

Building Community Partnerships through YOUR Fisheries Resources



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What is Project F.I.S.H.?

- Based in National 4-H Sportfishing Program
- A partnership:
 - “Friends Involved in Sportfishing Heritage”
-to foster long-term fishing participation and appreciation, through mentor-based and community-based programs
- start-up funding provided by
 - Great Lakes Fishery Trust
 - Harold & Jean Glassen Foundation

Great Lakes
Fishery Trust



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Accomplishing our Project F.I.S.H. Vision and Goals

- State Coordinator Support
- Curriculum Development
- Train-the-trainer:
Workshops..teachers & volunteers..Youth & Families!
- Focus on 5 Core Areas:
 - Angling Skills
 - Tackle Crafting
 - Aquatic Ecology
 - People & Fish
 - Program Coordination



Angling Skills/Tackle Crafting... ...the OBVIOUS fishing program



- Catching Fish!!
- Using various
Rods/Reels/Lures
- Cleaning, Preparing fish
BUT also...
- Building Rods
- Making Spinners
- Tying Flies

Aquatic Ecology/People and FISH

...building long term programs
...building youth development

- Aquatic Ecology
 - Fish Biology
- AS WELL AS...
- How people interact with Fish (Fisheries Mgt)
 - Building Knowledge & Skills
 - Developing Ethics
 - Community Service



Program Coordination through Statewide Partners...

Funding & Resources



Programming



4-H Youth Development



...among many MORE!!

Program Coordination

- STATEWIDE Coordination of Partners and Resources
 - Program Coordinator
 - Funding Support
 - Programming Support

- But thinking in the LOCAL COMMUNITY contexts:
 - Training Local Volunteers
 - Access to Statewide Networks / Resources
 - Networking of Local Resources

...as well as Local Program Partners

- Schools and Teachers
- MSU County Extension Offices
- County Conservation Districts
- Local Agencies (DNR / DEQ)
- Conservation Clubs & Nature Centers
- Youth Serving Organizations (Scouts, YMCA, etc.)
- Local Businesses
- Community Foundations
- Parents and Individual Volunteers

...and still more!!!

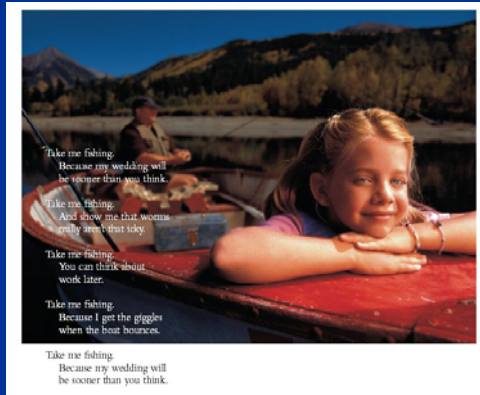
Building Overlap between School & Community Youth Programs

- Good way to get kids excited about learning!
- Applies to:
 - Science
 - Math
 - Arts
 - Physical Ed.
 - Social Studies
- Curriculum can be used to achieve:
 - Curriculum Framework Standards
 - MEAP Test Learning Objectives
- Along the way, building Life Skills!

What's the Impact, So Far?

- Statewide aquatic resource education program - viewed as a national leader by other states.
- 400 + teachers and volunteers trained in intensive workshops
- Evaluation methods: pre- and post-workshop surveys; follow-up phone interviews (qualitative and quantitative data)
- Of these:
 - 78% reported above average/adequate knowledge about watersheds, for teaching
 - 72% reported above average/adequate knowledge about human influence on aquatic environments, for teaching
 - 40-60% used the materials & training in NEW, intensive programs for youth
 - estimated youth reached:
 - 2500+ in NEW, INTENSIVE Programs
 - 5000+ in Ongoing, Mentor-Based Programs
 - 12,000+ in EXTENSIVE, Shorter-term Programs

Making a Difference in Kids' Lives



“Our children are living messages
we send into a time and place
we will never see....”



How can we work with YOU??

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