

Monroe County Land Conservation Fishing Easement Program

*Sign an easement to
allow public fishing
in exchange for
restoring your stream
corridor, and
perpetual
maintenance at
minimal cost!*

Fishing Easement Program:

- ⇒ Monroe County Land Conservation Department started the program in 1998
- ⇒ The goal is to protect and enhance our cold water streams to foster a healthy fishery
- ⇒ Over 100 landowners have participated in the program
- ⇒ Any project costs related to streambank restoration are covered at 90% or higher in perpetuity.
- ⇒ Funding priority is given to stream projects enrolled in an easement.
- ⇒ Repairs are covered by the County at 90%+
- ⇒ All projects include habitat for trout and non-game species such as logs, rocks, weirs, LUNKERS, etc.
- ⇒ ***Periodic mowing is covered by the county at no cost to the easement holder.***

*See "Detailed Landowner Benefits" on the back for more details



Easement Details:

- ⇒ Easement extends 33' from the edge of the stream on both sides
- ⇒ Easement terms are perpetual and stay with the land
- ⇒ An easements extent is only on property owned by participating landowners.
- ⇒ Only foot traffic for the sole purpose of fishing is allowed within the easement boundary. Hiking, hunting, trapping, vehicle traffic, or any other activity besides fishing by the public is NOT ALLOWED unless the landowner gives permission.
- ⇒ Easements are eligible on any stream with a sustained fish population or potential for a fishable population.

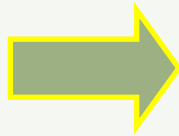


Contact the Monroe County Land Conservation office if you have questions on eligibility.
820 Industrial Drive, Suite 3 Sparta, WI 54656 — (608) 269-8973

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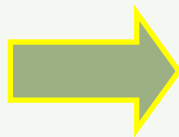
Before



After Streambank Restoration



LUNKERS Installation Process



LUNKERS Finished



Detailed Landowner Benefits:

- ⇒ Any project costs related to streambank repair and habitat improvement are covered at 90% or higher in perpetuity. *Typical cost-share rates for landowners not enrolled in an easement are 50-70% (if they qualify for funding).* Projects might include a combination of rip-rap, streambank shaping, box elder removal, and fish habitat installation.
- ⇒ Stream projects in easements are given priority. *Landowners not enrolled in an easement may have to apply and compete for funding to do a project. **Being enrolled in an easement guarantees funding for your project.***
- ⇒ The County covers 90%+ of the project costs related to future streambank damage caused by flooding.
- ⇒ Easement holders are encouraged to mow their easement areas if they are able, to keep box elders and other undesirable trees and invasive species from growing, as well as provide good access for fishermen and the landowners. Periodic mowing of your stream corridor will also provide aesthetic value to your property. *If you do not have mowing equipment or are unable to do so, the county offers periodic mowing to knock back any box elders and other undesirable trees. This is completed on an as-needed basis, and priority is given to easement areas with the most need of tree removal. **Mowing is covered by the county at no cost to the easement holder.***