

Project Fact Sheet

Glen Lake Association

PO Box 551
Glen Arbor, MI 49636
231-334-7645

Hatlem Creek Benthic Invertebrate Monitoring Program Glen Lake/Crystal River Watershed Leelanau County

Grant Cycle: January 2007 – June 2009

Glen Lake Matching funds

\$3,895.00

State Match

\$6,474.00

Grant total funds

\$10,369.00

Project Partners

Glen Lake Association
Leelanau Conservancy
Michigan Department of Natural Resources
Michigan Department of Environmental Quality
Leelanau School

The purpose of the Hatlem Creek Benthic Invertebrate Monitoring Program was to train volunteers in benthic invertebrate identification and provide volunteers with the equipment and education needed to carry out the project as well as expand awareness of the Glen Lake/Crystal River Watershed.

There were many steps implemented to insure a successful project; Training and QAPP development. The QAPP was submitted with revisions and accepted. The project manager attended an 8 hour training session at MSU on rapid assessment macro invertebrate identification. Supplies were purchased and volunteer training was established. A side-by-side training session for team leaders in the project was completed and a database was created. Project awareness, a goal of the project, was important. The GLA used press releases in the Leelanau Enterprise, newsletters and T.V and radio spots to promote the HCMI and the benthic monitoring program.

The goals of the project were met and exceeded. We have a bi-yearly sampling that has plenty of volunteers. And we have created tremendous awareness of Hatlem Creek corridor: An extremely sensitive area of the watershed. The benthic monitoring program jumpstarted several other testing projects that has led to cleaner healthier watershed. We now monitor the creek for several water chemistry parameters and are in the process of cleaning up an E.coli problem and improving habitat.

The program is set to continue in to the foreseeable future. The annual cost of the project now is \$1200, which is a salary for a lake biologist, renting room in the Leelanau High School biology lab and equipment replacement/repair costs. Generally, the cost is low after the initial setup costs were incurred.

The overall result of the project has been a favorable one. Community awareness of the watershed has gone up a lot. Thousands of people have heard about the project and in particular, the Glen Lake Association constituents, have been informed of the purpose and progress of the grant. That enthusiasm of the community is high which has led to more monetary donations and future work on hatlem creek including enhanced E.coli testing, habitat restoration and water quality measurements.

