

## DAVIS CREEK COUNTY DRAIN WATERSHED MANAGEMENT PLAN KALAMAZOO, MI



This 9,251-acre watershed is a tributary to the Kalamazoo River overlapping five separate townships and municipalities. As one of the first urban watersheds to receive federal Clean Water Act Section 319 Grant funding in Michigan, this project successfully developed a watershed management plan with voluntary, cross-jurisdictional participation for long-term implementation. Over 15 separate nonpoint source improvement projects have been implemented in this effort.

K&A conducted an evaluation of baseline and wet weather water quality impacts via field sampling and data analysis for dissolved oxygen, algal nutrients, BOD, chlorides and heavy metals. These efforts have also included a comprehensive compilation of natural features within the Davis Creek Watershed. A user-friendly interactive Natural Features Guide was completed for inclusion on MDEQ and other local website hosts. The inventory utilized Thematic Mapper Imagery (satellite data) to update existing land use/land cover information.

Additional studies were more recently completed to assess the feasibility of stormwater treatment

for the largest, single stormwater discharge to this system in an area where the state of Michigan has just completed a \$1M stream corridor restoration. K&A was contracted by the Davis Creek Watershed Steering Committee to conduct this latter feasibility study to examine alternatives for improving environmental conditions associated with stormwater discharges to Davis Creek. This specifically related to an area where a municipal outfall, located on the former Lakeside Refinery site in the City of Kalamazoo, entered the creek. The outfall drains approximately 333 acres of residential and industrial properties located south of Cork Street.

Master planning for development of the former Lakeside Refinery site has been conducted with a plan that focuses on highlighting key natural features of the site with the creation of trail ways and possible public park. For this feasibility study, the Davis Creek Steering Committee sought to identify the magnitude of pollutants discharging to the creek from the outfall and research potential alternatives for stormwater treatment to coincide with the site plan.



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*Project Costs:*  
\$28,000 (K&A)

*Project Duration:*  
1999 - 2000