards. The western U.P. region includes five coastal counties and approximately 365 miles of Lake Superior shoreline. The grantee will partner with the Houghton and Keweenaw County Office of Emergency Measures, Western U.P. MiSTEM Network, Lake Superior Stewardship Initiative, and Keweenaw Land Trust to jointly develop resources to engage with communities, educators, students, and other interested stakeholders.

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**COASTAL PLANNING GRANTS**

**Project:** Willingness to Accept Coastal Retreat Survey

**Partner:** Western Michigan University (WMU)

**Grant Amount:** \$21,098 grant / \$21,098 match

**Location:** Michigan coastal communities

**Project Description:** The WMU will research the Willingness to Accept (WTA) managed retreat strategy. The WTA is the lowest cost a homeowner would accept to willingly take part in coastal retreat plans. This measure is the premium above market value required to prompt managed retreat. WMU will conduct focus groups and surveys to gain insight into the barriers involved in retreat strategies. This data may also be used in cost benefit planning. These plans would identify locations where managed retreat strategy costs may not exceed the benefits.

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LOW-COST CONSTRUCTION GRANTS

**Project:** Solanus Mission Beach Access and Environmental Enhancements

**Partner:** City of Petoskey

**Grant Amount:** \$112,500 grant / \$112,500 match

**Location:** City of Petoskey

**Project Description:** To support vibrant, healthy, and resilient communities, the city will provide universal public access to the coastline of Lake Michigan by constructing a low-impact boardwalk using environmentally friendly materials. The grant will include an overlook deck accessible from the non-motorized trail, boardwalk, native species beach vegetation plantings, interpretive signage, and invasive species control.

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**Project:** Keewahdin Beach Accessibility Improvements Project

**Partner:** Fort Gratiot Township

**Grant Amount:** \$76,250 grant / \$76,250 match

**Location:** Fort Gratiot Township

**Project Description:** To support vibrant, healthy, and resilient communities, the township will enhance road end public access to Lake Huron with the installation of a paved, universally accessible switch-back walkway. This project will incorporate environmentally friendly construction methods and green infrastructure, such as porous pavers and native vegetation which will help control storm water and enhance coastal habitat on site.

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**Project:** Lake St. Clair Metropark Accessible Launch

**Partner:** Huron-Clinton Metropolitan Authority (HCMA)

**Grant Amount:** \$194,863 grant / \$194,863 match

**Location:** Harrison Township

**Project Description:** The HCMA will enhance previously disturbed waterfront parkland in Lake St. Clair Metropark. Construction of a universally accessible kayak launch will provide barrier-free, safe access to nearby Lake St. Clair and Clinton River Water Trails, as well as the Black Creek Marsh. Additional site enhancements include installation of green infrastructure, ADA-compliant walkways and parking, native vegetation, and educational signage. This newly activated parkland will provide space for outdoor education activities and other small gatherings to foster appreciation for coastal resources.

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## LOW-COST CONSTRUCTION GRANTS

**Project:** Hancock Waterfront Pathway and Shoreline Protection

**Partner:** City of Hancock

**Grant Amount:** \$45,000 grant / \$45,000 match

**Location:** City of Hancock

**Project Description:** The city will undertake a feasibility analysis for nature-based shore protection and wetland restoration to address erosion issues at a high-energy shoreline on the Keweenaw Waterway. A site-specific vegetation plan and potential incorporation of public access features will be components of the analysis. The city will select the design option that is least impactful to the environment, riparian rights, and the public trust. Once the design is selected, the city will obtain all required permits and complete final engineering plans. Installation of the nature-based shore protection and wetland restoration will be completed in accordance with the approved plans.

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For more information, visit the Coastal Management Program webpage at [Michigan.gov/CoastalManagement](https://Michigan.gov/CoastalManagement)



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