



CONSERVATION CORNER

A publication of the Jackson County Conservation District

2010 ANNUAL REPORT ISSUE

JANUARY 2011

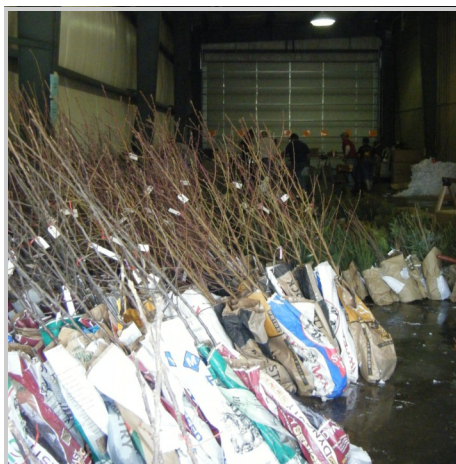
SPECIAL EDITION

For the past year, JCCD has continued to work hard to carry out its mission of “promoting wise land-use decisions, based upon the natural resources of Jackson County, through technical assistance and education.”

2010 Activities Summary

This report reflects activity for Fiscal Year 2010 (October 1, 2009-September 30, 2010).

- ◆ Assistance provided to over 1000 customers in the office and over the phone.
- ◆ Almost 35,000 trees and hundreds of native plants sold.
- ◆ “*Conservation Corner*” newsletter distributed to 500 people.
- ◆ Almost 600 pounds of recyclable materials collected from a local school.
- ◆ More than 100 volunteers contributed 540 total volunteer hours at tree sales and special events.
- ◆ Assistance in planning and carrying out special events in Jackson County:
 - *“Celebrate Earth Day” festival at Cascades Park*
 - *Project RED*
 - *Grand River Expedition 2010*
 - *Regional and State Envirothon Competitions*
- ◆ Nomination for “Conservation District of the Year” award for 2010.



◀ *Fruit trees from the spring sale*

The new tree planter available for rent ▶



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Statement of Revenues and Expenses for Year Ending September 30, 2010

REVENUES	EXPENSES	EXPENSES (cont'd)
County Funds:	Program Expenses:	Promotion:
Jackson County \$ 10,000.00	UGRIP \$24,303.39	Community Promotion \$713.77
Grant Funds:	MiCorps \$1086.55	Advertising \$48.15
CTAI (Conservation Tech. Assistance) \$60,000.00	Tree/Native Plant Sales \$21,089.50	Misc. Expenses/Fees \$1901.71
UGRIP (Upper Grand River Project) \$79,408.85	Office Expenses:	Organization Activities:
MiCorps \$11,020.54	Payroll & Employee Benefits \$143,797.89	Fees/Dues \$2,120.00
Operations (MDA) \$0.00	Office Supplies \$955.51	Annual Meeting \$1576..21
Local Sources:	Insurance \$176.73	Directors' Expenses \$406.98
Contribution Agreement \$258.00	Newsletter \$342.50	<u>Training</u> \$389.88
Tree/Native Plant Sales \$40,575.54	Telephone \$16.47	TOTAL EXPENSES \$201,036.98
Equipment Rental \$951.80	Website \$511.00	NET INCOME \$7805.19
Meetings/Workshops \$1410.00	Copier Lease \$344.11	
General Interest \$213.14	Audit \$1256.63	
Conservation Products \$3777.00		
<u>Miscellaneous Income</u> \$1227.30		
TOTAL REVENUE \$208,842.17		

CONSERVATION DISTRICT “TECHNICIAN OF THE YEAR” AWARD

Each year, the Michigan Association of Conservation Districts (MACD) selects one administrative staff member and one technical staff member from the 79 Conservation Districts throughout the state to receive special recognition. In December, MACD chose a Jackson CD employee, Cecilia Govrik, as the “Technician of the Year” for 2010.

Cecilia has been with the Jackson District since 2006 as the manager of the Upper Grand River Implementation Project. Cecilia was selected for this award based on her achievements under the watershed project, as well as the assistance she has provided to MACD as a member of the Partnership Training Committee. Lori Fitzgibbons nominated Cecilia for the award and stated, “She is a great asset to the District. I don’t know what I’d do without her.”



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Conservation Technical Assistance Initiative

by Zac Smith, *Conservation Technician*

During 2010, several projects were completed in Jackson County through the Conservation Technical Assistance Initiative—a partnership between the Conservation District, Michigan Department of Agriculture, and USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service.

<i>Projects Completed in 2010:</i>	Practice Name	Units	Cost Share Amount	Cost Share Source
	Waste Storage Facility	1,000,000 Gal	\$294,149.00	EQIP
	WRP application	12 ac	\$36,000.00	WRP
	Wetland Enhancement	30 ac	\$20,000.00	WRP
	Wetland Enhancement	95.5 ac	\$65,000.00	WRP
	Seasonal High Tunnel	2880 sq. ft.	\$4,909.00	EQIP
	Seasonal High Tunnel	2881 sq. ft.	\$4,909.00	EQIP

<i>Projects in Progress:</i>	Practice Name	Units	Cost Share Amount	Cost Share Source
	Roof Water Management	210 ft.	\$3,150.00	EQIP
	Heavy Use Area Protection	200 sq. ft.	\$2,684.00	EQIP
	Agrichemical Handling Facility	13000 Gal	\$35,000.00	AWEP
	Agrichemical Handling Facility	6000 Gal	\$35,000.00	AWEP
	WRP application	30 ac	\$90,000.00	WRP

Upper Grand River Implementation Project

by Cecilia Govrik, *Watershed Project Manager*

The past year marked the midpoint for the second cycle of the Upper Grand River Implementation Project (UGRIP). In 2010, several educational workshops were held and watershed materials were distributed at many special events. The youth watershed programs have continued to be successful, as well.

UGRIP's Accomplishments in 2010 include:

- ◆ *Hosted 4 educational workshops attended by 95 people.*
- ◆ *Delivered 58 educational programs to 1945 students in the watershed.*
- ◆ *Provided information on conservation programs to 375 landowners.*
- ◆ *Reached 650 people with misc. presentations and educational displays at special events.*



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Upper Grand River Adopt-A-Stream Program

by Alison Rauss, *Program Coordinator*

In 2010, the Jackson County Conservation District's Upper Grand River Adopt-A-Stream Program held macroinvertebrate Collection Days in the spring and fall, two corresponding Bug I.D. Nights, a Winter Stonefly Hunt, and a Summer Habitat Assessment Day. This was the fourth year of the Adopt-A-Stream Program in the Upper Grand River watershed, and 7 seasons worth of data has now been entered into the statewide volunteer monitoring database at www.micorps.net.

Forty-six volunteers joined us for one or more of our Adopt-A-Stream events this year. Below are tables of our Spring and Fall 2010 Collection Results.

Table 1. Spring 2010 Upper Grand River Adopt-A-Stream Monitoring Results

Map Site #	Site Location	# of Sensitive Taxa	# of Total Taxa (Species Richness)	MDEQ Proc. 51 Rating	MiCorps Rating
1	Springbrook @ Robbins Road	5	26	Acceptable	Excellent
2	Grand River @ Onondaga (Baldwin Park)	0	9	Poor	Fair
3	Sandstone Creek @ Springport Road (Minard Mills Park)	5	25	Acceptable	Excellent
4	Sandstone Creek @ McCain Road (Kate Palmer Sanctuary)	8	28	Excellent	Excellent
5	Portage River @ Wooster Road (Haenle Sanctuary)	3	17	Acceptable	Good
6	Grand River @ High Street (west crossing)	2	18	Acceptable	Good
8	Sharp Creek @ Wickwire Road (Dahlem Center Farm)	2	17	Acceptable	Good
9	Huntoon Creek @ Bellevue Road	1	10	Acceptable	Fair

Table 2. Fall 2010 Upper Grand River Adopt-A-Stream Monitoring Results

Map Site #	Site Location	# of Sensitive Taxa	# of Total Taxa (Species Richness)	MDEQ Proc. 51 Rating	MiCorps Rating
1	Grand River @ Liberty Dam	6	26	Excellent	Excellent
2	Sharp Creek @ Wickwire Road (Dahlem Center Farm)	2	18	Acceptable	Good
3	Portage River @ Wooster Road (Haenle Sanctuary)	1	14	Poor	Fair
4	Huntoon Creek @ Bellevue Road	1	14	Acceptable	Fair
5	Sandstone Creek @ Springport Road (Minard Mills Park)	3	14	Acceptable	Good
6	Grand River @ Onondaga (Baldwin Park)	4	24	Acceptable	Excellent



◀ *Volunteer Jeff Heston collects samples from the Portage River at the Haenle Sanctuary (May 2010).*

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Michigan Water Stewardship Program

by Mike Rubley, *Water Stewardship Technician*

The MWSP program for Calhoun and Jackson in 2010 has primarily focused on reaching new producers and working with them to achieve MAEAP verification. From October 2009 through September 2010, the program worked with over 32 individuals/facilities. Conservation practices have been implemented on over 13,400 acres in Calhoun and Jackson counties. Sensitive area identification was accomplished on over 9,600 acres during the fiscal year. Water erosion calculations and wind erosion calculations were completed for over 6,400 acres, with the Manure Analysis Risk Index being completed on 3,988 acres. Conservation plans were developed for producers, covering more than 3,000 acres. Nutrient management plans increasing nutrient efficiency and decreasing nutrient loss were developed on over 1,000 acres.

Deliverables:

The program has accomplished 33 Risk Assessments, a total of 186 risk reductions, and accumulated 387 deliverables for the year. This sets the program at 258% of the required deliverables for FY-2010. A breakdown of the deliverables shows the completion of:

- Farm*A*Systs – 12**
- Crop*A*Systs – 10**
- Livestock*A*Systs – 11**
- MAEAP Farmstead Verification – 1**
- MAEAP Cropping Verification – 1**
- MAEAP Livestock Verification – 0**
- Drift Management Plans – 17**
- Emergency Plans – 8**
- Manure Spreader Calibration – 1**
- Pesticide Sprayer Calibration - 3**
- Deliverables from risk reduction practices – 288**
- Conservation Plans – 3**
- Nutrient Management Plans – 7**
- Irrigation Water Management Plans – 1**
- Well Closures - 1**



The sprayer clinic conducted on March 25, 2010 at Butch Lincoln's farm in Jackson County was a success. Over 250 individuals were in attendance at the clinic, and RUP credits (6) were made available to attendees.



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YOUR LAND, YOUR WATER, YOUR MICHIGAN



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The Jackson County Conservation District (JCCD) is a locally elected nonpartisan entity of state government, whose purpose is to promote wise land use decisions, based upon the capability of the natural resources of Jackson County, through technical assistance and education.

JCCD BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Jim Spink, *Chairman*

Vacant, *Vice-Chairman*

Lathe Claflin, *Treasurer*

Dick Ekins, *Secretary*

Don Foster, *Member*

JCCD Board meetings are held on the 4th Tuesday of the month at 10:00 am at the JCCD office and are open to the public.

All Jackson County Conservation District programs and services are provided on a nondiscriminatory basis.