



MICHIGAN COASTAL MANAGEMENT

The Michigan Coastal Management Program promotes wise management of the cultural and natural resources of the nation's longest freshwater coastline by fostering environmentally, economically, and socially vibrant coastal communities and supporting the Great Lakes as a resilient natural system. Our main objective is to connect people and communities to the Great Lakes.



State Program in Action

The Michigan Coastal Program strives to protect, preserve, restore, and enhance its 3,224 miles of coastline.



- The Michigan Coastal Program celebrated its 40th Anniversary in 2018 by hosting Year of the Coast open houses, promoting the program on social media and e-mail, and creating a coastal publication highlighting program accomplishments and commitments moving forward.
- The Michigan Coastal Program awarded over \$800,000 in grant funds to coastal community partners for 15 local projects and statewide initiatives working on hazard management, water-dependent uses, creating healthy coastal habitats, protecting water quality, and enhancing public access.
- The Michigan Coastal Program is immersed in its second year of our Coastal Hazards Resiliency Strategy working with communities in the Northwest region of Michigan partnering to create a hazard-ready coast.

Looking to the Future

The Michigan Coastal Program launched its Strategic Direction for Fiscal Years 2019-2024 with the emphasis of “leaning in” to form strategic partnerships and increase coastal community engagement opportunities. We are committed to providing technical assistance and strategic grant funding to help our communities gain a greater understanding of the risks and options to mitigate coastal hazards; create healthy habitats that provide for human use and enjoyment; support coastal eco-tourism opportunities while enhancing safe public access; and support resilient and sustainable coastal communities.





Photo Credit: Todd Marsee

HELPING PREPARE FOR COASTAL HAZARDS

Partnering to Create a Hazard-ready Coast, the Michigan Coastal Program is working with our Coastal Resilience Team to create and deepen the knowledge of coastal risks through innovative approaches developed by the Michigan Technological University. The MTU developed an online tool as a lens for viewing coastal change over an 80-year time period. This viewer integrates photographic evidence of beach and shoreline change and reveals flood-prone areas based on coastal wetland losses.

"The dynamic Great Lakes water level changes coupled with more intense storm events provide an ideal national testbed allowing direct observation of coastal responses to rising water levels – measured in feet – over decadal time spans. The work supported by the OGL Michigan Coastal Program has been instrumental in creating data sets not available at this scale (e.g. state-wide) and is providing a basis for the opportunity to induce lasting institutional change in how we all view our coastal resources."
- Dr. Guy Meadows, Michigan Technological University

A State-Federal Partnership: Investing in Coastal Communities

Surrounded by four of the five Great Lakes, Michigan is blessed with the longest freshwater coastline (e.g. 3,288 liner miles) in the nation. With this blessing comes great responsibility for the protection and preservation of the coast and its natural resources for current and future generations. With only 10% of the total length of coastline under state high-risk erosion regulatory controls, the Michigan Coastal Program is leading a new approach that fills a gap in understanding that the vast majority of the coastline falls under local jurisdictions for protection and management. The Michigan Coastal Program's Coastal Hazard's Resiliency Strategy is working to collect geospatial landscape-level data and investigate innovative approaches to build knowledge about coastal hazards and adaption strategies. The objective is to increase the number of coastal communities that develop Hazard-ready Resilient Master Plans, update local policies and ordinances, and implement site-specific actions to address coastal hazards.

FY18 Federal Funds: \$2,615,000

FY18 State & Local Matching Funds: \$2,135,000

FY18 Total: \$4,750,000

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