

## **Michigan's Coastal Zone Management Program 2017 Grants Fact Sheet**

The Office of the Great Lakes' Coastal Zone Management (CZM) Program is pleased to announce awards of \$927,161 in federal grant funds from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. The funding will go to local governments, non-profit organizations, and university researchers to implement creative coastal projects. The CZM team will collaborate with partners to improve governmental coordination and administration of state shoreline statutes. This funding will support the CZM Program's work to safeguard irreplaceable coastal ecosystems and foster stewardship of Michigan's water resources.

Funding for the Coastal Zone Management Program is provided by the NOAA through a state and federal partnership established under the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972.

Discover how the CZM team works to protect, restore and enhance Michigan's coastline at [www.michigan.gov/coastalmanagement](http://www.michigan.gov/coastalmanagement).

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### **Coastal Projects:**

**Project Name:** Pier Place District Improvement Documents  
**Grantee:** Charter Township of Harrison  
**Grant Amount:** \$15,000 grant/ \$15,000 local match  
**Location:** Macomb County  
**Project Description:**

In 2014, Harrison Township completed a Waterfront Redevelopment Plan through a Coastal Zone Management Program Grant, establishing a vision for Harrison Township's waterfront. The Township envisions a vibrant waterfront business and residential district along the shore of Lake St. Clair that will serve as a regional destination for commerce, tourism, and living. Traditional maritime architecture, strong pedestrian spaces and amenities, and an accessible and attractive waterfront will be key components of this unique and memorable place.

The outcomes of these next critical steps will include a Waterfront Zoning Overlay District, a Developer's Guide Brochure, and a Complete Streets Design for the district. This project will allow the township to manage growth and development on coastal lands while protecting the natural resources and celebrating the maritime heritage of the area.

**Project Name:** Valuing Michigan's Coastal Dunes: GIS Information and Economic Data to Support Management Partnerships  
**Grantee:** Michigan Environmental Council  
**Grant Amount:** \$100,000 grant funds/ \$100,000 local match  
**Location:** Coastal Areas of Lakes Michigan and Superior (Sand Dunes)  
**Project Description:**

In this project, the MEC will determine and map the geologic and geomorphic extent of Michigan's coastal sand dunes by developing a new GIS layer to delineate Michigan dunes. The MEC will also conduct outreach and survey activities to obtain a better understanding of how the public values the resource by researching the significance of the economic, social, and cultural importance of the dunes.

Additionally, the MEC will be conducting strategic engagement activities to identify, engage, and catalyze a broader constituency of dune supporters to increase the public understanding of the critical role sand dunes have on Michigan's prosperity and quality of life.

**Project Name:** Syndicate Park Dunes Restoration and Education Project  
**Grantee:** Van Buren County  
**Grant Amount:** \$50,000 grant funds/ \$50,000 local match  
**Location:** Van Buren  
**Project Description:**

The project involves the restoration and stabilization of 20 acres of critical dune area by planting dune grass and woodland species, installing fencing, and improving a managed public trail system for beach access and scenic views of Lake Michigan. This project will involve a public outreach campaign including signage and a video about dune ecosystems to increase awareness of the unique and dynamic dune habitats along the Lake Michigan coast.

**Project Name:** St. Joseph Lake Michigan Coastal Study Update  
**Grantee:** City of St. Joseph  
**Grant Amount:** \$20,000 grant funds/ \$20,000 local match  
**Location:** Berrien  
**Project Description:**

The City of St. Joseph, located in Berrien County along the southeastern Lake Michigan shoreline, will conduct a 5-year review and update of their 2012 coastal study to learn if the engineering model is proving valid under changing Great Lakes water levels and if the current regulations remain sufficiently protective or if changes should be considered. The recent significant rise in Great Lakes water level trends necessitate an update to the underlying coastal study to determine if changing rates of coastal erosion are being realized. The city may consider modifications to the existing coastal construction ordinance should this update study identify physical conditions significantly different from those in the 2012 study.

**Project Name:** Headlands Park Pathway & Boardwalk  
**Grantee:** County of Emmet  
**Grant Amount:** \$90,000 grant funds/ \$90,000 local match  
**Location:** Headlands Park, Emmet County  
**Project Description:**

The Headlands Park is a unique 600-acre county park consisting of two and a half miles of Lake Michigan shoreline. The park is heavily used by hikers, birders, fishermen, kayakers, and star gazers. In 2011, the Headlands was designated as an International Dark Sky park which has brought waves of visitors from across the nation. The park is always open so entrance to the park is easy; however, accessibility is not, especially to the waterfront. Emmet County will construct a universally accessible pathway and boardwalk linking two existing parking lots to a shoreline viewing area along Lake Michigan. The pathways and boardwalk will provide access to all users, regardless of ability, to the Lake Michigan shoreline.

**Project Name:** Beaver Island Water Trail System  
**Grantee:** LIAA  
**Grant Amount:** \$21,000 grant funds/ \$21,000 local match  
**Location:** Charlevoix County  
**Project Description:**

Beaver Island is the largest island in Lake Michigan, located about 30 miles offshore from the City of Charlevoix in northwest Lower Michigan. It is a popular tourist destination, especially during the summer months. The island's Chamber of Commerce seeks to expand and diversify the island's tourism potential without sacrificing its quiet, rural character. A water trail around Beaver Island would support the island's tourism-centered strategy for economic development.

The project will develop a comprehensive master plan for a water trail system around Beaver Island. Project tasks include hosting a multi-day "Water Trail Stakeholder Summit," collecting and mapping existing data, conducting a water trail asset inventory, conducting a Trail town and Universal Accessibility Assessment, and developing recommendations, a master plan, and promotional materials. The water trail master plan will provide the framework for the development, enhancement, and long-term marketing, management, accessibility, and sustainability of this unique water trail system.

**Project Name:** Blue Water River Walk Coastal Wetland Interpretive Walkway  
**Grantee:** St. Clair County Parks and Recreation  
**Grant Amount:** \$50,000 grant funds/ \$50,000 local match  
**Location:** City of Port Huron, St. Clair County  
**Project Description:**

In 2013, the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative provided funding for habitat and wildlife restoration within a portion of the Upper St. Clair River. In 2015, a coastal wetland was constructed, adjacent to the site, with a National Fish and Wildlife Foundation grant.

This project enhances public access to the River Walk and ties the work previously funded together by giving visitors safe and universal access to the wetlands with construction of a 160-foot wood boardwalk, a 300-square foot wetland overlook, interpretive signage, and a 2,000-square foot concrete plaza connecting the boardwalk to the Bridge to Bay non-motorized trail. The proposed interpretive walkway will allow school groups, residents, and visitors to understand and enjoy the benefits of the coastal wetlands that are a vital part of the St. Clair River watershed.

### **Coastal Initiatives:**

**Project Name:** Coastal Clean Beaches Initiative  
**Grantee:** Alliance for the Great Lakes  
**Grant Amount:** \$30,000 grant funds/\$30,000 local match  
**Project Description:**

The OGL CMPU will coordinate with the Alliance for the Great Lakes (Alliance) to run the statewide Adopt-A-Beach Program to clean up and monitor approximately 140 coastal beaches in Michigan. The program fosters the participation of clean-up teams from coastal communities in 32 locations and culminates with the annual clean-up event held the third Saturday in September in conjunction with the Ocean Conservancy International Coastal Cleanup.

The Coastal Clean Beach Initiative will continue to explore the redesign of the data collection forms for beach waste (e.g. litter) to align with best practices and changes implemented by the Ocean Conservancy, expand clean-up efforts in southeast Michigan, and work with the NOAA to develop a Great Lakes Action plan. The Alliance will continue to explore methods and solutions to work towards reducing beach waste through outreach and more accessibility to recycle and waste containers on coastal beaches.

**Project Name:** Coastal Resiliency Initiative  
**Grantee:** Michigan Association of Planning  
**Grant Amount:** \$125,000 grant funds/\$125,000 local match  
**Project Description:**

The OGL CMPU will coordinate with the Michigan Association of Planning (MAP) to conduct the second phase of the Initiative to incorporate recognized coastal resiliency principles and practices into community land use plans and zoning ordinances.

In the first phase, the MAP selected 6 coastal communities to audit master plans and zoning ordinances and identify areas to incorporate appropriate resiliency provisions. The second phase of the Initiative will include updating the corresponding zoning ordinances to reflect the newly-incorporated resiliency goals, objectives, and policies of the master plans.

**Project Name:** Coastal Clean Marina Initiative  
**Grantee:** Michigan Boating Industrial Association  
**Grant Amount:** \$30,000 grant funds/\$30,000 local match  
**Project Description:**

The OGL CMPU will coordinate with the Michigan Boating Industries Association (MBIA) to support Clean Marina Specialists who will conduct site visits to new and renewing marina facilities, recruit new facilities for the Clean Marina Program and assist the Clean Marina Operations Committee with organizing certification checklists and provide technical assistance as needed.

**Project Name:** Great Lakes Underwater Antiquities  
**Grantee:** Michigan Department of Natural Resources  
**Grant Amount:** \$20,000 grant funds/\$20,000 local match  
**Project Description:**

The Michigan Department of Natural Resources (MDNR), Law Enforcement Division will continue to enforce provisions of Part 761, Aboriginal Records and Antiquities, of the NREPA of 1994, as amended to protect Michigan's underwater shipwreck resources located on submerged bottomlands of the Great Lakes. MDNR will conduct public outreach on stewardship of the shipwrecks to the diving community.

