



Saginaw Bay Watershed Initiative Network  
The Conservation Fund  
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#### News Release

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## **Saginaw Bay WIN Announces Spring Action Grant Recipients**

*Eight organizations will share nearly \$8000 for projects that incorporate environmental and community objectives*

Eight local organizations will share nearly \$8000 that has been awarded by the Saginaw Bay Watershed Initiative Network (WIN) for projects that incorporate environmental and community goals. WIN awards *Action Grants* that are a maximum of \$1000 twice each year, in addition to its larger grant programs. The *Action Grants* require a 1:1 match. "Our Action Grant program is designed to encourage creativity and push groups to think about new, innovative ideas that can not only benefit the environment and their communities, but also serve as models for future projects", said Michael Kelly, Great Lakes Director of The Conservation Fund. The Conservation Fund administers the Saginaw bay WIN project. Past Action Grants have been awarded to projects focused on energy efficiency, habitat improvement, public access to natural resources and more. "These grants, though small relative to our other grant programs, often provide that key investment that groups need to get their ideas to the implementation stage", continued Kelly.

Projects supported in this round include:

- Saginaw Basin Land Conservancy – Nature Playground (\$1,000)
- Huron Pines RC&D – Charity Islands Restoration and Education Project (\$1000)
- Beaverton Activity Center – After School Garden (\$1000)
- Saginaw Bay RC&D – Rifle River Water Trail (\$1000)
- Michigan State University Extension – Rain Barrel Art Project (\$1000)
- Livingston County Drain Commission – Watershed Classroom Simulator (\$740)
- Keepers of the Shiawassee – Shiawassee River Map (\$1000)
- Essexville Hampton Schools – School Greenhouse/Garden (\$1000)

*The Saginaw Bay Watershed Initiative Network (WIN) is a collaborative, community driven quality of life initiative created by a variety of environmental, business and community interests in 1996. WIN was formed to create a more sustainable future for all who live, work and play within the Saginaw Bay watershed. One of the ways in which WIN accomplishes this objective is by providing financial support to projects that link the economic, environmental and social needs of the region. Key WIN funding partners include: Bay Area Community Foundation, Consumers Energy Foundation, Harry A. and Margaret D. Towsley Foundation, Midland Area Community Foundation, Rollin M. Gerstacker Foundation, Saginaw Community Foundation, The Dow Chemical Company Foundation, The Herbert H. and Grace A. Dow Foundation, S.C. Johnson Fund, the Cook Family Foundation, the C.S. Mott Foundation and the Saginaw Bay Foundation. Since its inception, WIN has awarded in excess of \$5 million to more than 260 projects across the region. More information on WIN is available at [www.saginawbaywin.org](http://www.saginawbaywin.org) or by calling 989.892.9171.*

