



Thornapple River Watershed: Ours to protect

Location: Barry, Eaton, Kent, Ionia and Allegan counties

Land Use:

- 52.1% agriculture
- 38.7% forest and open space
- 5.4% developed
- 3% water and wetland

Length: Main branch of the Thornapple is 78 miles long

Area:

- TRW Covers 422,545 acres
- Sub-watersheds cover a combined 57,000 acres

Funding: Great Lakes Restoration Initiative grant

Project Focus: The grant is focused on three of the most impaired sub-watersheds in the Thornapple River Watershed: Mud creek, Fish creek, and Milbourn drain.

Goals: To educate the public on the importance of water quality and help landowners find new ways to manage their land that benefit them as well as protect our water resources.

Problems: Non-point source pollution; high levels of nutrients, sediment, and E.coli present

Solutions: Educate and empower landowners to take action to protect their local water resources. Provide planning assistance and funding for agricultural conservation practices and septic maintenance.

