

## Volunteer River, Stream, and Creek Cleanup Program (VRSCCP)

- **Purpose:** The VRSCCP provides small grants, ranging from \$500 to \$5,000 each, to help implement volunteer cleanup efforts of rivers, stream and creeks to improve the waters of Michigan. Specifically, grants support the removal of trash and man-made debris from rivers and streams and along their banks.
- **Eligibility:** Local units of government are eligible to receive funding and may work with nonprofit organizations or other volunteer groups to implement volunteer cleanup efforts on water bodies around the state.
- **Funding:** Each year, approximately \$25,000 is made available to VRSCCP grant recipients through a competitive grant application process. Funding for this program is provided by the Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy (EGLE) through fees collected from the sale of Michigan's Water Quality Protection License Plates under Public Act 74 of 2000 for water quality protection in Michigan Great Lakes, inland lakes, rivers, and streams. Grant recipients must demonstrate a minimum local match of 25% of the total project cost.
- **Program Administration:** The Great Lakes Commission assists EGLE in publicizing and administering the program. Annually, typically around mid-January, a Grant Application Package (GAP) is issued for the VRSCCP Grants with applications due roughly 30 days later. Awards are usually announced in April or May. Visit the project website at [www.glc.org/work/vrscpp](http://www.glc.org/work/vrscpp) for more information on the 2020 grant cycle.
- **Past Projects:** Since 2005, 205 grants totaling more than \$414,000 have been awarded to recipients around the state of Michigan under the VRSCCP. During the 2019 grant cycle, 14 clean-up projects were awarded grants totaling \$29,415 in project funds.
- **More Information:** Additional information on the VRSCC is available online at [www.glc.org/work/vrscpp](http://www.glc.org/work/vrscpp) or by emailing Laura Kaminski, Great Lakes Commission, at [laurak@glc.org](mailto:laurak@glc.org), or Marcy Knoll Wilmes, EGLE, at [KnollM@michigan.gov](mailto:KnollM@michigan.gov).

