



2019 ANNUAL REPORT

VAN BUREN
CONSERVATION DISTRICT

1035 E Michigan Ave. Ste. A | Paw Paw, MI 49079
269-657-4030x5 | info@vanburencd.org



DEAR RESIDENTS AND PARTNERS

When looking back on 2019, we can certainly say it was a year of growth! Last year, we gained a couple of new employees and a new board director. This year, we set to working on their training and setting them loose to get more conservation on the ground in Van Buren County.

In the following pages, you'll see a snapshot of hard the staff worked to deliver meaningful results. We remain committed to the conservation of natural resources with a focus on future generations.

Some highlights we are especially proud of include:

- 2 large equipment tire collections
- 2nd Healthy Home Fair
- Envirothon student group support

As always, the work we do wouldn't be possible without the participation of our friends and neighbors. We have the best volunteers, public servants, and community members that continuously show up to protect the land, water, and air of Van Buren County. We look forward to all that we will accomplish together in this next year, but for now, please join us in celebrating all that we did together this year.

~ Van Buren Conservation District Staff and Board



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OUR STAFF



AJ Brucks, Executive Director
Kimberly Sinclair, Administrator
Erin Fuller, Watershed Coordinator
Colleen Forestieri, Conservation Technician
Kyle Mead, MAEAP Technician
Nor Serocki, CISMA Coordinator
Emilly Hickmott, Recycling Coordinator
Lucas Hartman, Intern
Kalli Sternaman, Intern

OUR BOARD OF DIRECTORS



Carl Druskovich, Treasurer



Bill VanTassel, Vice-Chairperson

Bryan Cronenwett, Chairperson
Jan Petersen, Secretary
Carl Druskovich, Treasurer
Bill VanTassel, Member
Paulette Rybarski, Member



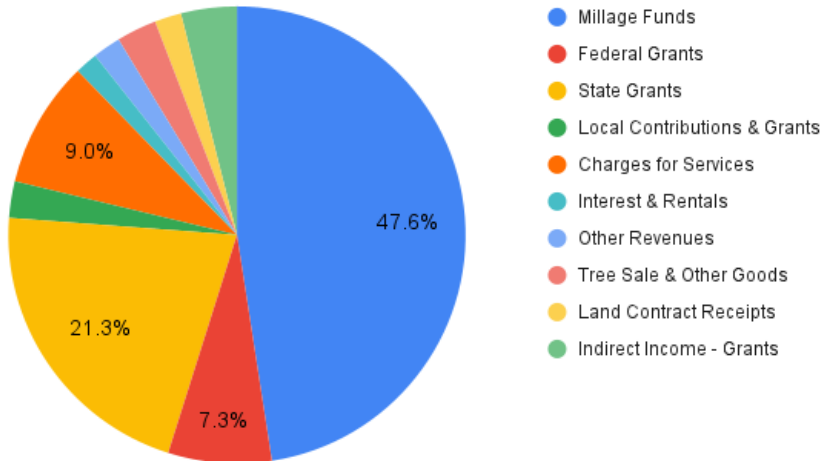
OUR PARTNERS

We work with a number of partners who help us in innumerable ways. The Van Buren Conservation District thanks all of you.

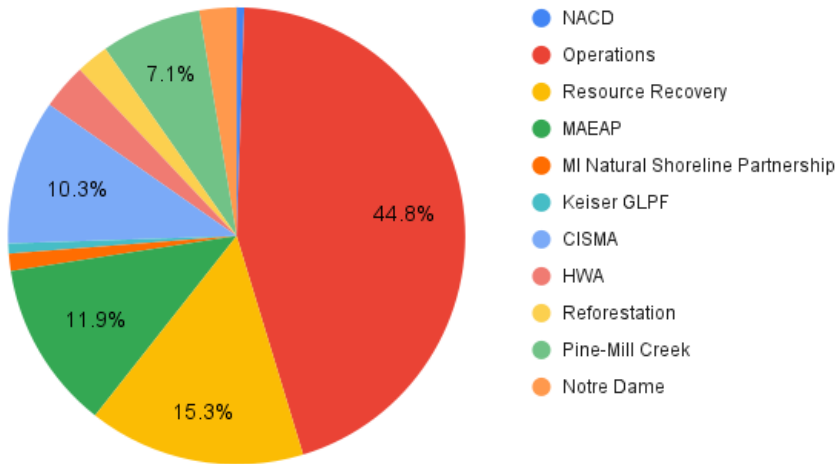


2019 CONSERVATION TAX DOLLARS AT WORK: FISCAL YEAR OCT. 1, 2018 - SEPT. 30, 2019

Revenue Total: \$689,225.12



Expenditure Total: \$663,802.83



ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Resource Recovery

- 5 days of collections
- 6 categories of service
- 11,450 passenger tire equivalents (PTEs)
- 15,973 lbs. of household hazardous waste (chemicals + pesticides)
- 28,330 lbs. of paint
- 39,869 lbs. of electronics (accepted at collections and year-round site)

CISMA

- People educated: 3,185,324
 - Passive outreach: 3,184,838
 - Active outreach: 486

Reforestation

- 17,990 tree seedlings sold

MAEAP/Water Screening/Equipment Rentals

- 1,136 acres planted with conservation equipment
- 236 water screenings conducted
- 7 new MAEAP verifications
- 14 MAEAP reverifications
- 43 in-process verifications

Operations

- 53,620 tax bill inserts mailed out
- 6 billboards posted
- Twice-monthly Conservation Corners posted in local newspapers
- Facebook likes: 1,421
- Facebook posts: 180
- Healthy Home Fair
- VBCD Open House in Lawrence
- 6 Mini Grants awarded

Ag Conservation/Water Quality Program

- # water samples: 61
- \$ spent to incentivize conservation improvements on farms: \$54,415.00
- Tons of sediment runoff reduction to due BMP conservation on farms: 252.4 tons
- Acres of cover crop installed through VBCD programs: 1,073
- Acres of no-till/reduced till installed through VBCD programs: 78

NACD

Technical and Financial Assistance

Programs:

EQIP = Environmental Quality Incentives Program

CSP = Conservation Stewardship Program

- # of contracts signed: EQIP = 9 CSP = 3
- Total \$ allocated to both programs in VB and Cass = \$338,595.04
- Total acres committed to both programs = 3,385.5 acres
- \$100.01 spent per acre enrolled in the program



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