

The Great Lakes Restoration Initiative is Producing Results for Communities in Michigan

For over a decade, the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative has been producing results for communities. Cleaning up toxic pollution has rid harbors and rivers of cancer-causing pollutants and led to new waterfront development. Restoring wetlands have provided habitat for fish and wildlife and have led to cleaner sources of drinking water and increased outdoor recreation opportunities. Removing old and dangerous dams have opened up fish habitat and increased safety for river recreation. Building rain gardens, green spaces, and urban habitat has reduced neighborhood flooding and provided new spaces to play and congregate. These restoration investments have also led to economic benefits. A 2018 report found that every \$1 invested in Great Lakes restoration produced at least \$3 in increased economic activity. The Great Lakes Restoration Initiative has benefited the environment and the economy.

The Great Lakes Restoration Initiative has been producing results in local communities in Michigan. Federal investments in Michigan total more than \$681 million, which have led to 1,347 local projects that are working to protect our drinking water, safeguard public health, spur economic growth, and support thriving and vibrant communities.

While these projects have had a tremendous impact on Michigan's communities, serious threats remain, underscoring the need for sustained and ongoing federal investment in Great Lakes restoration and local clean water priorities. We need to tackle these problems now, before they become more difficult and expensive to solve. We look forward to working with members of Congress to support continued federal investments in the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative to protect our drinking water, restore the environment, safeguard public health, and energize local economies.

EXAMPLES OF HOW THE GREAT LAKES RESTORATION INITIATIVE HAS BENEFITED MICHIGAN COMMUNITIES

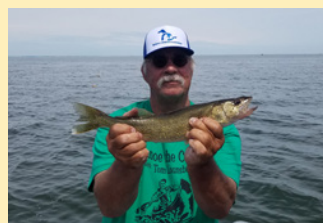
Rouge River Education Project Trains Next Generations of Conservationists



Educating more than 100,000 students about the value and plight of the Rouge River and training them as community scientists is providing valuable data about the

river's health and supporting the next generation of environmental stewards.

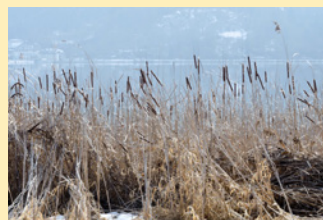
Replacing Risky Dam with Rapids in Frankenmuth Opens up Fish Habitat



A dangerous dam in Frankenmuth was replaced by an innovative fish passage, creating jobs for engineers and construction workers as well as opening spawning

habitat for walleye, improving fisheries.

Harvesting Invasive Cattails Restores Coastal Wetlands



An invasive species of wild cattail was eradicated from a wide area of Northern Michigan, improving habitat, and allowing aquatic wildlife to access the wetlands

from the open water. This improves fisheries and biodiversity in the Great Lakes.