



**Federal Clean Water Act
Section 319 Grant
Tracking code #2002-0084**

**Friends of the St. Joe River Association
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ST. JOSEPH RIVER WATERSHED PLANNING PROJECT

November 2002 through June 2005

In the fall of 2002, the Friends of the St. Joe River, a nonprofit established in 1994 by Athens, MI residents Al and Margaret Smith for the purpose of cleaning and restoring the river and its tributaries, were awarded a grant to develop a Watershed Management Plan for the entire St. Joseph River Watershed. This plan would unite stakeholders in both Michigan and Indiana in a concerted effort to address water quality issues and natural resource protection across jurisdictional boundaries. The fundamental objective of the project was to provide the community with a plan that facilitates and guides implementation of desired goals for water quality improvements and protection as well as a venue to communicate, adapt and revise the overall plan as new information is obtained and milestones completed. Another important objective of the project was to create a management plan that met the EPA's new requirements for the quantification for the sources of pollutants and expected reductions in pollutants with the implementation of BMPs. All data compiled and reports generated as part of the planning project are available on the project website, www.stjoeriver.net.

Products

- Project web site, www.stjoeriver.net
- Informational brochure of the planning project
- Easy to read watershed map for display at libraries, offices, and fishing/hunting shops
- 4 public meetings
- Project WET workshop for 4-9 grade teachers in Paw Paw River Watershed
- Rain garden workshop in partnership with Elkhart Environmental Center
- Road/stream crossing workshop that helped stakeholders quantify sediment loads
- Volunteer stream monitoring training session for high school teachers and students
- Non point source modeling report
- SWAT & urban storm water BMP effectiveness reports
- Report analyzing the mitigation needs and preservation potential of subwatersheds
- Watershed Plan



Major Partners

- Michigan DEQ
- Indiana Department of Environmental Management
- USDA-NRCS
- US EPA Region V
- Kieser & Associates
- Soil & Water Conservation Districts
- Municipalities

Grant Amount: \$ 232,846.10

Match Funds: \$ 61,221.27

Total Amount: \$294,067.37