

REPORT FOR FY2019
OCT18 - SEP19

20
19

ANNUAL REPORT
Kalkaska Conservation District





our mission

Our mission is to provide leadership in the natural resource management of Kalkaska County, deliver conservation assistance and information to residents and visitors, and ensure quality implementation of conservation practices.

our team

All our work is made possible by a dedicated team of staff and volunteers. Our office boasts 2 full-time staff, (Mark Randolph and Renee Penny), 2 regional staff (Jodi DeHate and Larry Czelusta), and 5 elected Board of Directors (Dawn M Moses, John Roberts, Carol Hart, Sam Fahl, and Denny Iott). There are many other volunteers behind the scenes that help enhance our mission and contribute to our success. Thank you to everyone who gives their time and experience!

our history

Kalkaska residents voted to create the Kalkaska Conservation District in 1950 to protect and conserve Kalkaska's water, soil, and natural resources. For 69 years the District has partnered with State and Federal agencies to provide technical and financial assistance for Kalkaska residents to address a broad range of environmental concerns.

our vision

We recognize that our County has both opportunities and challenges related to conservation and that the Kalkaska Conservation District plays a unique role in working with property owners, land users and community leaders to address the needs of our beautiful and vibrant region.

Our 3-year plan focuses on leveraging our strengths to grow programs, services, and initiatives that address both conservation opportunities and challenges. We strive to be a strong community partner in creating a County that is a showcase of recreational, economic, and sustainable living opportunities.

OUR IMPACT

18,753

**Pounds of household
Hazardous Waste collected
from 150 county residents!**

8,077

of trees planted

7,414

**# of acres
visited**

4

**River Miles
Cleaned on the
Upper Manistee
River**

36

**events hosted
and co-hosted**

493

**# of event
participants**

5

**# of grants
recieved**

15,128

**Dollars spent
locally for
conservation
projects**

307

**Project hours
in 2019**

24

**Articles
Published in
Kalkaska Review
and NW MI Voice**

OUR WORK

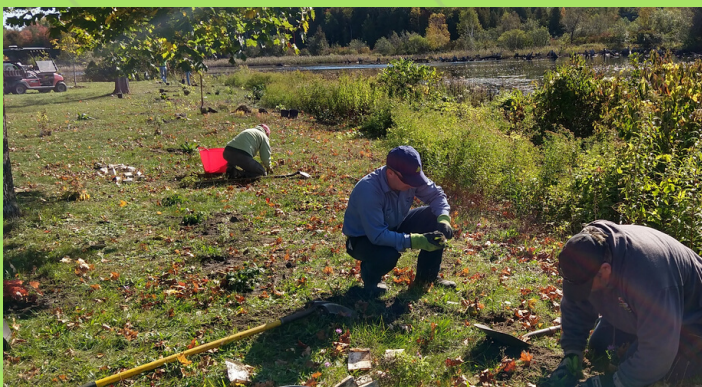


Farming

- Michigan Agriculture Education Assurance Program (MAEAP) helped local farms prevent agricultural pollution risks
- Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) on-site technical and financial assistance

Forestry

- Forestry Assistance Program, Helped nearly 50 landowners plan land management activities
- Qualified Forest Program, 8 landowners enrolled 2898 acres
- Free educational workshops: Timber Tax 101 & Tree ID Hikes



Site Visits for Riparian & Wildlife Needs

- Erosion Control Assistance
- Healthy Lake Landscaping with Manistee Lake Association and Bear Lake Association
- Pollinator garden guidance

OUR COMMUNITY

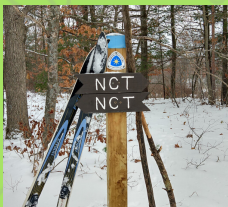


Community Events

- Mill Pond Park Native Shoreline Project, treated invasive Japanese Knotweed & planted native species along waters edge
- Conservation Series of workshops co-hosted with Kalkaska Public Library, each Wednesday in April
- Annual River Cleanup, 4 river miles, 3 trash bags, Upper Manistee River
- MiCorp Stream Sampling & Stream Leader Training, May & Sept 2019
- Annual Household Hazardous Waste Collection & Tire Recycling events in July

Noteworthy Projects

- ReLeaf tree planting with Kalkaska Village & Downtown Development Authority, 19 7-foot trees!
- Assisted Grand Traverse Hiking Club & North Country Trail Association in protecting 12 miles of new trail in central Kalkaska Co.





Fall 2018 Tree ID education Hike
Seven Bridges Natural Area



September 21, 2019
Up
Annual Cleanup on the Manistee River



Manistee Lake Association, Natural
Shoreline Landscaping Projects



June 2019
National Trails Day, Hiking Group

THANK YOU to all of our AMAZING volunteers!

- Dawn and Tony Moses
- Carol and Alan Hart
- John and Cari Jo Roberts
- Sam Fahl
- Denny and Dawn Iott
- Mike Moran and Marsha Hannah
- Tom Brown and Pepper Bromelmeier
- Marilyn Shy
- Cameron Penny
- Monica Webb
- Mark and Linda Gilson
- Bob and Sara Crosby
- Dee and Ron Crawford
- Louise and Don Hinds
- Dave and Patty Warner
- Seth and Carol Phillips
- Lauren Clark
- Jodi and Pat Prestine
- Quality Thyme Garden Club
- Village of Kalkaska
- Kalkaska Downtown Development Authority
- Au Sable Institute
- Grand Traverse Regional Land Conservancy
- Grass River Natural Area
- Sierra Club, Clearwater Chapter
- Northern Michigan Environmental Action Council
- Michigan Trout Unlimited
- Upper Manistee River Association
- Boardman River Clean Sweep
- Traverse Area Paddle Club
- Manistee Lake Association
- Bear Lake Association
- Disability Network Northern Michigan
- Kalkaska County 4H
- Grand Traverse Hiking Club
- Kalkaska County Library
- Primavera of Dunamis Peace Institute



December 2018

Owl Prowl Educational Workshop, Co-hosted with Primavera & Au Sable Institute



Oak Wilt disease identification and management.



Tree Planting made possible by a DNR Urban Forestry Grant. 24 trees planted at Kalkaska Public Schools.



Proud stewards of your land, your water, your Michigan.

Learn more about Kalkaska Conservation District at:

www.kalkaskaconservation.org

Facebook: @kalkaskaconservation

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