

**GRANTEE NAME:** Missaukee Conservation District

**PROJECT NAME:** Upper-Central Muskegon River and Manistee River Watershed Monitoring Program

**AMOUNT OF GRAND AND MATCHING FUNDS:**

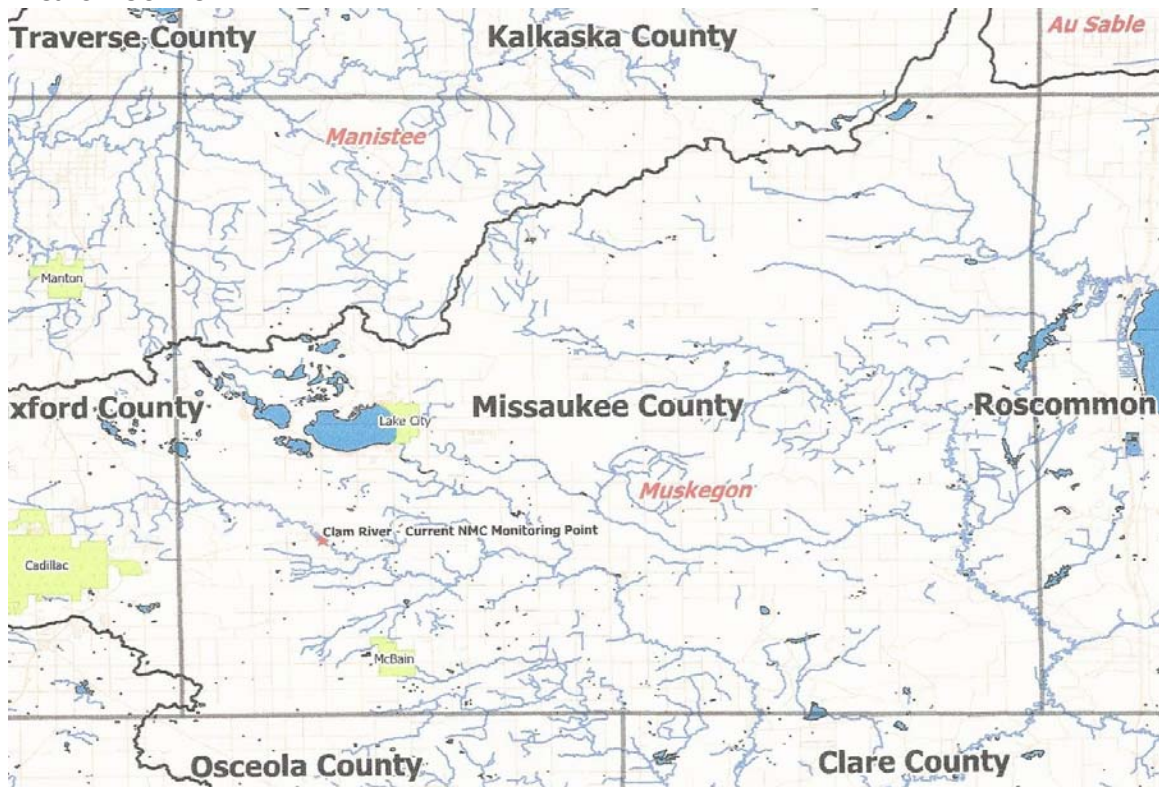
1. Amount of Grant: \$13,925.00
2. Matching Funds: \$6,217.00 or 30.9% of grant

**PROJECT DURATION:** Start Date: June/2017 End Date: May/2019

**APPLICANT NAME, ADDRESS, PHONE:**

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Missaukee Conservation District  
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**PROJECT LOCATION:**



**PROJECT PARTNERS:**

Lake City middle and high school science teachers, Wexford/Missaukee Career Technical Center AgriScience and Natural Resources instructor, local 4H clubs, NRCS District Conservationist, Missaukee Conservation District Board Members, and community volunteers.

**PROJECT SUMMARY & GOALS:**

In 2015 Missaukee Conservation District received millage support from voters to increase conservation and stewardship efforts across the county. As water quality is important to our constituents and the mission of our agency, we sought to create a community of water-quality monitoring effort in the form of aquatic macroinvertebrate surveys. Desire was expressed to perform monitoring at sites across the



## PROJECT FACT SHEET

county, particularly ones of environmental sensitivity.  
Monitoring these locations will strengthen future

initiatives as we engage in conservation projects to improve imperiled areas of Missaukee County.

### *Overall Program Goals:*

1. Educate citizens of Missaukee County, raising awareness about water quality.
2. Promote stewardship and monitoring of Missaukee County's water resources, focusing on streams in the Manistee and Muskegon River Watersheds to establish baseline conditions and monitor changes over time.
3. Using MiCorps VSMP as a springboard, we will encourage water monitoring of lakes in addition to streams.
4. Identify problem areas where degradation has occurred, where best management practices or remediation may be implemented.

### **PROJECT ACCOMPLISHMENTS:**

The stream monitoring and macroinvertebrate ID over the three-year grant period, consistently showed the sites sampled in the fair to good range according to the stream quality scoring system. As Missaukee Conservation District goes forward with this project, future findings will be compared to initial data and any positive or negative diversion from that original grant period data will be noted and discussed with local partners and professionals to keep the portions of the Muskegon and Manistee Rivers in the county as healthy as possible.

### **MONITORING ACTIVITIES:**

- 10/7/17...8 sites...4 volunteers
- 5/19/18...6 sites...11 volunteers
- In addition, the Lake City High School Advanced Biology Class sampled one site & completed ID with 1 professional and 14 students
- Career Tech Center AgriScience & Natural Resources class sampled one site with 1 professional and 6 students.
- 9/28/18...4 sites...11 volunteers (In addition to Advanced Biology & CTC AgriScience classes-see above for numbers)
- 5/18/19...6 sites...9 volunteers (In addition to Advanced Biology & CTC AgriScience classes-see above for numbers)

### **SIGNIFICANT MEASURABLE RESULTS:**

For each year of the three-year grant period, in both the spring and fall monitoring, all sites were scored in the fair to good range. Also, from the first sampling event in the fall of 2017 to the last grant funded sampling event in the spring of 2019, there was a 175% increase in volunteer involvement.

**PHOTOS:**



**SPRING 2019 ON-SITE STREAM MONITORING**

**VOLUNTEERS.**



**SPRING 2019 ON-SITE STREAM MONITORING**

**PICKERS.**



SPRING 2019 MACROINVERTEBRATE ID NIGHT

WITH STAFF AND VOLUNTEERS.



SPRING 2019 MACROINVERTEBRATE ID NIGHT

WITH STAFF AND VOLUNTEERS SHOWING ONE OF THE SIX COMPOUND MICROSCOPES DONATED TO THE PROGRAM.