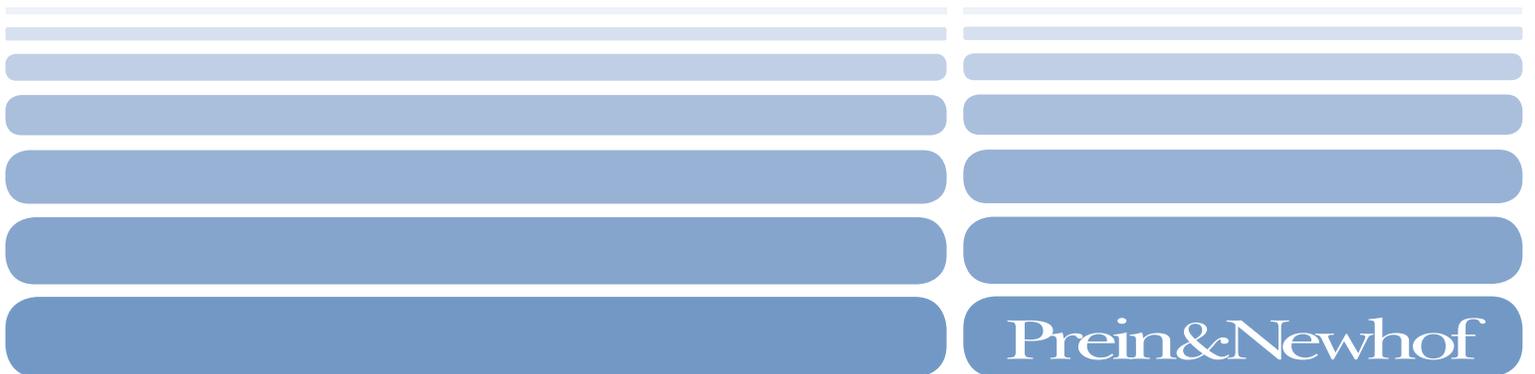


# Grants & Loans

A Guide to Infrastructure Financing  
for Michigan Communities



**Prein&Newhof**  
Engineers • Surveyors • Environmental • Laboratory

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Hunters often rely on guides to help them pursue their prized game through all kinds of wild situations. Hunting for grants isn't much different.

## The Search Begins

In a perfect world, you'd have unlimited resources to meet all the needs of your community. But in this world you need to make the most of what you have, finding the most effective way to stretch your resources.

What if you had a guide? Somebody to help you hunt down project funding, while skillfully navigating state and federal approval processes?

With P&N's collective experience, we can guide you through the maze of applications, proposals, and approvals. When you give us a call, we'll listen and learn what you'd like to accomplish. Then we'll work to get you the funding you need.

We are serious about helping you succeed. We created the Grants & Loans Guide to give you an overview of where we're likely to begin the hunt, to offer a few helpful tips, and to share some success stories from communities like yours.

If you'd like help searching or applying for funding, call Jim Hegarty at (616) 364-8491, or e-mail him at [jhegarty@preinnewhof.com](mailto:jhegarty@preinnewhof.com).

### Quick Overview

This guide includes:

- 9 Steps for Winning Grants that are sure to increase your chances of success.
- A list of State of Michigan and Federal funding agencies, with descriptions of their grants and programs. Direct contact information is also provided for each agency and program.
- Sample projects to demonstrate that we 'walk the talk.' See how other communities have worked with Prein&Newhof to get their projects funded, some in very creative ways.

### Financing is out there!

Get the latest on funding available for your community from our blog, *Seeing Farther*. It features:

- Funding program updates
- Due date reminders
- Grant success stories from communities like yours

To sign up for email updates, visit the Grants & Loans page on our website, <http://www.preinnewhof.com/resources/blog/>

# 9 Steps to Winning Grants

1. Plan Ahead
2. Create Your Wish List
3. Prioritize
4. Research Funding Opportunities
5. Build Relationships
6. Focus on the Funding Sources that Fit
7. Figure out How Much You Can Invest
8. Clarify your Scope & Create a Reasonable Estimate
9. Complete Your Application/Letter

## 1 Plan Ahead

Create a line item in your community's budget for "matching grant funds" that can be accumulated for the sole purpose of providing matching funds for grant opportunities as they arise. Many communities miss out on grant opportunities because they do not have sufficient matching funds available.

## 2 Create Your Wish List

Imagine that money isn't an obstacle, and make a list of all the projects that you would take on if you could find the resources to do them. Start with the practical, and then dream a little.

## 3 Prioritize

Prioritize your wish list by deciding which project(s) you want to focus on first. Start with projects that are most important for public health and safety, followed by projects with a positive economic impact for your community.

If you have a project on your wish list that isn't a high priority, but you know that it could qualify for grant funding, **go for it!** Free money doesn't come around often.

## 4 Research Funding Opportunities

Armed with your wish list, the hunt begins. If you choose to do your own search, the resources listed below would be a great way to start. You could also ask Prein&Newhof for assistance or hire a Grant-Writing Specialist. With any of these approaches, it's a good idea to get familiar with the funding options listed in the *Grant Information Resources* section below.

### Ask a Grant-Writing Specialist for Assistance

#### **Great Lakes Rural Community Assistance Program (RCAP)**

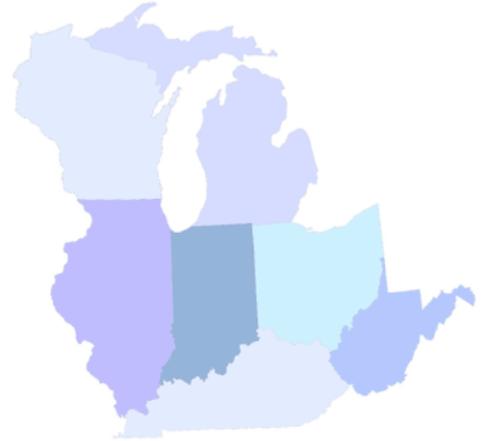
[www.glracap.org](http://www.glracap.org)

RCAP provides small communities with technical assistance to help them address their drinking water, wastewater treatment, and other community services and development needs. The Great Lakes RCAP serves Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Michigan, Ohio, West Virginia, and Wisconsin. Contact Christie Cook at (517) 437-3346 or [ccook@caajlh.org](mailto:ccook@caajlh.org).

#### **Rural Partners of Michigan**

[www.rural.cedam.info/](http://www.rural.cedam.info/)

Rural Partners of Michigan is a public/private partnership that finds innovative ways to address the issues and meet the needs of small-towns and rural areas of Michigan.




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## Grant Information Resources

#### **Grants.gov**

[www.grants.gov](http://www.grants.gov)

Managed by the U.S. Department of Human Services, Grants.gov is a central storehouse for information on over 1,000 federal grant programs and provides access to approximately \$500 billion in annual awards.

#### **Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance**

[www.cfda.gov](http://www.cfda.gov)

The Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance provides a full listing and detailed program descriptions of all Federal programs available to State and local governments.

#### **US EPA Guidebook**

[www2.epa.gov/envirofinance](http://www2.epa.gov/envirofinance)

The EPA Guidebook includes tools for raising revenue, borrowing capital, enhancing credit, creating public-private partnerships, and providing technical assistance for environmental projects.

#### **Michigan Economic Development Corp.**

[www.michiganbusiness.org/start-up/capital/](http://www.michiganbusiness.org/start-up/capital/)

The MEDC offers an extensive listing of community and economic development funding avenues, including Brownfield Tax Incentives and Community Development Block Grants. The site also provides a geographic listing of Michigan's Community Assistance Team with their contact information.

**Great Lakes Fishery Trust**[www.glft.org](http://www.glft.org)

The Great Lakes Fishery Trust has funded several platforms on non-motorized trails. Access to fishing opportunities is a priority for this organization.

**People for Bikes**[www.peopleforbikes.org/](http://www.peopleforbikes.org/)

This organization provides grants to help public agencies connect existing bike paths or create new ones. Eligible projects include bike paths, parking, and transit.

**Great Lakes Information Network**[www.great-lakes.net](http://www.great-lakes.net)

This site has an easy-to-use database of funding sources specific to the Great Lakes region. The funding sources/types include community-based organizations, federal, foundations, non-profit agencies, state/provincial, and universities. You can search by funding category, funder type, funding priority/issue, geographic area of focus, and funding cycle.

**West Michigan Regional Planning Commission**[www.wmrpc.org/funding\\_opportunities](http://www.wmrpc.org/funding_opportunities)

The West Michigan Regional Planning Commission maintains an extensive database of grant and loan programs. Contact Director David Bee at (616) 774-8400 or [dbee@wmrpc.org](mailto:dbee@wmrpc.org).

**The Foundation Center**[www.foundationcenter.org](http://www.foundationcenter.org)

The Foundation Center's RFP Bulletin, published weekly, alerts grant seekers to new funding opportunities from foundations and other grant-making organizations. This site also includes helpful tips related to seeking grants from foundations.

**Council of Michigan Foundations**[www.michiganfoundations.org](http://www.michiganfoundations.org)

The Council of Michigan Foundations is considered the voice of organized philanthropy in Michigan. Visit their website if you are looking for information about the state's grant-making foundations or contact their office at (616) 842-7080.

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## 5 Build Relationships

Who you know and what they think about your project is really important when you're looking for grant funding. Make time to build those relationships.

- Develop community support for the project; Get the local newspaper on board; Use news articles in your proposal.
- If possible, involve the grant agency in the process.
- Use political connections when pursuing a government grant. Get your representatives' support!

### What are you waiting for?

If you're ready to start finding funding for your projects, call Jim Hegarty at (616) 364-8491, or e-mail him at [jhegarty@preinnewhof.com](mailto:jhegarty@preinnewhof.com). Financing is out there!

## 6 Focus on Funding Sources that Fit

By now you know where you're likely to get funding. So it's time to dig deeper, learning everything you can about the funding sources and their requirements.

If you hired Prein&Newhof or another Grant-Writing Specialist, this step should be included when they "Research Funding Opportunities" (Step 4). If you choose to do this yourself, here are some additional sources that may help.

### Michigan Department of Natural Resources (MDNR)

<http://www.michigan.gov/dnr>

The Michigan Department of Natural Resources was created to conserve, protect, manage, and promote the use and enjoyment of the state's natural and cultural resources for current and future generations.

The [Grant Programs Catalog](#) is a directory of MDNR Grants that is published every year.

### Michigan Department of Environmental Quality

<http://www.michigan.gov/deq>

The Michigan Department of Environmental Quality promotes wise management of Michigan's air, land, and water resources to support a sustainable environment, healthy communities, and vibrant economy.

Visit the MDEQ's [Grants and Loans](#) page for information about Brownfields, Coastal Management Grants, Monitoring and Stream Cleanup Grants, Pollution Prevention Grants and Loans, Scrap Tire Grants, and Stormwater & Infrastructure Grants.

In 2013, MDEQ launched the [Stormwater, Asset Management, and Wastewater \(SAW\) Program](#), which gives grants to communities working to manage their stormwater and wastewater system assets.

### U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)

Want the latest news? The bottom of each page on the EPA website ([www.epa.gov](http://www.epa.gov)) allows you to sign up for podcasts, e-mail newsletters, or RSS feeds on many different topics.

#### *Grant Programs List*

<http://www2.epa.gov/home/grants-and-other-funding-opportunities>

This site lists all of the grant programs administered by the EPA and provides links to RFPs and award details.

#### *Department of Grants and Debarment*

[www.epa.gov/ogd](http://www.epa.gov/ogd)

This site provides operational and organizational information about the EPA and resources for complying with the legal requirements of EPA funding.

#### *Catalog of Federal Funding Sources for Watershed Protection*

To find this catalog, search on Google for "Catalog of Federal Funding Sources for Watershed Protection."

This is a searchable database of financial assistance sources (grants, loans, cost-sharing) available through the EPA to fund a variety of watershed protection projects. You can search either by funding criteria or by program title.

## 7 Figure out How Much You Can Invest

Grant agencies favor applicants who are willing to invest some of their own money in the project. This shows the applicant's commitment to the project, and demonstrates the project's importance to the community.

- Commit a high local match %.
- Identify your source(s) and amount of “matching” money.

## 9 Write Your Grant Proposal

You've made it this far. Now is the time to pull your information together and write a great grant proposal! Be sure to:

- Succinctly summarize your proposal in one paragraph or less — it's your headline!
- Provide information on your organization and how it will manage the grant. Explain future needs for money if your project is just getting off the ground, and/or how you will move forward after this money is gone. Grantors want to know how you will maintain and manage whatever you build with your grant.
- Describe your need/problem/activity in a way that is tailored to grant scoring criteria.
- Show multi-jurisdictional cooperation.
- Outline your work plan and its cost.
- Describe the outcome or impact of your request should it be honored with a grant.

## 8 Clarify your Scope & Create a Reasonable Estimate

This is where you really need your engineer's help. A good cost estimate helps you avoid the difficulties of winning a grant only to find that your project cost is much more than you imagined. Most grant agencies cap your grant amount to your original award and expect you to cover the cost of overruns.

- Provide a detailed cost breakdown for the entire project.
- Develop a good preliminary study and reliable cost estimate. Better yet, complete a set of design plans.
- Have all required permits in hand.

### Grant-Writing Tools

#### **Non-Profit Guides**

[www.npguides.org](http://www.npguides.org)

This site offers free web-based grant-writing tools to help you through the process.

#### **GrantStation**

[www.grantstation.com](http://www.grantstation.com)

This site provides training in grant-writing. GrantStation also offers paid members a searchable funding database, resources in grant seeking and grant writing, and a subscription to its weekly e-newsletter *GrantStation Insider*.

#### **The Grantsmanship Center**

[www.tgci.com](http://www.tgci.com)

This organization offers grant training and low-cost publications to non-profit organizations and government agencies. Visit its website to search for free sample abstracts of winning grant proposals. You can also search for sample proposals in a wide variety of subject areas in The Grantsmanship Center's online Library of Winning Grant Proposals, which consists entirely of recently funded, top-ranked grant proposals.

# Grant & Loan Programs

## Environmental Protection Agency

Great Lakes Restoration Initiative

## Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development

Rural Development

## Michigan Department of Environmental Quality

Brownfield Redevelopment Program

State Revolving Fund (SRF)

Drinking Water Revolving Fund (DWRF)

Wellhead Protection Program (WHPP)

Coastal Management Program

## Michigan Dept. of Natural Resources & Environment

Land and Water Conservation Fund

Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund

Aquatic Habitat Grant Program

Wildlife Habitat Grant Program

Dam Management Grants

Waterways Program Grants

Recreation Passport Grant

## Michigan Department of Transportation

Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement Program (CMAQ)

Safe Routes to School

STP Small Urban Program

Transportation Economic Development Fund

Transportation Alternatives Program

## Michigan Economic Development Corporation

Community Development Block Grant

Downtown Infrastructure Grants

Community Revitalization Program

## United States Department of Agriculture

Emergency Watershed Protection Program

## United States Department of Commerce

Economic Development Admin. Grants

## Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)

Disaster/Mitigation Grants

## Contact

Eda Lam

Phone: (312) 353-3437

Email: lam.eda@epa.gov

Website: <https://www.glri.us/>

## For Example

Whitehall's recently-constructed Lake Street Project received GRLI funding, by using stormwater Best Management Practices (BMP) and furthering the EPA's goals to reduce the amount and improve the quality of storm water entering White Lake.



*Lake Street, Whitehall*

## Great Lakes Restoration Initiative

Launched in 2010, this federal program aims to fund efforts that restore and protect the Great Lakes watershed, such as:

- Cleaning up Great Lakes Areas of Concern/ pollution
- Preventing and controlling invasive species
- Reducing nutrient runoff that contributes to harmful/nuisance algal blooms
- Restoring habitat to protect native species

### **How Much:**

As of 2016, \$1.5 billion is available over the course of 5 years.

### **For whom:**

States, municipalities, tribes, universities and nonprofit organizations.

### **When:**

Applications are typically due in August.



## Rural Development Fund Grants

The Michigan Department of Agriculture & Rural Development provides grant opportunities to promote energy, transportation, communications, water and wastewater infrastructure to benefit rural communities.

### *How Much:*

In 2017, \$12.9 million was awarded to 17 projects. There is a \$100,000 maximum grant amount per community, and a minimum 30% match is required

### *For whom:*

Individuals, organizations, businesses, local units of government, tribes, and educational institutions.

Applicants must be located in an eligible county ([see eligibility map](#)).

### *When:*

Applications are typically due in January and awarded in March.

### Contact

Heather Throne, Outreach Specialist,  
Agriculture Development Division  
Phone: (517) 712-0841  
Email: [throneh@michigan.gov](mailto:throneh@michigan.gov)

Website: [goo.gl/M1osa5](https://goo.gl/M1osa5)

### For Example

Several communities have funded various improvements using the Rural Development Fund. Here are some we have helped:

Village of Pewamo - Water System, Tank, and Communication Improvements

City of Carson City - Street & Water System Improvements

Village of Pentwater - Clean Water Plant

Village of Lyons - Water System Improvements

## Contact

Carrie Geyer, Unit Chief

Phone: (517) 284-5182

Email: [geyercl@michigan.gov](mailto:geyercl@michigan.gov)

Susan Leeming, CMI Brownfield  
Funding

Phone: (517) 284-5091

Email: [Leemings1@michigan.gov](mailto:Leemings1@michigan.gov)

Website: <http://goo.gl/PLBF2J>



Former Downtown Brownfield Site, City of Muskegon

## For Example

P&N has helped the following communities with Brownfield Redevelopment Program projects:

- City of Muskegon – Environmental Site Assessments (ESA) and Baseline Environmental Assessments (BEA) for Western Avenue Properties, Former Muskegon Mall Site, Heritage Square Development, & Parkland Properties
- Betten Auto Dealerships – ESA, BEA, Act 381 Work Plan, and Environmental Testing for Facility Expansion
- Ottawa County Road Commission – Adams Street Environmental Site Investigation & Building Demolition

## Brownfield Redevelopment Program

The MDEQ offers Brownfield Redevelopment and Site Reclamation funding to communities with contaminated sites or facilities, or properties with redevelopment potential and suspected contamination. Programs include:

- CMI Brownfield Redevelopment Loans (BRL); \$1,000,000 maximum; funds currently limited.
- CMI Brownfield Redevelopment Grants (BRG); \$1,000,000 maximum; funds currently limited.
- Site Reclamation Grants (SRG); \$2,000,000 maximum.
- Revitalizing Revolving Loan (RRL); No maximum.
- Site Assessment Fund (SAF) Grants; \$1,000,000 maximum.
- Waterfront Redevelopment Grants (WRG); no funds currently available.

Evaluation criteria include level of economic development, applicant and owner liability, and environmental benefit.

### How much:

Maximum grant award is \$1 million per project for Brownfield Redevelopment Grants, and \$2 million per project for Site Reclamation Grants.

### When:

Applications are accepted on a continuing basis.



*Pump Station C, Muskegon County Wastewater Management System*

## Clean Water Revolving Fund/ State Revolving Fund (SRF)

Michigan's Clean Water Revolving Fund program offers low-interest loans (2.5% for FY 2017) to communities needing construction of water pollution control facilities. The program requires a comprehensive project plan prepared by your community's consulting engineer prior to application.

MDEQ anticipates that carry-over and new funding will be available to subsidize "Green Projects" in the 2018 fiscal year.

### **How much:**

Though a finite amount is available each year, loans above \$10 million are common.

### **When:**

Applications are due July 1.

### Contact

Sonya Butler

Phone:(517) 284-5433

Email: [butlers2@michigan.gov](mailto:butlers2@michigan.gov)

Website: <http://goo.gl/7G8aYI>

### For Example

P&N has helped many communities with SRF-funded projects, including the following:

- Muskegon County – 8 miles of 60-inch Forcemain, Collection System Improvements, Pump Station C Replacement, Treatment Plant Improvements
- City of Allegan – Wastewater Treatment Plant Improvements
- City of Big Rapids – Wastewater Treatment Plant Improvements
- Village of Kent City – Sewer System Replacement
- City of Marshall – Sewer Separation Program
- Owosso & Caledonia Township – Wastewater Collection Systems
- City of Scottville – Wastewater System Replacement
- Zeeland Township – Drenthe/Vriesland Sanitary Sewers
- Plainfield & Alpine Townships – Sewer System Improvements

### Contact

Sonya Butler

Phone: (517) 284-5433

Email: [butlers2@michigan.gov](mailto:butlers2@michigan.gov)

Website: <http://goo.gl/um0TDm>

### For Example

P&N has helped many communities with DWRF-funded projects, including the following:

- Holland Board of Public Works – Holland-Wyoming Interconnect Transmission Main
- City of Allegan – New Water Treatment Plant
- Plainfield & Alpine Townships – Water System Improvements Project Plan
- City of Allegan – Water System Improvements, Phase II
- City of Galesburg – City-Wide Water System Improvements
- City of Montague / City of Whitehall – Water System Interconnection
- City of Flint – Water Treatment Plant Rehabilitation, Phase I
- Polkton Township – Eastmanville Water Supply



*Back of Water Treatment Plant, City of Allegan*

## Drinking Water Revolving Fund (DWRF)

Michigan's Drinking Water Revolving Fund offers low-interest loans (currently 2.5% for FY 2017) to communities in need of water system improvements. It is designed to help water utilities satisfy the requirements of the Safe Drinking Water Act. Projects are ranked for funding priority using criteria developed by MDEQ.

The program requires a comprehensive project plan prepared by your community's consulting engineer prior to application.

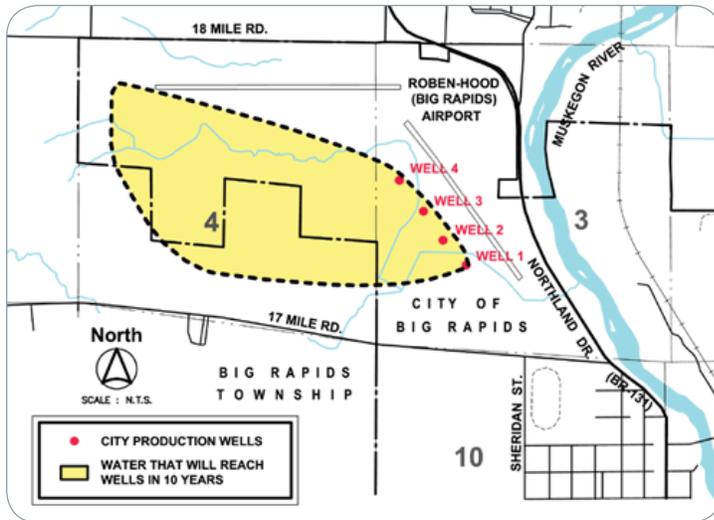
The DWRF program also includes the Green Project Reserve, providing subsidies (principal forgiveness) for green infrastructure, water/energy efficiency improvements, or other environmentally-innovative activities. Davis-Bacon wage requirements are also applicable.

### **For whom:**

Community water suppliers and non-profit, non-community water suppliers.

### **When:**

Grant applications are due by May 1.



Wellhead Protection Area, City of Big Rapids

## Wellhead Protection Program (WHPP)

This program helps local communities that rely on groundwater for their municipal drinking water supply to protect their water source. A Wellhead Protection Plan (WHPP) minimizes the potential for groundwater contamination by identifying and protecting the area that contributes water to municipal water supply wells. It also involves public education and outreach.

Examples of projects that could receive WHPP funding include:

- Wellhead delineation studies
- Emergency management training for spills in wellhead protection areas
- Abandoned well search and management programs
- Passage of zoning language to protect groundwater

### How much:

Past grants have ranged from \$1,500 to \$70,000 per community. A 50% local match is required.

### When:

Grant applications are usually due in May or June.

### Contact

Jason Berndt, Environmental Quality Analyst

Phone: (989) 705-3420

Email: [berndtj1@michigan.gov](mailto:berndtj1@michigan.gov)

Wayne Kukuk, Geologist

Phone: (517) 284-6517

Email: [kukukw@michigan.gov](mailto:kukukw@michigan.gov)

Website: [www.michigan.gov/deqwhp](http://www.michigan.gov/deqwhp)

### For Example

P&N has helped many communities with their Wellhead Protection projects:

- City of Big Rapids
- City of Hart
- City of Montague
- Otsego Township
- Plainfield Charter Township
- City of Rockford
- Saugatuck Township
- Village of Schoolcraft
- Village of Shelby
- City of Whitehall

### Contact

Ronda Wuycheck

Phone: (517) 284-5040

Email: [wuycheckr@michigan.gov](mailto:wuycheckr@michigan.gov)

Website: <http://goo.gl/BI3f1b>

### For Example

P&N has helped the following communities with MCMP-funded projects:

- City of Montague – Spring Street Trail & Parking Lot
- Village of Fruitport – Boat Ramp Parking Lot, Pedestrian Trail, & Fishing Platform



*Pomona Park Fishing Platform, Village of Fruitport*

## Coastal Management Program

This program's objectives include:

- Create and enhance coastal public access.
- Protect, manage and/or restore coastal resources, habitats, and watersheds.
- Control development in erosion or flood hazard areas.
- Preserve and restore historic and cultural coastal structures.
- Redevelop urban waterfronts, Brownfields, and ports.
- Protect coastal water quality and reduce non-point source pollution in coastal watersheds.
- Reduce the adverse impacts of coastal growth and development.

Michigan's coastal boundary lies 1,000 feet inland from the ordinary high water mark of the Great Lakes. Included within the boundary are coastal cities, state parks, coastal lakes, coastal floodplains, Great Lakes connecting waters, coastal river mouths, bays, and designated dune areas.

#### **For whom:**

Coastal units of government.

#### **How much:**

Amounts awarded are between \$10,000 and \$100,000. Applicants must provide 50% of the total project cost.

#### **When:**

Applications are usually due in December.



*Transient Dock Improvements, City of Ludington*

### Contact

Christie Bayus, Grants Management

Phone: (517) 284-5923

Email: bayusc@michigan.gov

Website: <http://goo.gl/5aqTsA>

## Land and Water Conservation Fund

The Land and Water Conservation (LWCF) Fund is a federal program administered in Michigan by the Department of Natural Resources on behalf of the National Park Service (NPS). The MDNR uses LWCF funding to help develop public outdoor recreation facilities and to provide matching grants for local governments to do the same.

The program is intended to create and maintain a nationwide legacy of high quality recreation areas and facilities and to stimulate non-federal investments in the protection and maintenance of recreation resources across the United States.

### *For whom:*

Communities with 5-Year Recreation Plans.

### *How much:*

In 2016, the MDNR awarded 17 community parks and recreation facilities across Michigan with a share of \$2,289,600.

### *When:*

Applicants need to provide a 5-Year Recreation Plan by March 1 of the year to be eligible. LWCF Applications are due on April 1 each year.

### Contact

Michael Chuff

Phone: (517) 284-5951

Email: [chuffm@michigan.gov](mailto:chuffm@michigan.gov)

Website: <http://goo.gl/15aGYQ>

### For Example

- Cannon Township – Cannon Trail
- Carson City – Trail & Boardwalk
- City of Greenville – Fred Meijer Flat River Trail
- City of Ionia – Grand River Valley Rail Trail
- City of Muir – Pedestrian Bridge
- City of Whitehall – Montague–Whitehall Rail Trail & White Lake Pathway
- Plainfield Township - PMK Property acquisitions
- Spring Lake Township – North Bank Trail



*Loomis Street Breakwater Walkway, City of Ludington*

## Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund

This fund provides financial assistance to local governments for outdoor recreation development projects, for the protection of natural resources and open space, and to purchase land. The evaluation criteria include the economic benefits, the population served by the project, and the protection and use of significant natural resources.

### *For whom:*

Grants are issued annually to communities with MDNR-approved 5-Year Recreation Plans. A local match of at least 25% is required.

### *How much:*

Only 25% of Trust Fund revenues can be used for development projects. The rest is used on property acquisition grants. Development project grant amounts are between \$15,000 and \$300,000; No minimum or maximum limits on land acquisition grants.

### *When:*

Local community Recreation Plans must be uploaded to MDNR's website by March 1 of the year of application. Applications must be uploaded no later than April 1 of the year of application.



*Native to Europe, Garlic Mustard thrives in wooded areas and often outcompetes understory plants, including tree seedlings.*

### Contact

Kammy Frayre

Phone: (517) 284-5970

Email: [frayrek1@michigan.gov](mailto:frayrek1@michigan.gov)

Website: [goo.gl/zyCSdy](https://goo.gl/zyCSdy)

## Michigan Invasive Species Grant Program

The Departments of Natural Resources, Environmental Quality and Agriculture and Rural Development work together to address strategic issues of prevention, detection, eradication, and control for both terrestrial and aquatic invasive species in Michigan.

The Michigan Invasive Species Grant Program (MISGP) is part of a statewide initiative to prevent and control species that can cause harm to Michigan's economy, environment, and human health.

### **For whom:**

Applicants must be a local/state/federal/tribal unit of government; public university; or 501c(3).

The project must support the overall goals of the MISGP. Specific priorities and scoring criteria can be found in the handbook.

### **How much:**

Grants are issued annually. In 2018, the MDNR awarded \$3.6 million. The minimum grant amount per project is between \$25,000 and \$400,000. Applicants must commit to a 10% local match of the total project cost.

### **When:**

Applications must submit a pre-proposal in early June and a full proposal in mid-September.



### Contact

Kelly Parker, Aquatic Habitat Grant  
Program Manager  
Phone: (517) 284-5957  
Email: [parkerk4@michigan.gov](mailto:parkerk4@michigan.gov)

Website: <http://goo.gl/jn8fyw>

## Aquatic Habitat Grant Program

The Aquatic Habitat Grant Program began in October of 2013. It funds projects that protect intact and rehabilitate degraded aquatic habitats. This grant program will be funded by new revenues from increased fishing and hunting license fees.

### *For whom:*

Single and multiple-year projects by local, state, federal, and tribal governments; nonprofit groups; and individuals.

### *How much:*

\$1.25 million available annually. Successful projects will receive a minimum of \$25,000.

### *When:*

The application period usually begins in September with a due date of mid-November. Winners are announced the following April.

The detailed program handbook and application are available on the MDNR website.

## Contact

Chip Kosloski, Wildlife Habitat Grant  
Program Manager  
Phone: (517) 284-5965  
Email: kosloskic3@michigan.gov

Clay Buchanan, Wildlife Division  
Grant Coordinator  
Phone: (517) 284-6214  
Email: buchananc@michigan.gov



Website: <http://goo.gl/UdTuLr>

## Wildlife Habitat Grant Program

The Wildlife Habitat Grant Program (WHGP) seeks to improve the quality and quantity of game species habitat. Specific goals to accomplish this are identified in the Wildlife Division's strategic plan, The Guiding Principles & Strategies (GPS). Those goals are:

- Goal 2: Manage habitat for sustainable wildlife populations in a changing environment.
- Goal 4: Increase public participation, acceptance and support of hunting and trapping, and increase participation in non-consumptive wildlife-related recreation.

### *For whom:*

Local, state, federal, and tribal governments; For-profit and non-profit groups; and individuals.

### *How much:*

Minimum is \$15,000. Maximum is the amount available for the current grant cycle (\$1,970,000 awarded in 2015).

### *When:*

Application deadline varies.

### *How:*

The detailed program handbook and application are available on the website. See the "Applicant Information" dropdown menu.



*City of Marshall's Ketchum Dam, Post-Removal*

## Contact

Chip Kosloski, Dam Management Grant  
Program Manager

Phone: (517) 284-5965

Email: [kosloskic3@michigan.gov](mailto:kosloskic3@michigan.gov)

Steve Debrabander, Grants Management  
Section Manager

Phone: (517) 284-5930

Email: [debrabanders@michigan.gov](mailto:debrabanders@michigan.gov)

Website: <http://goo.gl/WxCHIH>

## Dam Management Grants

The Dam Management Program supports the management of dam removal, repair, and major maintenance projects that enhance the aquatic environment, reduce infrastructure costs, and create a safer Michigan.

The program encourages dam removal (unless the dam has an economic purpose) as it is far less expensive in the long term, creates a better habitat for fish, and provides more recreational opportunities.

### ***For whom:***

Any individual, nonprofit organization, state or local unit of government.

### ***How much:***

\$3.35 million was awarded to 2016 recipients.

### ***When:***

Application deadlines are usually in November.

### ***How:***

The detailed program handbook and application are available on the website. See the “Applicant Information” dropdown menu.

## Contact

Paul Petersen, Waterways Grant  
Program Manager  
Parks and Recreation Division  
Phone: (517) 284-6122  
Email: [petersenp@michigan.gov](mailto:petersenp@michigan.gov)

Website: <http://goo.gl/9ViNhp>



*Harbor View Marina, Ludington*

## For Example

- City of Ludington – Marina Preliminary Study & Relocation of US-10

## Waterways Program Grants

The Waterways Program provides grants for the design and construction of public harbor, marina, and boating access facilities throughout Michigan. It is funded through the Michigan State Waterways Fund from state marine fuel tax and water craft registrations.

The DNR may require on-site investigation to make sure proposed work is suitable. The program's website has design standards resources to encourage sustainable design. Applicants may also be required to document area boating demand.

### *For whom:*

Local units of government and public universities.

### *How much:*

Winning projects can receive between \$5,000 and \$400,000.

### *When:*

Applications are typically due April 1.



*Crystal Valley Park, Oceana County*

## Recreation Passport Grant

The Local Public Recreation Facilities Fund supports the development of public recreation facilities for local units of government. Money for this fund is derived from the sale of the Recreation Passport, which replaced the resident Motor Vehicle Permit (MVP) — or window sticker — for state park entrance. The passport is required for entry to state parks, recreation areas and boating access sites.

### **For whom:**

The grant program may only be used for local development projects. While it focuses on improving existing parks, new park development is eligible.

### **How much:**

In 2016, \$1,400,000 was awarded to 36 communities who sought funding for a broad range of public outdoor recreation projects, such as developments and upgrades to playgrounds, parks, sports and fitness facilities, and non-motorized paths/trails.

### **When:**

Applications are typically due in May.

## Contact

Jon Mayes, Unit Manager  
Phone: (517) 248-5954  
Email: [mayesj@michigan.gov](mailto:mayesj@michigan.gov)

Christie Bayus, Program Manager  
Phone: (517) 284-5923  
Email: [bayusc@michigan.gov](mailto:bayusc@michigan.gov)

Website: <http://goo.gl/2nVZwa>

## For Example

- City of Roosevelt Park - Tennis Court & Baseball Field Improvements
- Village of Rothbury – Community Park Improvements
- Village of Sparta – Splash Pad

## Contact

Todd Kauffman, Program Manager  
 MDOT Bureau of Transportation  
 Planning  
 Phone: (517) 335-2938  
 Email: [KauffmanT@michigan.gov](mailto:KauffmanT@michigan.gov)

Website: [www.michigan.gov/CMAQ](http://www.michigan.gov/CMAQ)



*Pedestrian Bridge across I-196, Holland Charter Township*

## For Example

P&N has helped the following communities with CMAQ-funded projects:

- Holland Charter Township – Adams Street Trail and I-196 Highway Bridge
- Laketown Township – Beeline Road Trail
- Saugatuck Township – Blue Star Highway Trail
- Port Sheldon Township – Croswell Street Trail
- Zeeland Charter Township – Adams Street Trail

## Congestion Mitigation & Air Quality Improvement Program

The Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement Program (CMAQ) provides funding for projects and programs that reduce congestion and transportation-related emissions.

The following are examples of activities eligible for CMAQ funds:

- Pedestrian & Bicycle Programs
- Transit & Public Transportation Programs
- Traffic Flow Improvements
- Ride Sharing Programs
- Education & Outreach
- Alternative “Clean Fuels”

### *For whom:*

Only areas that do not meet specific clean air standards as set by the EPA are eligible for these funds. This federal program is administered locally by a county or metro planning agency.

### *When:*

Application deadline is usually in February.



## Safe Routes to School

Safe Routes to School (SRTS) is an international movement to make it safe, convenient, and fun for children to bicycle and walk to school. Michigan's SRTS program is managed by MDOT.

School systems usually initiate the SRTS request, and work with the local community to implement projects. Infrastructure projects must be constructed within a 2-mile radius of the school. The money must pay for a project related to walking or biking to/from home and school.

### *For whom:*

K-8 schools.

### *How much:*

Maximum of \$200,000 per school with a 20% local match.

SRTS also offers mini grants for motivational items to help encourage students to walk and bike to and from school. The goal is to help students become more physically fit.

### *When:*

Applications are accepted quarterly. Please see [saferoutesmichigan.org/applicationssubmit](http://saferoutesmichigan.org/applicationssubmit) for specific dates.

## Contact

Katie Johnson, Grants Manager &  
Programs Coordinator

Phone: (517) 908-3830

Email: [kjohnson@michiganfitness.org](mailto:kjohnson@michiganfitness.org)

Mariama Lockington, Operators  
Coordinator

Phone: (517) 908-3826

Email: [mlockington@michiganfitness.org](mailto:mlockington@michiganfitness.org)

Website: <http://goo.gl/hpPIPU>

## For Example

- City of Allegan - Monroe Street Sidewalk Replacement
- City of Roosevelt Park - Roosevelt Road Reconstruction

## Contact

Pamela Boyd, Supervisor, Bureau of  
Transportation Planning  
Phone: (517) 335-2803  
Email: [boydpl@michigan.gov](mailto:boydpl@michigan.gov)

Website: <http://goo.gl/UU6azA>

## For Example

P&N has helped several communities with Small Urban Program-funded projects:

- City of Allegan – Davis Street Reconstruction
- City of Big Rapids – Oak Street Reconstruction
- City of Ludington – Tinkham Avenue Reconstruction
- City of Montague – Old Channel Trail Reconstruction
- City of Roosevelt Park – Summit Avenue Reconstruction
- City of Whitehall – Division Street Reconstruction



*Division Street Reconstruction, City of Whitehall*

## Small Urban Program

The Small Urban Program provides federal Surface Transportation Program (STP) funds for road and transit capital projects.

### **For whom:**

Cities, villages, transit agencies, and road commissions located within or serving urban areas that have a population of 5,000 to 49,999.

### **How much:**

The maximum federal dollar amount awarded for a project is \$375,000, to which the implementing area must provide a 20% local match.

### **When:**

Applications are usually due in April.



*Harvey Street Reconstruction, City of Norton Shores*

## Transportation Economic Development Fund

The Transportation Economic Development Fund (TEDF) was created to assist with funding highway, road, and street projects that are necessary to support economic growth. MDOT determines criteria requirements for eligible projects and specifies which agencies are eligible to receive funding. Funding has been authorized for the following categories:

Category A: Road projects related to target industry development and redevelopment opportunities.

Category C: Reduction of traffic congestion in urban counties.

Category D: Road improvements in rural counties to create an all-season road network.

Category E: Construction or reconstruction of roads that are essential to the development of commercial forests in Michigan.

Category F: Road and street improvements for cities in rural counties.

### **For whom:**

County road commissions, cities, and villages are eligible to apply for TEDF funds.

### Contact

Alex Nikoloff (University/Bay Regions)

Phone: (517) 241-1317

Email: [nikoloffa@michigan.gov](mailto:nikoloffa@michigan.gov)

Amy Matisoff (Grand/North Regions)

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Email: [matisoffa@michigan.gov](mailto:matisoffa@michigan.gov)

Matt Wiitala (Southwest, Superior Regions)

Phone: (517) 241-2152

Email: [wiitalama@michigan.gov](mailto:wiitalama@michigan.gov)

Vince Ranger (Metro Region)

Phone: (248) 483-5130

Email: [rangerv@michigan.gov](mailto:rangerv@michigan.gov)

Website: <http://goo.gl/YiZwwt>

### For Example

P&N has helped several communities with TEDF-funded projects:

- Holland Charter Township – Roost Avenue Reconstruction & Riley Street Improvements
- City of Ludington – US-10 Relocation
- City of Montague – Dowling Street Reconstruction
- City of Norton Shores – Harvey Street Reconstruction
- City of Kentwood – Kalamazoo Avenue Reconstruction

## Contact

Alex Nikoloff (University/Bay Regions)

Phone: (517) 241-1317

Email: [nikoloffa@michigan.gov](mailto:nikoloffa@michigan.gov)

Amy Matisoff (Grand/North Regions)

Phone: (517) 282-7457

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Matt Wiitala (Southwest, Superior Regions)

Phone: (517) 241-2152

Email: [witalama@michigan.gov](mailto:witalama@michigan.gov)

Vince Ranger (Metro Region)

Phone: (248) 483-5130

Email: [rangerv@michigan.gov](mailto:rangerv@michigan.gov)

**Website:** <http://goo.gl/jh8avY>

## For Example

P&N has helped several communities with TAP-funded projects. Townships received funding through their county road commission:

- City of Walker – M-45 Pedestrian Tunnel
- Laketown Township – Beeline Road Bike Trail
- Holland Charter Township – Adams Street Bike Trail and Highway Bridge
- Spring Lake / Crockery Twps.– North Bank Trail
- City of Greenville – Downtown Streetscape
- City of Montague – Non-Motorized Trail & Rest Room Facility
- City of Scottville – Downtown Renovation
- Spring Lake Township – Non-Motorized Trail



*Clinton-Ionia-Shiawassee Trail Non-Motorized Bridge*

## Transportation Alternatives Program

The Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) funds projects that enhance driving alternatives (non-motorized and transit projects) using Federal Transportation Funds designated by Congress.

Eligible activities are non-motorized trail projects, transportation aesthetics/streetscapes, historic preservation, and projects that reduce the effect of vehicles on water quality and wildlife.

### **For whom:**

Act 51 agencies, including county road commissions, cities, villages, and transit agencies.

### **When:**

Applications are accepted year-round.

### **How much:**

Awards vary but have a minimum 20% local match, and the project must be related to transportation in some way.



*Downtown Infrastructure Improvements, City of Galesburg*

## Community Development Block Grant

MEDC's Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program, administered through its Community Assistance Team (CAT), helps local communities with economic development, downtown development, blight elimination, and planning.

**Economic Development** – The Michigan Strategic Fund (MSF) supports efforts to create and retain desirable jobs. Grants are available to provide public infrastructure necessary for the location, expansion, and/or retention of manufacturing, point-of-destination tourism, headquarter operations, or major multi-state distribution facilities.

**Downtown Development** – Grants are available to communities with traditional downtowns for infrastructure, facade improvement, demolition of blighted structures, and signature buildings.

**Planning** – Economic and downtown development planning grants are available to help communities accomplish project-specific public planning and design work which is likely to lead to an eligible economic development or downtown development implementation project.

### *For whom:*

Non-urban counties and most small cities, townships, and villages with a population of less than 50,000 can apply.

### Contact

Deborah Stuart, CDBG State Program Manager

Phone: (517) 241-4775

Email: [stuartd@michigan.org](mailto:stuartd@michigan.org)

Community Assistance Team:

<http://goo.gl/ORgCUA>

Website: <http://goo.gl/30DqRw>

### For Example

P&N has helped many communities with CDBG-funded projects:

- City of Galesburg – Downtown Infrastructure Improvements
- Yates Township – Henrietta Summers Community Center
- Village of Morley – Two Mile Road Bridge Replacement
- Holton Township – New Sidewalks
- Muskegon County – Northside Water System
- Village of Muir – Wastewater Lagoon Sludge Removal, Superior Street Reconstruction
- Byron Township – 84th Street & Byron Center Avenue Sidewalk
- City of Big Rapids – Water Tank, Oak Street Watermain
- City of Ludington – Wastewater System & Roadway Improvements
- City of Roosevelt Park – Post Road Reconstruction

## Contact

Deborah Stuart, CDBG State  
Program Manager  
Phone: (517) 241-4775  
Email: [stuard@michigan.org](mailto:stuard@michigan.org)

Community Assistance Team:  
<http://goo.gl/ORgCUA>

Website: <http://goo.gl/30DqRw>



*Downtown Infrastructure Improvements, Village of Lyons*

## For Example

P&N has helped several communities with DIG-funded projects:

- City of Harrison
- Village of Lyons
- City of Galesburg

## Downtown Infrastructure Grants

MEDC's Downtown Infrastructure Grant program is a Community Development Block Program intended to help fund improvements to parking lots, curbs, sewers and water systems.

### *For whom:*

Low to moderate income communities that do not receive funding directly from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. Projects must benefit the entire community to be eligible for the funding.

### *How much:*

Available funds vary each year.

### *When:*

Applications have been historically due in December.



*Beeline Road Path, Laketown Township*

### Contact

MEDC Community Assistance  
Team:

<http://goo.gl/ORgCUA>

Website: <http://goo.gl/pF1D01>

## Community Revitalization Program

The Michigan Strategic Fund and Michigan Economic Development Corporation designed this program to promote community revitalization that will increase private investment in areas of disinvestment.

### *For whom:*

Any project that is located on a historic resource or is blighted or functionally obsolete; any property that is adjacent to an eligible property and would increase the taxable value of the property.

### *How much:*

Support from the MSF will not exceed 25% of the total eligible investment for a single project.

### *When:*

Applications are accepted on an on-going basis.

## Contact

Fred Reaves, Program Manager  
National Emergency Watershed  
Protection  
Phone: (202) 690-0793

Website: [http://goo.gl/  
XJ1eYU](http://goo.gl/XJ1eYU)

## For Example

P&N helped Ottawa County Drain Commission replace its road and culvert on 32nd Street when a storm washed it out.



*32nd St. Road & Culvert Replacement, Ottawa County Drain Commission*

## Emergency Watershed Protection Program

The USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) provides funding for flood damage restoration projects and the purchase of floodplain easements.

### *How much:*

Funding from the NRCS Emergency Watershed Protection Program can pay up to 75% of the cost of removing debris from stream channels, road culverts and bridges, protecting eroded streambanks and reseeding damaged areas.

The NRCS may pay up to 75% of the construction cost of emergency measures or up to 90% in limited resource areas. The remaining cost share must come from local sources and can be in the form of cash or in-kind services.

### *For whom:*

Public and private landowners are eligible for assistance but must be represented by a project sponsor (a city, county, general improvement district, conservation district, or any Native American tribe or tribal organization as defined in Section 4 of the Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act).



*New Water Treatment Plant, City of Allegan*

## Economic Development Administration Grants

The Economic Development Administration (EDA) of the US Department of Commerce targets economically-challenged areas and supports the construction or rehabilitation of essential public infrastructure necessary to generate higher-skill, higher-wage jobs and to attract private investment.

Eligible projects must fulfill a pressing need of the area and must do one of the following:

- Improve the opportunities for the successful establishment or expansion of industrial or commercial plants or facilities.
- Assist in the creation of long-term employment opportunities.
- Benefit unemployed/underemployed residents of an area or members of low-income families.

### **How much:**

The basic grant may cover up to 50% of the project cost. Severely depressed areas may receive up to 80% of the project cost. Additionally, municipalities located within and actively participating in Economic Development Districts are eligible for a 10% bonus on grants for public works projects.

### Contact

Dave Bee, West Michigan  
Regional Planning Commission  
Phone: (616) 774-8400  
Email: [dbee@wmrpc.org](mailto:dbee@wmrpc.org)

Jeannette Tamayo, EDA Regional  
Director  
Phone: (312) 353-8143  
Email: [jtamayo@eda.gov](mailto:jtamayo@eda.gov)

Website: [www.eda.gov/grants](http://www.eda.gov/grants)

### For Example

P&N has helped several communities with EDA-funded projects:

- Spring Lake Township – Wastewater Lift Station Rehabilitations & Improvements
- City of Allegan – New Water Treatment Plant
- Holland Charter Township – Roost Street, J.B. Laboratories
- Holland Economic Development Corporation (HEDCOR) – Northside Industrial Park & Southside Industrial Park
- City of Muskegon – Northside Water System, Seaway Industrial Park, Utility & Roadway Improvements

## Contact

Matt Schnepf, Michigan Dept. of  
State Police – Emergency  
Management and Homeland  
Security Division  
Phone: (517) 336-2040  
Email: [schnepfm1@michigan.gov](mailto:schnepfm1@michigan.gov)

Joel Pepper, Michigan Dept. of  
State Police – Emergency  
Management and Homeland  
Security Division  
Phone: (517) 336-2039  
Email: [pepperj@michigan.gov](mailto:pepperj@michigan.gov)

Website: <http://goo.gl/2o6z1r>

## For Example

P&N has helped several communities with FEMA-funded projects:

- Kalamazoo Township – Floodplain Structure Acquisition
- City of Coopersville – East & Cleveland Street Culvert Replacement
- Village of Kent City – Main Street Culvert Replacement
- Kent County Drain Commission – York Creek Drain & 4-Mile Road Flood Mitigation
- Plainfield Charter Township – Flood Mitigation Plan, Structure Acquisition & Elevation
- Kalamazoo Township – Structure Acquisition in Lakewood Area



*York Creek Flood Prevention Drainage System, Kent County Drain Commission*

## FEMA Disaster/Mitigation Grants

### Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA)

The FMA grant program provides funding to help reduce or eliminate the long-term risk of flood damage to structures. Planning, technical assistance, and project grants are available. The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) encourages communities to identify ways to reduce their risk of flood damage by preparing Flood Mitigation Plans. Project grants include elevation, acquisition, or relocation of National Flood Insurance Program-insured structures.

### Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP)

HMGP monies may be used to fund projects that will reduce or eliminate flood losses from future disasters. Applications can be accepted within a defined period following a disaster declaration.

### Pre-Disaster Mitigation Grant Program (PDM)

The Pre-Disaster Mitigation grant program provides funds for hazard mitigation planning and the implementation of mitigation projects prior to a disaster event. Funding these plans and projects reduces overall risks to the population and to structures, while reducing reliance on funding from actual disaster declarations.

# Success Stories

See how other communities have worked with Prein&Newhof to get their projects funded, some in very creative and efficient ways.

## ***Rothbury replaces culvert using double MDOT grants, Fish Passage grant***

VILLAGE OF ROTHBURY – Rothbury had received \$250,000 in MDOT Surface Transportation Program (STP) and Category D (Secondary All-Season Roads) funds to resurface one mile of Winston Road. P&N discovered that the road should be reconstructed and the culvert at Carlton Creek was under-sized and needed to be replaced.

P&N contacted the MDOT Economic Development Office to see if the Winston Road reconstruction would qualify for a Category A grant with its increased truck traffic resulting from an industry reopening in the area. MDOT agreed, provided that Winston Road could be upgraded all the way to US-31.

Rothbury’s STP and State D funds acted as part of the match for the Category A funds and were used to reconstruct the portion of Winston Road within the Village, which didn’t qualify for Category A funds, and to replace the culvert at Carlton Creek. Because Carlton Creek is designated as a Natural River, the culvert project also received a \$25,000 grant from the National Fish Passage Program of the US Fish & Wildlife Service.



STP Grant (p.26)	\$250,000
Category A & D	\$1,000,000
National Fish Passage Program	\$25,000
Millage	\$20,000
<hr/>	
Project Budget	\$1,295,000



## ***Morley replaces aging bridge with funds from one-time CDBG grant***

VILLAGE OF MORLEY – Morley owned an aging and inadequate bridge that was causing serious erosion on the downstream banks of Big Creek. P&N designed a replacement 24-ft-wide concrete box culvert with a natural gravel bottom for fish habitat.

MEDC ICE Grant (one-time)	\$148,000
Local Funds	\$80,000
<hr/>	
Project Budget	\$228,000



## ***Galesburg downtown comes alive again with CDBG funds***

CITY OF GALESBURG – Downtown Galesburg had fallen into decline. The City used an MEDC grant to improve traffic flow, resurface streets and parking lots, replace damaged sidewalks, and add additional sidewalks, landscaping, and drainage.

CDBG Grant (p.28)	\$614,600
Local Funds	\$175,000
<hr/>	
Project Budget	\$789,600

**Wastewater plant funding covers design and construction**

CITY OF BIG RAPIDS – The City’s wastewater plant was aging and increasingly unreliable. P&N studied the plant, recommended upgrades, created a Project Plan, and designed a number of improvements.

Advancements included a better aeration system, grease and grit facilities, and solids handling; new computerized control systems; and improvements to the office and maintenance building.

The improved plant is far more efficient and reliable. Most processes use less energy and are easier to maintain.



S2 Grant (one-time)	\$630,000
SRF Loan (p.13)	\$7,960,000
Local Funds	\$350,000
<hr/>	
Project Budget	\$8,940,000

**Allegan gets 100% funding for new Water Plant, including \$2.5 million loan forgiveness**

CITY OF ALLEGAN – This project will replace an aging lime-softening water plant with a new reverse osmosis and iron removal plant that will be able to process up to 2.3 million gallons/day.

EDA Grant (p.34)	\$3,744,000
DWRF Loan* (p.14)	\$6,245,000
<hr/>	
Project Budget	\$9,989,000

\*With \$2,498,000 loan forgiveness from the American Reinvestment & Recovery Act.



**MDNR Waterways grant pays for half of new dock**

CITY OF LUDINGTON – Ludington’s new broadside transient dock spans 840 feet along the entire north side of the Municipal Marina. It offers users both electrical and water hookup, and has an 800-foot sea wall for viewing boats and events. The dock is topped by an 8-foot-wide concrete walkway, and it has one “grand patio” and two smaller patios. The dock area and patios are handicap accessible.

Waterways Grant (p.21)	\$446,000
Local Match	\$446,000
<hr/>	
Project Budget	\$892,000





**Muir combines funding packages and grassroots fundraising to completely pay for new bridge**

VILLAGE OF MUIR – The bridge connecting Muir and Lyons needed replacement but had a big price tag. Jumpstarted by a large MDOT grant, the community pulled together to pay for the remainder of the project with grassroots fundraising and local donations.

MDOT Local Bridge Grant	\$2,850,000
MDNR Trust Fund	\$200,000
Local Donations	\$450,000
<hr/>	
Project Budget	\$3,500,000

**Village of Lyons Downtown Infrastructure Grant pays for downtown improvements**

VILLAGE OF LYONS – Using a \$670,000 MEDC Downtown Infrastructure Grant, the Village of Lyons (Ionia County) re-paved, beautified, improved drainage, and added parking to serve its downtown area. Construction was under-budget, so Lyons spent the extra money on bike racks.

Downtown Infrastructure Grant	\$669,000
<hr/>	
Project Final Cost	\$657,000



**Whitehall’s “Green” Lake Street**

CITY OF WHITEHALL – Reconstructing Lake Street to treat its own stormwater (permeable pavers, bioswales, pervious concrete) is the only road project thus far to receive funding from the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative program.

Great Lakes Restoration Initiative	\$380,000
Whitehall Utility Funds	\$300,000
Whitehall Tax Increment Financing	\$390,000
Alcoa Foundation	\$40,000
<hr/>	
Project Budget	\$1,110,000

# Other Municipal Financing Options

It's not always possible to finance a project solely through grant and loan programs like those identified in the preceding pages. The following listing briefly describes several additional financing options available to local units of government.

Many of these options are governed by State laws. We recommend employing an attorney who specializes in municipal finance to guide you through the process involved in setting up these financing programs. If you do not currently use a municipal finance attorney, we would be happy to recommend one to you.

## Cash

Some municipalities use funds from their budget to pay for capital improvements or to set aside separate accounts over many years to fund a project.

## Millages

Another option is a millage for a particular project, program, group of projects, or piece of equipment. A millage is an additional local tax rate on property that must be approved by vote. This is a common practice to create funds for roads and parks. Residents appreciate knowing specifically where their dollars are going.

## Special Assessments

Many projects are funded by levying special assessments against all property owners who benefit from the project. Assessments are usually payable over a number of years. The assessments are necessary to repay any debt taken on to finance the original project.

## User Charges

All water and sewer systems charge user fees that are often sufficient to pay for system expansion and replacement projects, or to repay revenue bonds.



## Capital Improvement Funds

Municipalities may establish special funds to accumulate money to pay for projects. Taxes cannot be used to create the fund; money must come from miscellaneous revenues.

## Leases

Municipalities may lease buildings or other public improvements and, in some cases, acquire the improvement at the end of the lease.

## Tax Increment Financing

Tax Increment Finance (TIF) areas allow communities to use future property tax increases to finance the improvements that will create those gains. The increased tax revenues are the “tax increment.”

## Installment Purchase Contracts

Just as citizens borrow money for cars, boats, and homes, local governments may choose to ask their local bank to finance certain improvements or projects. Banks are interested in a municipality’s plan to repay an installment loan, so the proposed project should be able to create an income stream.

## Municipal Bonds

Units of government may sell bonds and use income from other sources to make the annual principal and interest payments on the bonds. General obligation bonds use allocations from the municipality’s taxes or other revenues for repayment. Revenue bonds, drain bonds, and special assessment bonds generate repayment through user charges or assessments imposed upon the beneficiaries of the improvement.

Sometimes, a tax-increment financing mechanism (such as a downtown development authority, brownfield development authority, or local development finance authority) is established to generate sufficient revenues to repay bonds over their life.

### ***Plainfield Township passes trail millage***

PLAINFIELD TOWNSHIP – Residents of Plainfield Township passed a trails millage in 2016. The millage will generate about \$584,000 per year for trails, and it will be used to match state and federal grant funds to build a planned 30-mile trail system. The township wanted a trails system to connect with existing and proposed trails in neighboring jurisdictions, further extending the MDOT Grand Region Non-motorized Plan.

In 2015, residents participated in a Parks & Recreation Citizen Survey and the responses were overwhelmingly positive. A grassroots group—Citizens for Plainfield Township Trails—was created to engage and inform the public on future developments of the trails system.

The approved Plainfield Township millage will cost the average homeowner about \$50 per year (based on a home value of \$200,000). Funds will be used for construction, improvement, operation, and maintenance of non-motorized public trails and recreation areas.



## See Farther

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