



Michigan's  
Nonpoint Source  
Program

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Mona Lake  
Watershed Project  
Muskegon, MI

## Mona Lake Watershed Management Plan Project

Mona Lake Boat Club Demonstration Project

August 21-23, 2006

The Mona Lake Watershed Council was awarded a \$167,571 Clean Water Act section 604(b) planning grant (#2004-0116) in October 2004 to develop a watershed management plan for the Mona Lake Watershed. Several small-scale demonstration projects were included in the project to address watershed impairment issues while incorporating information and education (I&E) activities. The Mona Lake watershed is a mix of rural-residential and agriculture use in the upper watershed, rural-residential and industry in the middle watershed, and commercial and urban-residential in the lower watershed. The primary impairments to the watershed are a result of sedimentation, high nutrients, stormwater runoff, pathogens, and contaminated sediments. Through the I&E incorporated into our demonstration projects, we are increasing awareness of the watershed impairments and engaging people to do more in their community and on their own properties to reduce nonpoint source pollution. This is one of four project fact sheets.

### Project Highlights:

- Stop direct storm water runoff to Mona Lake and stop erosion of neighboring property.
- Install reinforced vegetative filter swale to slow and treat stormwater runoff from two acres of parking area.

### I&E Activities:

- Members of the Boat Club board participate in the installation process.
- Collage of photos of the installation process to be developed and posted in the Boat Club restaurant for education.
- Boat Club has now asked for Mona Lake Watershed Council's newsletters to be supplied to the lobby of their restaurant.
- Signage will be erected in the project to educate users of the boat ramp and club about storm water, rain gardens, and water quality.



Left to right, top to bottom: Site before excavation work; seeding after rip-rap installation; supplemental plantings; completed project with silt fence upstream of plunge pool; first rain event 3 weeks after project completion; plunge pool holding and slowing water prior to draining into Mona Lake.

**Mona Lake Watershed Management Plan Project**  
Mona Lake Boat Club Demonstration Project  
Signage erected at site



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## **Mona Lake Boating Club's Rain Garden, A community demonstration project.**

A "Rain Garden" is designed to collect runoff water and purify it, preventing polluted water from entering our local streams and lakes.



**Planting in excavated garden**



**Completed garden**



**Filtering water from storm event**

This project was developed by the Mona Lake Watershed Council & Muskegon Conservation District with generous funding provided by the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality to demonstrate how anyone can use the rain garden concept at their home or business to capture and treat polluted runoff.

**For more information on rain gardens, contact the  
Mona Lake Watershed Council @ [www.monalakewatershed.org](http://www.monalakewatershed.org)**

