

The background of the entire page is a photograph of a pond. The water is dark, and the surface is covered with numerous green lily pads of various sizes. In the foreground, a single white lily flower is in full bloom, its petals spread out. Tall, thin green stems rise from the water, some with small buds. The overall scene is peaceful and natural.

2022 ANNUAL REPORT

**Jackson County
Conservation District**

Our mission is to promote wise land use decisions, based upon the capability of the natural resources of Jackson County, through technical assistance and education.

Activities Summary



2022 saw JCCD getting back to normal with employees returning the office and events returning to in-person. The District was able to hold our tree and native plant sale fundraiser in the spring, resulting in the sale of 184 native plants, 23,060 trees and shrubs, including 580 fruit trees and 1400 berry and asparagus plants, to 318 customers. The sale was held at Keeley Park (Jackson County Fairgrounds) and was held as a drive-in pick-up event. There were a few extra trees offered for sale.

The District was able to participate in several educational programs throughout the year, including Project RED, Earth Day in the Park and the Jackson County Fair where JCCD and the JLW CISMA had a shared informational booth. The JLW CISMA was able to hold several mobile boat washes and was also able to offer several training opportunities within Jackson County.

JCCD staff was able to hold two Adopt-A-Highway collections in April and September, utilizing staff and 2 volunteers for the clean-ups. The District was also able to hold fall, winter and spring Adopt-A-Stream collections.

The District saw the renewal of the CTAI Engineer, MAEAP, Hunter Access Program and MISGP grants, and also received extensions to continue work on 2 previous Invasive Species grants (MIGSP). JCCD also received a \$14,000 Scrap Tire Grant from EGLE and some County funding to collect 11,271 scrap passenger tires from Jackson County residents. There were 8 separate clean-ups, with 15 townships participating. Also this year, with the receipt of County funding, JCCD was able to continue the Household Hazardous Waste Program. Three collections were held with 325 customers serviced, and over 48,000 pounds of HHW collected. Also, JCCD, in partnership with Recycling Jackson, continued implementing the Rural Electronics Recycling Grant received in 2021 from EGLE where we were able to hold 2 separate e-waste collections in the County. This grant will continue to allow for e-waste recycling opportunities, outreach, and upgrades to collection facilities in Jackson County.

Another service the District provides is equipment rental. The grass-grain drill was rented by 6 customers from May to September to plant 79 acres of native grasses and wildlife habitat in Jackson County.

Volunteers are a very important part of the District. This year, 39 volunteers put in approximately 228 hours helping us with various projects, such as the Adopt-A-Stream Program, the tree sale, the scrap tire collection day, the household hazardous waste and e-waste events. Their help is always greatly appreciated.

JCCD Financials

10/1/21 to 9/30/22 (audit pending)

INCOME

COUNTY FUNDS:

Jackson County	\$ 10,000.00
Recycling Program	\$77,000.00
Adopt-A-Stream	\$ 7,000.00

GRANT FUNDS:

CTAI	\$ 80,000.00
MAEAP	\$ 73,500.00
CISMA	\$105,167.57
HAP	\$ 2,000.00
E-Waste(EGLE)	\$ 2,167.90
State Operations	\$ 40,000.00

LOCAL SOURCES:

Earth Day	\$ 4,393.83
Annual Meeting	\$ 300.00
MAEAP Field Day	\$ 1,000.00
Tree/Native Plant Sale	\$ 54,115.30
Equipment Rental	\$ 898.00
HHW Per Car Fees	\$ 5,108.00
Interest/Tax Discount	\$ 69.82
Sponsorships	\$ 500.00
Conservation Products	\$ 4,085.08
Soil Testing	\$ 250.00
Miscellaneous Income	\$ 0.00
2021 Carry Over	\$ 6,923.77

TOTAL INCOME \$474,479.27

EXPENSES

PROGRAM EXPENSES

CTAI	\$ 2,361.59
MAEAP	\$ 12,746.84
CISMA	\$ 23,542.38
HAP	\$ 510.02
Adopt-A-Stream	\$ 1,190.35
Recycling (HHW, Tires)	\$ 83,018.18
Tree/Native Plant Sales	\$ 27,932.87
Earth Day	\$ 4,171.18

OFFICE EXPENSES

Payroll and Benefits	\$256,090.47
Employer Taxes	\$ 17,892.92
Supplies/books/products	\$ 3,342.06
Website	\$ 1,400.00
Insurance	\$ 347.17
Mileage	\$ 408.49
Copier Lease	\$ 295.00
Audit	\$ 2,000.00
Bank Charges	\$ 2,205.34
COGS	\$ 7,893.62
Community Promotion	\$ 1,250.00
Miscellaneous Expenses	\$ 4,105.07

ORGANIZATION ACTIVITIES

Drill Maintenance	\$ 0.00
Fees/Dues	\$ 1,325.00
Annual Meeting	\$ 430.46
Director's Expense	\$ 886.77
Training	\$ 549.59
MAEAP Field Day	\$ 1,092.71
Soil Testing	\$ 119.74

TOTAL EXPENSE \$457,107.82
DIFFERENCE \$ 17,371.45



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Household Hazardous Waste Collections

County funding for the HHW program was reinstated in 2022. JCCD was able to hold 3 events during FY22, and collected almost 42,500 pounds of hazardous waste!

Collection 1 - November 2, 2021

- 8,806 pounds collected

Collection 2 - May 17, 2022

- 5,142 pounds collected

Collection 3 - August 24, 2022

- 28,505 pounds collected
- Average of 164 pounds collected per person

The FY23 collection season has already started with the October 4th event where 14,464 pounds of HHW was collected. Other 2023 events are planned for May 23rd, July 22nd and September 21st.



Recycling Program

Scrap Tire Collections

Thanks to an EGLE Scrap Tire grant and Jackson County funding, JCCD was able to sponsor 8 scrap tire collections throughout Jackson County with 15 townships participating. 11,271 tires were collected!!

- Pulaski/Concord/Hanover Townships= 1000 tires
- Leoni Townships = 891 tires
- Sandstone / Spring Arbor Townships= 1009 tires
- Napoleon/Grass Lake/Norvell Townships= 1871 tires
- Springport/Parma Townships= 1871 tires
- Tompkins/Henrietta/Rives Townships= 2000 tires
- County-wide= 2500 tires
- Waterloo Township= 1000 tires

JCCD has applied for FY23 funding to continue the scrap tire program.



Electronic Waste Collection

JCCD and Recycling Jackson held 1 electronic waste collection event in FY22 at Grass Lake Middle School. 17,640 pounds of e-waste was collected at this event with the help of 8 volunteers.



- Collections held in October, February, May
- 2 Bug ID nights held after fall and spring collections
- Great diversity of “bugs” found including stoneflies, mayflies, dragon flies and others
- 15 Volunteers contributed over 58 hours searching for and identifying the macroinvertebrates found in the river
- JCCD continue to educate public on AAS and water quality at outreach events such as Earth Day and the County Fair

Adopt-A-Stream Program



Earth Day in the Park



2022



HAP HUNTER ACCESS PROGRAM

JCCD has 1 property currently enrolled in the HAP Program for a total of 300 acres. The Mikelonis property is located in northern Jackson County and Southern Ingham County. This property was very well utilized during the 2022 season with several hunters reporting successful hunts.

If you are interested in learning more about the Hunter Access Program, or would like to enroll your land into the program, contact lori.fitzgibbons@macd.org.





Construction of engineering practices resulted in \$4,530 of certified funds in Jackson County.

CTAI

CONSERVATION
TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE
INITIATIVE

"Getting caught up on the local workload was a big achievement for me and the offices I primarily serve."

Alana Helin, JCCD CTAI Engineer:

- Represented Area 4 (and CTAIs) on the NRCS-MI Livestock Pipeline and Watering Facility Design Instruction team. She was the team point of contact for the State Conservation Engineer, led and organized meetings, and drafted the livestock pipeline instructions prior to internal review. As a group, they developed practice guidance for staff across the state. She also created the first "Michiganized" pipeline spreadsheet to be used with the DI.
- Started an Area 4 South Team on MS Teams that includes the engineering and technical staff as a way to stay in touch and discuss ideas, problems, workload, etc. They held their first monthly in-person workday in September 2022, where anyone from the group who was interested and able to attend was welcome.
- Developed a spreadsheet for gravel thickness calculations for access roads, trails, etc. based on the Tech Note AEN-4 Boussinesq Method, which she has been encouraged to share with others and is hoping that it is something that people in Area 4 and maybe even the state will find useful in their designs.
- Provided formal and informal training to field office staff on topics such as livestock pipelines and engineering soils investigations.
- Completed 6 I&Es resulting in \$47,300 of obligated funds for engineering practices in Jackson County and \$351,103 in Washtenaw County.
- Made 47 in-person site visits to 20 farms across 6 counties in SE Michigan for pre-construction meetings, field office support/training, planning, construction inspections, etc.
- Provided varying degrees of technical assistance for over 60 conservation practices on 27 farms in 10 counties in SE Michigan.



1. Shallow water wildlife area excavated as part of a wetland restoration project
2. Excavation of microtopography features
3. Measuring water level in a control structure using a stick
4. Surveying a benchmark along a county drain for a potential future wetland restoration project
5. Providing engineering soils classification training to field staff as part of an Area-wide training led by engineering staff



MAEAP

MICHIGAN AGRICULTURAL
ENVIRONMENTAL ASSURANCE
PROGRAM



JCCD and MAEAP welcomed a new technician to the program in February. Jarrod Rhoades spent his first year familiarizing himself with the program by attending countless trainings, field visits and conferences. He was able to complete 32 farm visits, and 19 risk assessments resulting in 3 verifications and 4 reverifications. In 2022, \$3,000 was spent in cost share dollars, providing producers with such things as soil testing, water testing, drain seals and spill kits.

One highlight from the year was the MAEAP field day event at Drumhiller Farms where grazing techniques, invasive species and new crop rotation management research was discussed.

Going into the new year, Jarrod looks forward to increasing participation in the program and helping producers minimize environmental risks.



Jarrod Rhoades started at JCCD as the new MAEAP Technician in February. He lives near Tekonsha, Michigan with his wife Sierra, children Knox and Ella, and chocolate lab, Bear. He holds a certificate degree from Michigan State University in Agricultural Industries. Jarrod started working on farms at a young age doing seasonal work, and continued to work on a dairy farm through college. After graduating, he worked in Farm Management and then Retail Ag Service sales for the past 8 years.

Jarrod Rhoades, MAEAP



Jarrod is an avid hunter, fisherman and outdoorsman and loves chasing new outdoor adventures and harvesting wild food to share with family and friends. He loves spending time with his family and watching his kids grow. Jarrod is very passionate about conservation and environmental stewardship, and has been a great addition to the JCCD and MAEAP families.

2022 Year in Review



JACKSON, LENAWEE,
WASHTENAW COOPERATIVE
INVASIVE SPECIES MANAGEMENT
AREA

The JLW Cisma is approaching its fifth-year of providing invasive species education, outreach, survey, and management activities in the Jackson, Lenawee, and Washtenaw County region! Funding from the Michigan Invasive Species Grant Program and the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative allowed us to survey and manage for invasive species, assist residents in identifying unknown flora and fauna, provide training opportunity to partners, non-profit organizations, and local staff, and create a variety of educational materials aimed at invasive species identification and prevention! This summary includes survey and outreach efforts during the 2022 fiscal year (October 1, 2021 through September 30, 2022).

Education & Outreach

Education and outreach is integral to invasive species prevention. We strived to reach out to a variety of audiences, and assisted them in being able to identify and report watchlist species, provide decontamination tips, expertise in species management, hosted training sessions, created informational videos, and partnered with local organizations to host a summer youth program! During the fiscal year, we initiated 646 engagement efforts which reached 73,965 people via seminars, trainings, community events, social media, phone calls, emails etc. Eighty-eight of those efforts were direct engagements which resulted in 1438 face-to-face, phone or virtual interactions with residents, underserved youth, farmers, policy makers and various associations.



Survey & Treatment

Through MISGP and GLRI grants, we performed both survey and management activities. Approximately 743.3 acres of land and water were surveyed by JLW Cisma staff with assistance from partners and agency staff. We surveyed for European frog-bit, red swamp crayfish, tree of heaven, Japanese stiltgrass, mile-a-minute weed etc. Management activities were performed on 33.1 acres of land and water, which included contracted treatment of stiltgrass at Watkins Lake, removing garlic mustard from Haehnle Audubon Sanctuary, contracted treatment of European frog-bit within Waterloo Recreation Area, assisting partners do a prescribed burn, and hand-pulled stiltgrass in Lenawee County. We collaborated with partners to host a native seed collection event where collected seeds will be used to restore high quality land.



Future Activities

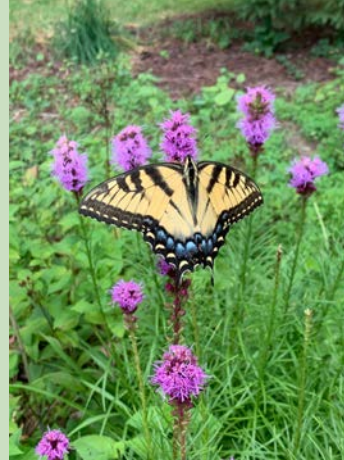
We have begun mapping and management efforts for tree of heaven, with the first stage of contracted treatment occurring early next fiscal year. A MISGP grant application was submitted in order to follow-up on survey and management efforts for stiltgrass, red swamp crayfish, and mile-a-minute weed. We will continue year two of contracted treatment for frog-bit in the Waterloo Recreation Area, and initiate swallow-wort treatment pending funding. Plans also include engaging novice recreators, highlighting edible invasive species, and new species to the area such as spotted lanternfly.



Social Media Campaign	Posts (#)	*Passive Impressions
Facebook	216	51,159
Twitter	178	15,515
Instagram	108	4,720



If you have questions, please contact Dr. Shikha Singh at shikha.singh@macd.org or (517) 395 - 2089. Or visit our website: www.jlwcisma.weebly.com



NRCS

NATURAL RESOURCES
CONSERVATION
SERVICE

The Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) continued to provide a significant amount of technical and financial assistance to Jackson County in 2022. Contributions through Farm Bill conservation programs helped implement a diverse array of practices with plans for many more projects in coming years. There continues to be strong local interest in controlling invasive species, planting cover crops, rotationally grazing livestock, managing forests, planting trees, and preventing surface water runoff.

By the numbers:

- Over 100 new practices successfully competed for funding, with over \$400,000 allocated to invest across more than 1,700 acres
- 60 practices were installed through previous funding initiatives, with NRCS cost-share totaling almost \$200,000
- A summary of practices installed in 2022 is shown in the chart below:

Newly Adopted Practices	Amount
cover crops	443 acres
nutrient management	258 acres
no-till/strip-till	419 acres
filter strips	5.3 acres
pasture plantings	18.5 acres
fence (rotational grazing)	19,926 linear feet
livestock watering pipeline	1,864 linear feet
tree plantings	13.5 acres
pollinator plantings	70.6 acres
invasive brush control	93.1 acres
other conservation systems	3,360 acres

