



**Clean Water Act 319
Nonpoint Source Grant**
2002-0269



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Drain Commissioners (MACDC)
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A GIS System for Michigan CREP
April 2002 through September 2005

The Michigan Association of County Drain Commissioners (MACDC) conducted data collection and Geographic Information Systems (GIS) mapping of practices installed through the Michigan Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP). These activities, as an expansion of the Gratiot County Pilot Project developed under MACDC Grant #2001-0080 ("CREP Permanent Conservation Easement Program"), were to provide the basis for tracking, evaluating, and ultimately demonstrating the success of CREP. Additionally, as the Saginaw Basin Land Conservancy was awarded funds to proceed with CREP Permanent Easement acquisition under a separate Clean Michigan Initiative (CMI) grant, MACDC acquired the first four CREP Permanent Conservation Easements under this grant to serve as a pilot project for the larger easement grant. The conservation easements collectively protect 17 acres of wetlands and 41 acres of filter strips creating a load reduction of 700 tons/year of sediment, 760 pounds of phosphorous/year, and 1300 pounds of nitrogen/year. MACDC also prepared and recorded optional extension agreements for option conservation agreements that would have expired before the land conservancies could finalize the CREP permanent conservation easements on dozens of properties.

Grant Amount: \$359,000
Match Funds: \$ 53,800

Total Amount: \$412,800

- Project Highlights:**
- GIS mapping of all CREP-enrolled practices to date within the priority watersheds
 - 4 Permanent Conservation Easements:
 - 6 acre filter strip in Midland County
 - 10 acre wetland restoration and 15 acres of filter strips in Montcalm County
 - 7 acre wetland restoration and 14 acre filter strip in Saginaw County
 - 6 acre filter strip in Arenac County
 - 67 Option Extension Agreements to enable Saginaw Basin Land Conservancy to proceed with \$4.5 million in Permanent Conservation Easements under a CMI grant

Priority Watersheds



- I&E Activities:**
- CREP Technician and Drain Commissioner training with GIS Training Manual.
 - Land Conservancy Staff GIS training.
 - Press Events covering execution of the first CREP permanent conservation easement in the State of Michigan.

- Partners involved:**
- Michigan Dept. of Agriculture
 - Michigan Dept. of Environmental Quality
 - Spicer Group, Inc. (Consultant)
 - Saginaw Basin Land Conservancy
 - Raisin Valley Land Trust
 - Little Forks Land Conservancy
 - Chippewa Watershed Conservancy
 - Conservation Districts
 - Hubbard, Fox, Thomas, White & Benjton, P.C. (Consultant)

