

**Part 91, Soil Erosion and Sedimentation Control, of the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act (NREPA) (Part 91) provides for the control of soil erosion and protects adjacent properties and the waters of the state from sedimentation.**

A permit is generally required for any earth change activity which disturbs one or more acres of land or which is within 500 feet of a lake or stream.

Part 91 is administered and enforced by various state, county, and local governmental agencies. There are four categories of agencies recognized under Part 91:

- 1. Counties are mandated by statute to administer and enforce Part 91. The board of commissioners for each county must appoint an agency within the county, referred to as the County Enforcing Agency (CEA), to review soil erosion and sedimentation control plans, issue permits, and take enforcement actions when necessary to ensure compliance with Part 91.**
2. Municipal Enforcing Agencies (MEAs) are cities, villages, charter townships, and some general law townships that have elected to enforce Part 91 through adoption of a soil erosion and sedimentation control ordinance. After approval of the ordinance by the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ), the MEAs assume responsibility for administering and enforcing Part 91 within their jurisdictions, independent of the CEAs.
- 3. Authorized Public Agencies (APAs) are state, county, or municipal agencies, such as the Michigan Department of Transportation, county road commissions, and city street departments, that have been designated by the DEQ to undertake earth change activities without having to obtain soil erosion and sedimentation control permits from the county or municipal enforcing agencies. Designation is dependent upon having acceptable procedures for controlling erosion and off-site sedimentation.**
4. The DEQ, Water Resource Division (WRD) has oversight responsibility over the statewide SESC Program and all Part 91 agencies.

**Permitting**

- Processed and monitored over 200 soil erosion permits: site visits before, during, and upon final stabilization
  - Pictures
  - Documentation
  - Initial letter
  - End of the year status letter

**Contractors' workshop**

- Functional landscaping and the importance of storm water treatment in residential construction
- 60 people attended

**188 customer service interactions in addition to soil erosion permitting****Phone contacts**

- A record was kept for all calls from May – July 2014
- The District receives as many as 40 calls per day during those busy months
- People need environmental information – environmental consultants, DEQ information, shoreline stabilization, flooding, shoreline damage, erosion control, invasive species information...etc. 90% of those calls were for the Soil Erosion Officer
- Customer service is the Conservation District's number one priority

**Liaison between your constituents (property owners) and the MDEQ**

- Critical Dunes
- High Risk Erosion Areas
- Wetlands
- Inland Lakes and Streams
- Natural River – Jordan River

**Presentations**

- Keller Williams staff in Elk Rapids: General soil erosion and DEQ information (10 people)
- Torch Lake Protection Alliance (TLPA) Board on limits of storm water ordinance

**Cooperation with**

- Milton Township:
  - Road end inventory and evaluation
  - Provided contact link to grantors
  - Milton Township and the Conservation District will be receiving grant and cost share money from a grant Tip of the Mitt wrote in partnership with both groups
- Torch Lake, Milton, Elk Rapids, Helena, and Forest Home Townships: Zoned townships around the lake
- Michigan Erosion and Sedimentation Control Agents (MESCA): *Professional association* (attended quarterly meetings)

**Grass River Natural Area**

- The Dam Facts (Over 100 people in attendance)
- Natural Shorelines class (10 people in attendance)

**Bellaire High School and Middle School**

- Storm water presentation
- Invasive species presentation

**Certified Natural Shoreline Professionals for the State of Michigan**

- Pipeline crossing over the Jordan River: Soil Lifts and Geocell Installation
- Planned/designed/organized/hosted continuing education class for 20 natural shoreline professionals, worth 6 continuing education units (CEUs) towards this certification

**Local Governmental Event**

- ERCOL/WIPT
- Talked about the importance of natural shorelines/functional landscaping
- 60 government officials in attendance

**Michigan Lakes and Stream Association**

- Annual conference at Boyne Mountain
- Presented on natural shorelines and plants
- 50 people in attendance

**Invasive Species****Engaged Bellaire Middle School students in invasive species management**

- Forest Home Township
- Garlic mustard pull
- 2<sup>nd</sup> year working with Kim Clark's class

**Continued work on invasive phragmites on the Antrim County shoreline**

- Elk Rapids, Milton, Torch Lake and Banks Townships
- Inventoried the phragmites along the shoreline with the contractor used to treat in 2014
- Applied for the MDEQ permit and the townships contract treatment

**Department of Natural Resources Michigan Invasive Species Grant Program (MISGP)**

- Wrote a grant to the Michigan DNR MISGP to create a cooperative invasive species management area (CISMA) for Emmet, Charlevoix, Antrim and Kalkaska Counties.
- Great partnership assistance in writing the grant
- Received the grant for **\$130,500**

***Watershed Center Grand Traverse Bay***

- Conducted storm water inventories for Shanty Creek, Bellaire, Alden, Elk Rapids, Ellsworth, and Central Lake
- The goal with the inventory is to be able to work with those communities that are interested to write grants to reduce direct storm water inputs to our rivers and lakes

***Watershed Center Grand Traverse Bay***

- Conducted dam inventories with Mike Meriwether on dams in line with streams and rivers on properties where permission was given
- The goal with this inventory was to understand what barriers to fish passage exist in the watershed to secure grants to remove those barriers where owners are agreeable

***Tip of the Mitt Watershed Center***

- Connected Tip with landowners and townships to get conservation on the land
- Secured grants to install green belt buffers, natural shorelines and storm water/erosion control best management practices

***Lake Charlevoix Watershed Committee***

- Jordan River, quarterly meetings to ensure collaboration with partners within the watershed

***Elk River Watershed Committee/Watershed Plan Implementation Team***

- Quarterly meetings to ensure collaboration with partners within the watershed

***Three Lakes Association (TLA)***

- Working with TLA on identifying what can be done with Maury Creek
- Flashiness of creek causes sedimentation to Lake Bellaire

***District Board Meetings******Committee Meetings***

***Tree Sale – April 1<sup>st</sup> Order Deadline; April 24<sup>th</sup> & 25<sup>th</sup> Tree Pick-up***

***Household Hazardous Waste – May 9<sup>th</sup> 9-1, Elk Rapids DPW; August 1<sup>st</sup> 9-1, behind the Bellaire Courthouse***