



NON-POINT SOURCE STORMWATER MANAGEMENT  
Stony Creek Subwatershed

**Project Highlights:**

- Identify current sources and causes of non-point source pollution and restore the stream to stable conditions
- Prevent further degradation of Stony Creek and its watershed resources as development occurs

Through a grant from the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality, the Clinton River Watershed Council (CRWC) initiated the Stony Creek Non-Point Source Stormwater Management plan project. This plan was in response to predictions of significant development within the Stony Creek subwatershed in the next few decades. Stony Creek is one of the highest quality streams in the Clinton River watershed. Before the change in the economy, Stony Creek's future was threatened by rapid development pressure. While this pressure has slackened, changing land uses and impervious surfaces continue to endanger the Creek.

The project involved 18 Stony Creek communities through regular Stewardship Committee meetings, who participated in setting goals, and conducting public outreach and education. They also assisted in development of the non-point source stormwater management plan, which addresses current and future threats to the water resources of the Stony Creek subwatershed. CRWC also conducted a stream inventory to determine the current sources of non-point source pollution, establish baseline hydrologic data, and sample macroinvertebrates.

Carlisle/Wortman Associates (CWA) participated in this process by conducting a planning and cultural baseline study, assisting in goal setting throughout the watershed, and developing recommendations for each community on how to address issues of water quality. A key part of the baseline study was to evaluate each community's planning and development documents using the Center for Watershed Protection's Better Site Design Community Codes and Ordinance Worksheet, among other criteria. This analysis resulted in community-specific guidelines on municipal tools and techniques (as illustrated here) that help protect water resources in developing areas.

