

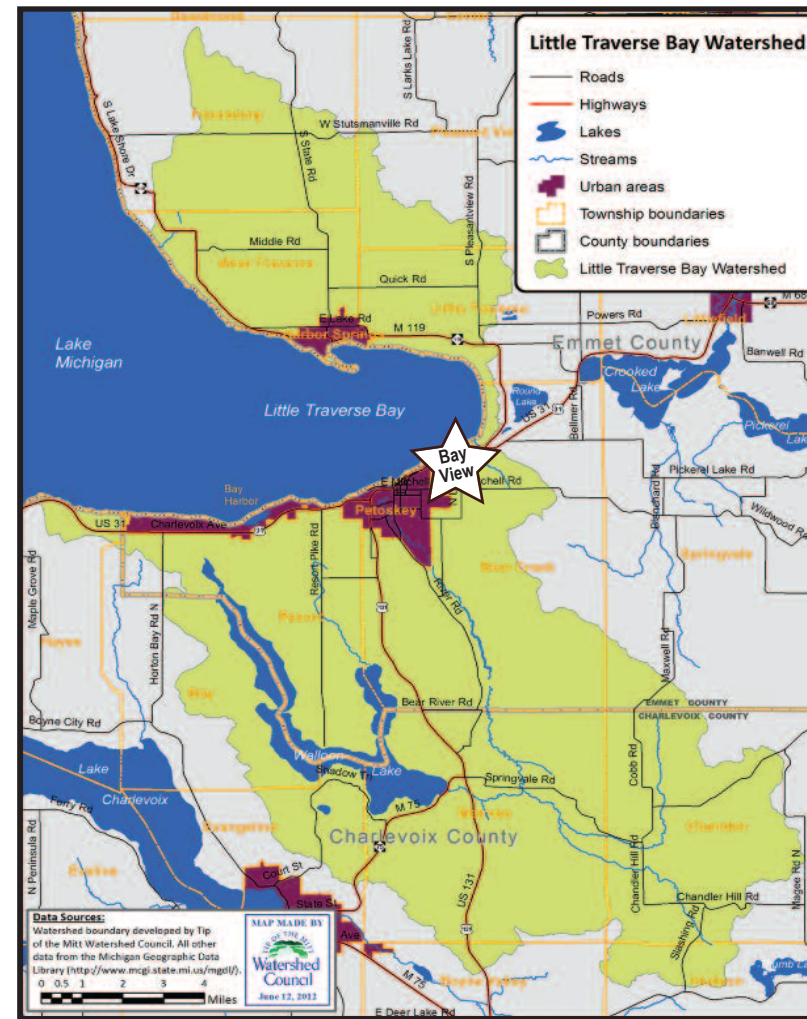
What is Stormwater?

Stormwater runoff is generated when precipitation from rain and snowmelt flows over land or impervious surfaces (paved streets, parking lots, and building rooftops) and does not soak into the ground. Stormwater accumulates debris, chemicals, sediment, nutrients and other pollutants that adversely affect water quality of nearby lakes, streams and wetlands. This is known as nonpoint source pollution. In Northern Michigan, the two most prevalent nonpoint source pollutants are sediments and nutrients.

Don't Storm Sewers Treat Stormwater?

Yes and no. First of all, storm sewers are typically separate from waste water or sanitary sewers. In more developed areas, like cities and towns, residential and commercial waste water is conveyed through sanitary sewers to waste water facilities where it is treated to meet water quality standards before it is discharged. On the other hand, stormwater is usually conveyed through an underground system of pipes and then discharged, without treatment, to a nearby lake or stream. In some cases, storm drains and inlets have integrated treatment devices, such as sumps, which allow for some settling and collection of sediments, or oil/gas chambers, which separate out oils and gas from the rest of the stormwater. Most storm sewers, however, do not include these types of devices due to expense, required maintenance and difficulty with retrofitting existing structures.

Rain gardens are a great way to alleviate the burden on storm sewers, recharge ground water, prevent flooding, reduce nonpoint source pollution, protect water quality, provide habitat and keep our lakes, streams, and wetlands healthy!



What is the Bay View Association Rain Garden Initiative?

Tip of the Mitt Watershed Council, in partnership with Bay View Association, is encouraging Bay View Association residents to install rain gardens to help reduce local stormwater impacts. As part of the Watershed Council's Little Traverse Bay Stormwater Management Initiative project (supported with funding through the Environmental Protection Agency's Great Lakes Restoration Initiative), The Bay View Association Rain Garden Initiative will provide reimbursement to 25 Bay View residents who install a rain garden as part of the Initiative.

For more information regarding the Bay View Association Rain Garden Initiative, contact Tip of the Mitt Watershed Council.



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Bay View Association
of The United Methodist Church



Cleaner Water for Tomorrow



BAY VIEW ASSOCIATION
**Rain Garden
Initiative**

A Great Lakes Restoration Initiative (GLRI) Project

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