

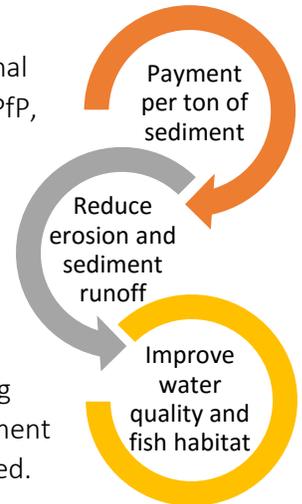
# Accelerating Outcome-Based Ag Conservation in Saginaw Bay

## Pay-for-Performance (PfP) Conservation

for more information, visit [www.sanilaccd.org](http://www.sanilaccd.org)

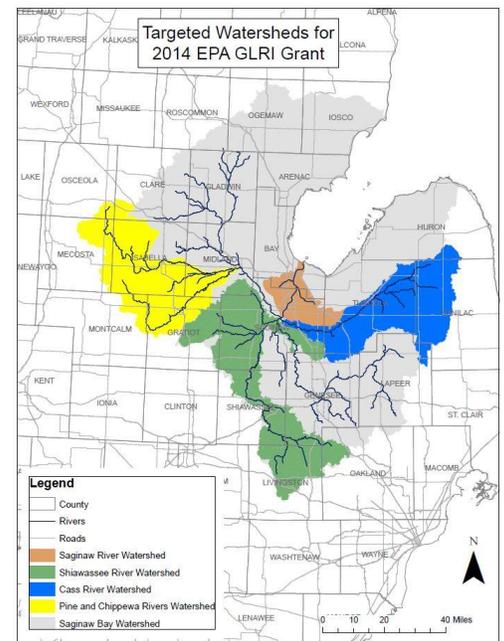
### What is PfP Conservation?

The Saginaw Bay Watershed Pay-for-Performance (PfP) Project offers a non-traditional conservation funding option for land users in the Saginaw Bay Watershed. Through PfP, participants receive annual payments based on the sediment load reductions they achieve by implementing new soil conservation practices. The Saginaw Bay Watershed PfP project is designed to address sediment loss on agricultural land. Sediment loss can be tracked through an online modeling tool called the Great Lakes Watershed Management System, a web-based tool developed by the Michigan State University Institute of Water Research (MSU-IWR), to quickly and easily estimate the environmental benefits of proposed conservation practices. Using this tool, land managers can make the field-level decisions to enter into a PfP agreement or to pass. Annual payments are based a rate of \$150.00 per ton of sediment reduced.



### Why the Saginaw Bay Watershed?

The Saginaw Bay Watershed is the largest in the state of Michigan, spanning 5.5 million acres and 22 counties. The ecological health of Saginaw Bay and its tributaries is critically important to not only Lake Huron, but the entire Great Lakes ecosystem, supporting a diversity of fish, migratory birds, and other wildlife. It has the largest concentration of coastal wetlands in the Lake Huron Basin and serves as Lake Huron's most important source for several fish species, including walleye, and is home to some of Michigan's most productive farmland. One of the most significant drivers of change to coastal and inland freshwater habitats throughout the Saginaw Bay watershed is fertilizer and sediment entering rivers and lakes due to intensive land use practices. With agricultural land use covering 45 percent of the watershed's land area it is crucial that we work to understand how to properly manage this land to balance agronomic and environmental needs. This project focuses on four priority subwatersheds; the Cass, Shiawassee, Saginaw and Pine/Chippewa River Watersheds.



### Who to Contact?

Sanilac Conservation District has a dedicated technician to help interested producers learn more about this project. Producers can contact the office or her directly with any questions they may have. More information can also be found at the following website: <http://nature.org/saginawbaypfp>.



Megan Naplin  
Sanilac Conservation District  
50 E Miller Rd  
Sandusky, MI 48471  
810-824-6253  
[megan.naplin@macd.org](mailto:megan.naplin@macd.org)