

## Kid's Creek Partners

This project is made possible through a grant from the **Great Lakes Commission Soil Erosion and Sedimentation Control Program** and matching funds from local businesses.

Partners supporting this project either through technical assistance or financial support include:

- Grand Traverse Conservation District
- Charter Township of Garfield
- Hinman Group
- Natural Resources Conservation Service
- National Park Service (Rivers, Trails, and Conservation Assistance Program)
- Grand Traverse Regional Land Conservancy
- Gourdie-Fraser Inc.
- Great Lakes Companies (Great Wolf Lodge)
- GDO Investments (Oleson Family Trust)



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More than 100 volunteers and ten local organizations and service clubs gave their time and energy to the restoration effort.

By stabilizing the stream bank, an estimated 145 tons of sediment will be stopped annually from entering Kid's Creek. Based on 145 tons per year of sediment reduced, the estimated amount of phosphorus (P) reduced as a result of this project is 125 pounds per year and nitrogen (N) is 246 pounds per year.



## Kid's Creek Restoration Project



## An Urban Oasis...

A degraded section of Kid's Creek, once home to the largest buffalo herd east of the Mississippi River, has been restored and is now an urban oasis, complete with educational signs and walking trails.

Due to the unlimited access the buffalo once had to Kid's Creek, this area was experiencing excessive erosion and large nutrient inputs from increased sedimentation.

This project showcases how urban communities can use urban planning techniques like planned unit developments (PUD), to help fund land protection and stream restoration projects.

Kid's Creek and its associated wetlands and ponds occupy a 17.9-acre area between Great Wolf Lodge and Kohl's department store. As a part of the PUD approval process, these acres have been placed in a conservation easement held by the Grand Traverse Regional Land Conservancy, and the underlying ownership of the property has been transferred to Garfield Township. Additionally, as part of the PUD, the business owners on either side of Kid's Creek pledged funds to assist in the restoration of Kid's Creek.

During the course of the project, 3000 linear feet of the creek were restored. Specific restoration activities included: stabilizing banks with fiber logs and rock riprap, installing fish lunger structures, lowering the grade on steep banks, placing large boulders in the stream and planting vegetation along riparian areas.

