



## Shiawassee River Watershed Benthic Macroinvertebrate Monitoring Program

June 2015 - May 2017

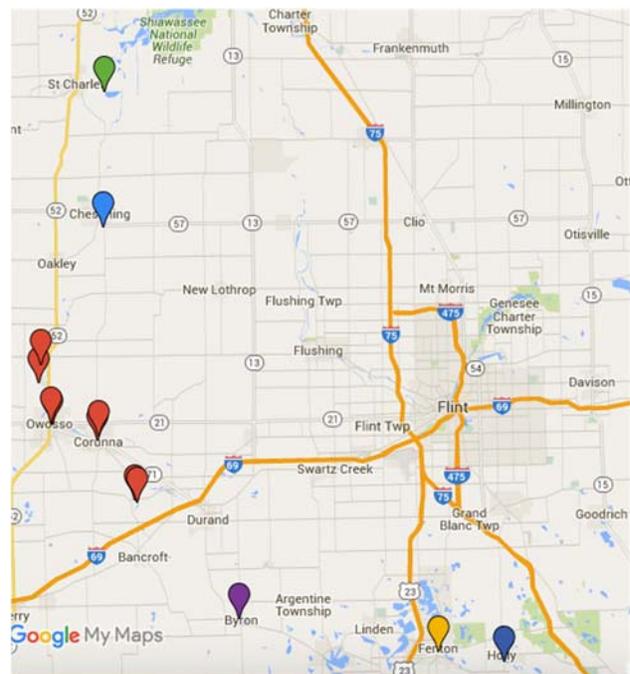
*Friends of the Shiawassee River*  
*Sarah Baker, Program Coordinator*  
*PO Box 402*  
*Owosso, MI 48867*

Friends of the Shiawassee River has successfully completed the grant given to us by MiCorps, with the purpose to continue and expand our stream monitoring program in the Shiawassee River Watershed. Located in a highly-agricultural region, the Shiawassee has historically been stressed by excessive levels of sedimentation as a result of incompatible land practices.

It's a top conservation priority and has been identified as one of the best remaining examples of a warm-water river system within its ecoregion. Of great ecological significance are the wetland systems located within the headwaters region of the Shiawassee, which support a diverse assemblage of rare plants and animals. The Shiawassee flows through largely rural regions of the state before merging with the Flint, Cass, and Tittabawassee Rivers to form the Saginaw River, which drains into the Saginaw Bay of Lake Huron. This project was an expansion of the Friend' monitoring program, to include additional communities in the watershed and promote partnerships among local governments, community organizations, and citizens for the betterment of water quality. Monitoring was conducted twice annually (spring and fall).

**Grant Amount: \$8,500 + Match  
Amount of \$14,238.43 =  
Total Amount: \$22,738.43**

To view this map in more detail please  
[click here.](#)



## Project Accomplishments:

- Developed a Quality Assurance Program Plan (QAPP) for the sampling protocol that meets the current MiCorps guidelines.
- Hired and trained an employee as the program coordinator of the stream monitoring program
- Completed monitoring of all possible sites each spring and fall. Some sites were not able to be monitored due to high river levels.
- Completed habitat assessments for all monitoring sites.
- Recruited over 300 volunteers to participate in the program.
- Developed relationships with six school groups and involved them in the program.
- Recruited volunteers to participate in Leader/Collector training.
- Distributed collection results to the public and local governments.
- Entered all monitoring data into the MiCorps Data Exchange.
- Promoted volunteer monitoring program through our website, social media, newsletters, local papers, and at events. ☒☒



