

2025 MFFC Conservation & Education Project Grants

The Michigan Fly Fishing Club funds conservation projects that serve to enhance and protect fish habitats. In 2025 the Club funded these conservation and education requests.

Cedars for the Au Sable

The northern white cedars along the Au Sable River in Michigan provide needed shade to maintain the cold-water fishery. The presence of cedar sweepers at the water line provides protection for the fish, increases the amount of large woody debris in the water, as well as the preservation of the riverbank by locking in the soil. Unfortunately, there has been no natural reforestation/ regeneration of northern white-cedar seedlings along this river for the past four decades.

The MFFC granted Cedars for the Au Sable \$1000 to purchase northern white-cedar seedlings and their protective enclosures to be planted by volunteers along the riparian corridor of the Au Sable and Manistee Rivers.

Portable Toilet at the Dam 4 Landing

The Dam 4 landing on the North Branch of the Au Sable, located in Lovells's Township, is used by fishers, kayakers and canoeists throughout the summer season. This busy landing has no permanent toilet facilities.

The MFFC and the Lovells Township Board split the \$371.43 cost to place a portable toilet at the landing over the summer.

Grayling Fish Hatchery Fish Feeders

The Grayling Fish Hatchery needed updated, functional and varmint-resistant automated fish feeders to assist their staff in keeping the Hatchery fish healthy and properly fed.

The MFFC granted the Grayling Fish Hatchery \$2000 for the fish feeders.

Anglers of the Au Sable - North Branch Au Sable Habitat Project

The Anglers of the Au Sable will be installing over 50 structures on the North Branch between Twin Bridges and Lovells Bridge utilizing proven structure types including inverted V's, brush bundles, parallel logs and bank overhangs. The project's goal is to provide the trout population with a diverse selection of habitat types to encourage survival in all age classes. This work functions in conjunction with our other habitat work between Twin Bridges and Meadows Access.

Project benefits will include the exposure of gravel through the use of flow-moving and scouring structures, protect and encourage spawning trout, increase the number of aquatic insects and provide cold-water refuges by protecting spring steeps with large woody debris.

The MFFC granted the Anglers of the Au Sable \$2000 to this project.