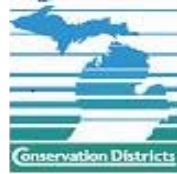




Clean Water Act Section 604(b)  
Nonpoint Source Planning Grant  
Tracking Code: 2004-0124



Chippewa/East Mackinac  
Conservation District  
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## The Sault Ste. Marie Area Watershed Project

October 1, 2004 to September 30, 2006

The city of Sault Ste. Marie is the primary urban concentration along the banks of the St. Marys River, an area of concern defined by the International Joint Commission in 1987 due to several beneficial use impairments plaguing the great river. This project sought to determine the severity of nonpoint pollution sources originating from the urban center and prescribe actions to eliminate them. Several local agencies, including Lake Superior State University, the Chippewa/Ottawa Resource Authority, and the City of Sault Ste. Marie, worked together to develop the Sault Ste. Marie Area Watershed Management Plan, from which the team will work toward eliminating city-wide sources of pollution affecting the St. Marys River.

**Grant Amount: \$102,361**

**Match Funds: \$44,833**

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**Total Amount: \$147,194**

### Proposed Best Management Practices:

- Conservation easements
- Road/stream crossing repair
- Reduction of stream bank and shoreline erosion
- Increase nonpoint source pollution awareness
- Nature-based recreational projects
- Reduction of contamination sites



### Estimated Annual Load Reductions:

- 15 tons sediment per year
- Restore approximately 1 mile of urban area stream habitat

### I&E Activities:

- Creek appreciation tours
- Soil erosion and sedimentation education
- Public participation in plan development
- Promotion of inner city green space



The Sault Area Watershed is located within the St. Mary's River Watershed in Michigan's Eastern Upper Peninsula.

### Partners involved:

- Lake Superior State University
- Sault Ste. Marie City Officials
- Sault Area Public Schools
- Chippewa/Ottawa Resource Authority
- Binational Public Advisory Council
- Eastern Upper Peninsula
- Regional Development Planning Commission
- Chippewa County Health Department
- Michigan Department of Environmental Quality



**The Sault Ste. Marie Area Watershed Project (SSMAWP) will stabilize priority erosion sites, eliminating tons of sediment from reaching area streams and the St. Mary's River.**



**SSMAWP will work with landowners and land trust organizations to promote permanent protection of priority properties containing critical habitats, wetlands, and remaining green space.**



**SSMAWP's information and education campaign will increase the local community's awareness of remaining natural features of the Sault Ste. Marie area and implement strategies to protect water quality in the watershed.**



**SSMAWP will attempt to restore the natural integrity of area streams through in-stream habitat improvement, wetland and riparian zone protection and storm water management.**