



Michigan's
Nonpoint Source
Program

Federal Section 319
Nonpoint Source Grant
2003-0030



Marquette County
Conservation District
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Lower Dead River Watershed Transition Project

November 23, 2004 through February 28, 2005

The Lower Dead River is a 22 square mile sub-basin comprised of the most heavily urbanized portion of the Dead River watershed and includes the political boundaries of Negaunee Township, Marquette Township, and the City of Marquette. Though land use of the watershed is dominantly forested (65%), impervious surfaces and urban/residential land use (30%) continues to increase. Under a previous EPA Section 319 Planning Grant (Tracking Code #2000-0199) a watershed management plan was developed and approved by the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality. The plan identifies best management practices that address stormwater runoff from development pressures and sedimentation from new construction and roadways, in addition to many other concerns.

The goal of the Lower Dead River Watershed Transition Project was to begin implementation efforts and to continue an information/education campaign that promotes water quality awareness of the Lower Dead River watershed. Three sites were implemented and several hundred people were reached as a result of this project.

Grant Amount: \$ 95,800.00

Match Funds: \$ 17,100.00

Total Amount: \$ 112,900.00



Partners involved:

- Lower Dead River Watershed Council
- Central Lake Superior Watershed Partnership
- Central Lake Superior Land Conservancy
- MCCD Soil Erosion and Sedimentation Control Program
- City of Marquette
- Marquette Township
- Negaunee Township
- Marquette County Road Commission
- Oberstar Excavating
- A-1 Hauling
- Northern Michigan University
- Negaunee High School National Honor Society

Best Management Practices:

- 3 road crossing improvement projects
 - 267 yds³ gravel
 - 55 yds³ rip rap
 - 3 culvert installations (via private funds)
 - 6 water diversions
- 25 linear feet of stabilized stream bank



Annual Load Reductions:

- 42.8 tons/yr sediment reduction
- 36 lb/yr Phosphorus reduction
- 73 lb/yr Nitrogen reduction

I&E Activities:

- Creation of a Riparian Buffer Task Force
- "Stream Friendly Lawn & Garden Practices" door hanging campaign
- "Keeping Your Stream Friendly" article in Marquette Township Crier
- Riparian Landowner Public Forum
- Bi-annual newsletter
- 12 grade school and high school presentations
- Master Gardeners presentation on the DEQ's "Landscaping for Water Quality" publication
- U.P. Chapter of Wild One's presentation "The Importance of Native Plants in Watershed Management"
- Developer Education Workshop "Low Impact Development"
- Conservation Festival
- Township presentations
- Volunteer purple loosestrife pull in the Badger Creek subwatershed





Site #8 - CR 510, Midway Creek (before). Sand from roadway was bermed up along railing support. Sediment was being directly deposited into the stream.

Site #8 - CR 510, Midway Creek (after). Elimination of sand berm. Road was paved and storm water rerouted into the re-sloped ditch with a water diversion at the end to dissipate the flow of runoff.

Site #8 (after). diversion to elimin entering



Site #16 - Badger Creek (before). Vehicle was impounding the creek and starting to scour away the stream bank.

Site #16 - Badger Creek (after). Vehicle was removed and stream bank was revegetated.