



**Federal Section 319  
Nonpoint Source Grant**  
2000-0154

Anchor Bay Watershed Project  
Contact: Geoffrey Donaldson  
Ph. 810-989-6950  
Email: gdonaldson@stclaircounty.org

## Anchor Bay Watershed Planning Project

October 29, 2001 to December 31, 2003

**Project Description-** The goal of the Anchor Bay Watershed Plan was to bring together stakeholders, collect and share existing information on environmental quality, identify problems, and develop a watershed wide action plan. The Watershed Plan was written in a manner that fulfills the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ)

requirements under the Clean Water Act (CWA), the Michigan Watershed Storm Water Permit and makes the participating communities eligible for Clean Michigan Initiative (CMI) grant funds.

### GOALS:

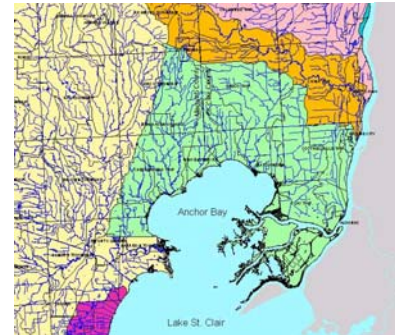
The goal of this project was to develop a comprehensive watershed management plan for the Anchor Bay portion of Lake St. Clair which would recommend measures that need to be taken to restore, preserve, or enhance the designated and desired uses of the Anchor Bay Watershed area.

Specific long term goals for the watershed are to:

- Restore and enhance recreational uses
- Restore and protect aquatic life and wildlife's habitat
- Protect public health
- Reduce impacts from peak flows

The Anchor Bay Watershed encompasses 171 square miles (443 km<sup>2</sup>), including the Delta Islands (Harsens and Dickinson Islands), in Macomb and St. Clair Counties. In St. Clair County, the Anchor Bay Watershed includes all or part of Algonac, Casco Township, China, Clay, Cottrellville, and Ira Townships and the City of Algonac. In Macomb County, the Anchor Bay Watershed includes all of New Baltimore and parts of Chesterfield, Clinton, Harrison, Lenox, Macomb Townships, the Village of New Haven, City of Richmond, Richmond Township and the City of Mt. Clemens. Major tributary streams within the Anchor Bay watershed include Auvase Creek, Beaubien Creek, Crapau Creek, Marsac Creek, Swan Creek, the Marine City Drain, and the Salt River.

### Anchor Bay Watershed



Grants Funds:	\$92,252.00
<u>Match Funds:</u>	<u>\$103,866.00</u>
Total Funds:	\$196,118.00

**Evaluation-** This project resulted in the development of a comprehensive watershed management plan for the Anchor Bay portion of Lake St. Clair. In developing this plan, the designated and desired uses within Anchor Bay were investigated and cause-effect relationships were developed for those uses considered to be impaired. A list of Best Management Practices (BMPs) was developed to address each specific long-term goal identified in the management plan. Costs associated with implementing these BMPs and timeframes for implementation are also included. Agencies and communities responsible for implementing the BMPs are also identified.

A Public Involvement and Education Strategy was identified in the chapter "Public Participation and Education". This chapter outlines the process involved in soliciting input into the goals and objectives of the Plan and includes a description of how we demonstrated the impacts of individuals' and organizations' actions on water quality in the watershed.

Lastly, a collaborative process was begun to provide digital data to help Macomb and St. Clair Counties update their GIS databases with pertinent and necessary watershed information.

### **Project Sustainability:**

The Steering Committee, in conjunction with Macomb and St. Clair Counties, have decided to pursue a Transition Grant for the purpose of implementing the Anchor Bay Watershed Management Plan and upgrading the plan to meet the Environmental Protection Agency's (USEPA's) nine watershed planning elements.

It is expected that through grant funding opportunities and the municipal storm water Phase II program, the action plans laid out in the watershed plan will be implemented over time and that the steering committee will continue to work together as needed in the future to ensure that progress is made towards reaching watershed goals.

### **I&E Activities**

#### **Products-**

- Management Plan (Volumes I & II)
  - State of the Watershed
  - Public Participation & Education
  - Watershed Goals
  - Best Management Practices
  - Community Action Plans
    - Implementation Time Frames
    - Cost Estimates
  - Methods of Measuring Progress
- Project Website  
<https://www.stclaircounty.org>
- Sustainable watershed steering committee

### **Project Partners:**

#### **Partners Contributing Toward Grant Match:**

- St. Clair County Drain Commissioner's Office
- St. Clair County Metropolitan Planning Commission
- St. Clair County Health Department
- St. Clair County Road Commission
- Macomb County Health Department
- Macomb County Planning & Economic Development
- Macomb County Office of Public Works
- Southeast Michigan Council of Governments