



**Clean Michigan Initiative
Nonpoint Source Grant**
1999-0044

Calhoun Conservation District

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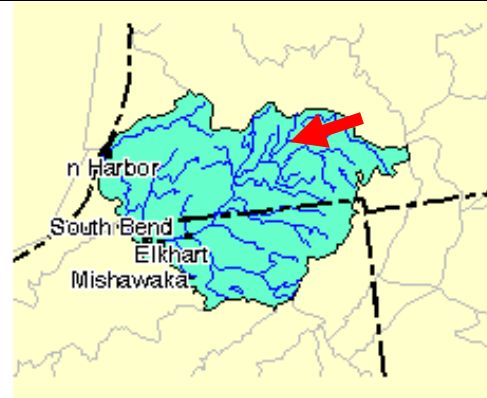


Nottawa Creek Athens Bank Stabilization Project

August 1, 2000, through July 31, 2001

The Nottawa Creek Watershed covers 59,196 acres across southern Calhoun County, located in South-Central, Michigan. The watershed is 68% agricultural, 13% forest land, 10% wetlands, and 9% urban and rural (non-farm). The Village of Athens, with a population of about 1,000 residents, is the only village in the watershed.

A biological survey of the Nottawa Creek concluded that habitat degradation in the creek was caused partly by dredging and partly by sediment transport to the creek. Project goals were to protect and improve water quality in the watershed by restoring the eroding stream banks along the spillway and reducing sediment and nutrient delivery.



Grant Amount: \$26,413.00

Matching Funds: \$13,513.75

Total Grant Amount: \$39,926.75

Project Partners

- Village of Athens
- Calhoun Conservation District
- Potawatomi Resource Conservation & Development Council
- Natural Resources Conservation Service
- Athens Youth Council
- Friends of the St. Joseph River
- Starr Commonwealth
- Boy Scout Troop #373
- Trout Unlimited
- Athens High School
- Athens Garden Club

Best Management Practices

- Bank shaping
- Geotextile placement
- Rock riprap placement
- Seeding and mulching
- Native plant establishment
- 540 feet of bank treated with 330 cubic yards of riprap
- Deck and fence construction to prevent foot traffic on banks



Information and Education Activities

- Calhoun County Rural Day
- Display at Watershed Management Planning
- Marshall High School Environmental Monitoring
- Meeting with Lyon Lake Association
- Presentation at Kiwanis Conservation Club
- Presentation at Awareness Workshop



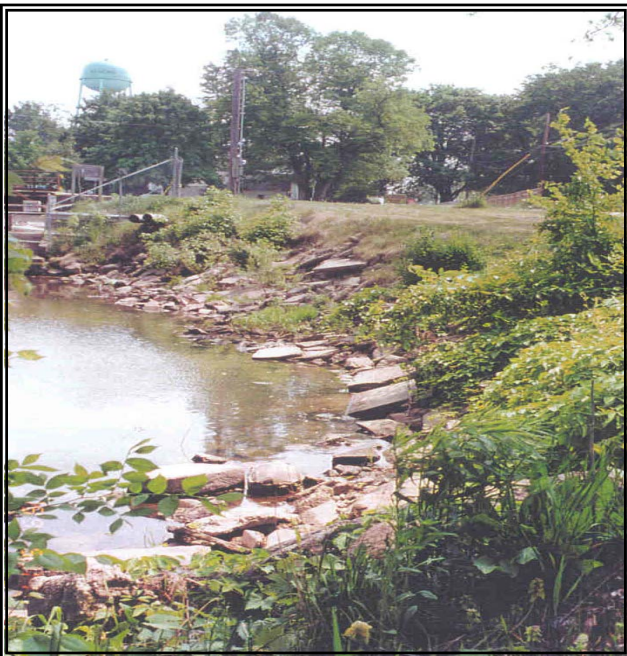
BMP'S: Before and After at Wilson Park in Athens, Michigan



1999:
Sediment from this eroding stream bank was being washed into the river, which covered potential habitat for organisms requiring a rocky stream bottom.



2001:
The bank was stabilized with bank shaping, geotextile fabric, and rock riprap.



1999:
Water below the spillway had been eroding this stream bank.



2001:
Erosion was eliminated by bank shaping, geotextile placement, rock riprap, and establishment of native plant species.