



Committed to the future of rural communities.

Michigan—Rural Utilities Service

Strategic Partners

USDA Funding Helps Improve Township's Aging Sewer System

Outline Of Need:

Buena Vista Township located near Saginaw, was plagued by an aging and unreliable sewer system. This led to sewage discharges into the nearby Saginaw River, causing environmental hazards for downstream communities. In addition, discharges into the Saginaw River ended up in Saginaw Bay and in Lake Huron, ultimately threatening the health of the Great Lakes.

How Rural Development Helped:

USDA Rural Development funded repairs for the sewer system as an Earth Day project in 2008 with a \$7,825,000 loan and an additional \$620,000 grant was awarded in 2009.

Phase I resulted in the repair of more than 63,000 lineal feet of pipe and the installation of a radio

Fast Facts

Program: Rural Utilities Service
Investment: \$7,825 loan, \$620,000 grant
Congressional District: MI-5
Partners: None

Demographics

- Buena Vista Township
- Population: 2,349 residential

Impact:

- Protects water for entire Saginaw Valley and Saginaw Bay
- 177 commercial customers

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The board from Buena Vista Township is proud to partner with USDA Rural Development and improve the environment for their residents and those downstream. (USDA photo)

reading system to monitor usage and lower personnel costs. This phase was substantially complete by May 2010.

Phase II was inaugurated at an Earth Day ceremony on April 22, 2011, and will see continued refurbishment and rehabilitation of 45,500 linear feet of the remaining defective sewer pipe and more than 200 manholes, the construction of an off-site excess flow basin, construction of a pump station, and improvements at the wastewater treatment plant.

The Results:

The system will serve 2,349 residential and 177 commercial customers and will bring the township into compliance with environmental regulations regarding pollutant discharges.

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