

MiCorps Volunteer Stream Monitoring Program Monitoring Fact Sheet



Organization Name: The Little Forks Conservancy

Monitoring Program Name: Cedar River Stream Sampling

Watersheds Monitored: Cedar/Tittabawassee

County(ies): Gladwin and Clare

Program Manager: Elan Lipschitz elipschitz@littleforks.org
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Fact Sheet Updated: 12/22/2021



PROGRAM DESCRIPTION: *(Directions: a paragraph that can be kept constant as you update this yearly)*

Each spring and fall, volunteers put on their waders to determine the water quality of the Cedar River. Little Forks Conservancy began monitoring the water quality of the Cedar River in the fall of 2015.

The Cedar River Stream Sampling project provides a great opportunity for “citizen scientists” to learn about the importance of using macro-invertebrates to monitor the health of a watershed. Macro-invertebrates are animals without a backbone that can be seen with the naked eye. These bottom-dwelling animals include crustaceans and worms, but most are aquatic insects.

During the sampling day, experienced volunteers act as team leaders and collectors, working in the streams to ensure quality samples are acquired. Newer volunteers assist their team leaders with sorting and transporting the samples. The following Monday evening, volunteers identify the species that have been collected. The types of species collected help determine the water quality at the site.

PROGRAM FAST FACTS

of Years Monitoring: 5

Volunteers participating annually: 60

Active Monitoring Sites: 6

Excellent Quality Sites: 1

Very Good Quality Sites: 2

Good Quality Sites: 2

Fair Quality Sites: 1

Fairly Poor Quality Sites:

Poor Quality Sites:

Very Poor Quality Sites:

Link to Monitoring Program:

<https://www.littleforks.org/stream-sampling.html>

Link to Quality Assurance Plan:

https://www.littleforks.org/uploads/1/2/2/4/122427554/qapp_updated2021.pdf



RESULTS

Spring 2021

Leon P. Martuch Trout Unlimited Property, 44.036052, -84.641691 WQR: Very Good Comments:
Norm Engel's Property, 44.015120, -84.352421 WQR: Very Good Comments:
Stoney Creek - DNR Field Trial 44.138243, -84.530078 WQR: Very Good Comments:
Compartment 26 - DNR State Property, 44.109100, -84.558488 WQR: Very Good Comments:
Carol Buzzell's Property 44.014280, -84.345800 WQR: Poor Comments: Samples dried out over summer, destroying some of the specimens, new containers with better seals were purchased with this grant.
George and Sue Lane Preserve 44.073078, -84.573570 WQR: Very Good Comments:

Fall 2021

Leon P. Martuch Trout Unlimited Property, 44.036052, -84.641691 WQR: Very Good Comments:
Norm Engel's Property, 44.015120, -84.352421 WQR: Good Comments:
Stoney Creek - DNR Field Trial 44.138243, -84.530078 WQR: Good Comments:
Compartment 26 - DNR State Property, 44.109100, -84.558488 WQR: Excellent Comments:
Carol Buzzell's Property 44.014280, -84.345800 WQR: Fair Comments:
George and Sue Lane Preserve 44.073078, -84.573570 WQR: Very Good Comments: