

Become an MGROW Member

Join MGROW. Help us in our mission by assisting in a paddling or educational event, community outreach, membership recruitment, rain garden maintenance, water trail development, river cleanups, or join the Board! MGROW strives to make the Grand River cleaner, safer, and more accessible for the public. Mail this form to PO BOX 12211, Lansing, MI 48901. Checks payable to MGROW. Or join online at: <http://mgrow.org/join-mgrow/>

Membership Levels (check one)

- Basic \$10
- Family \$25
- River Steward \$100 (business min.)
- Steelhead \$250 (government min.)
- Walleye \$500
- Heron \$1,000
- Osprey \$5,000
- Eagle \$10,000
- Other \$ _____

Please provide your contact information

Name: _____

Email: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Interest areas: _____

Email is MGROW's primary means of communication with our members.

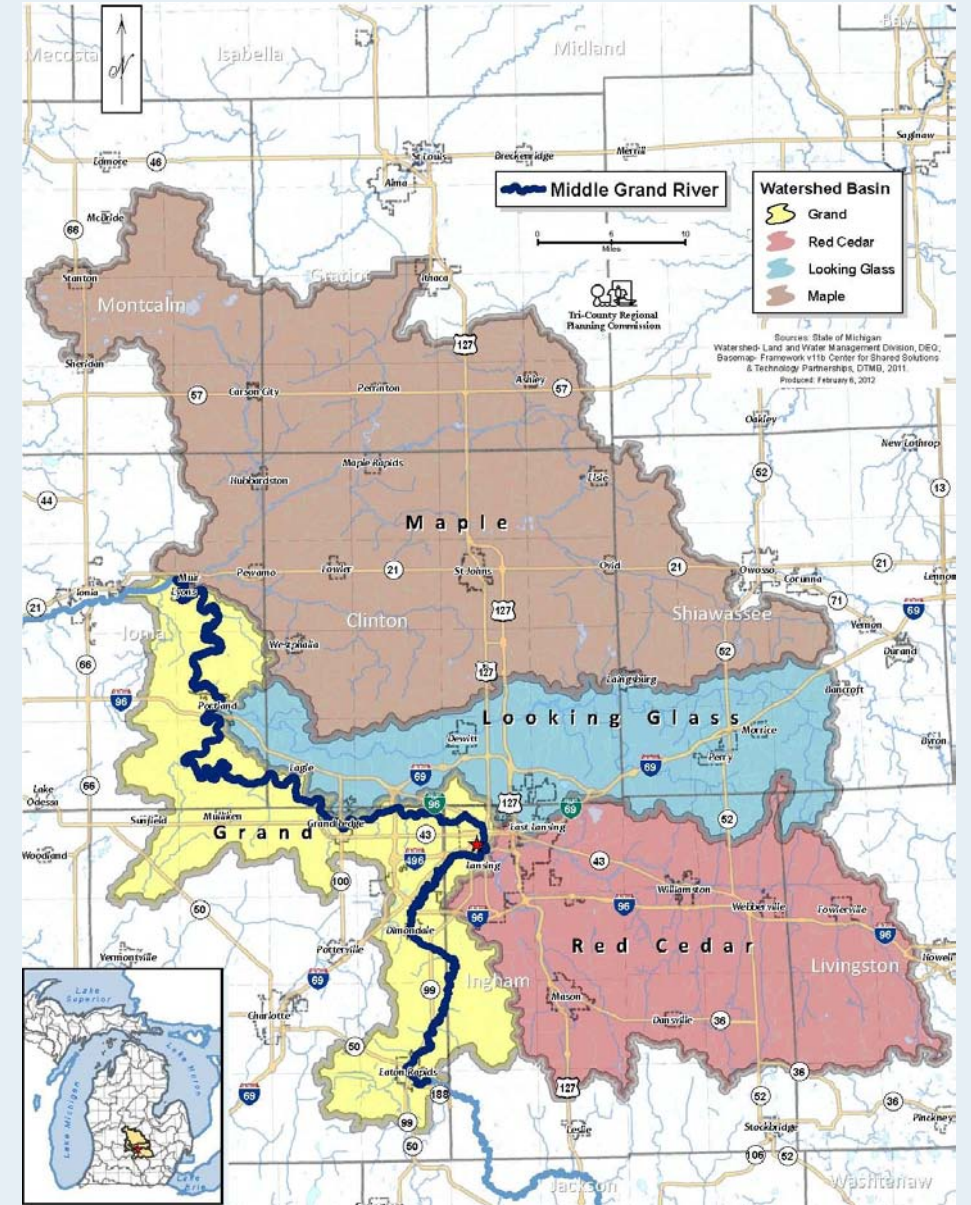
MGROW

MIDDLE GRAND RIVER
ORGANIZATION OF WATERSHEDS

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION



The Middle Grand River Organization of Watersheds (MGROW) is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization established in 2011 as a group serving the people and organizations that support and promote the Middle Grand River and its tributaries. Our mission is to protect and preserve the history and natural resources of the Middle Grand River by promoting education, conservation, restoration, and wise use of watershed resources.



The Middle Grand River includes the entire watersheds of the Red Cedar, Looking Glass, and Maple Rivers, and the main stem of the Grand River from Eaton Rapids to Lyons.

Hugh Heward Challenge

We sponsor the annual Hugh Heward Challenge on the Middle Grand on the last Saturday in April. The “Heward” is a paddling event, open to all paddlers, that reenacts a one-day, fifty-five mile sprint down the Grand River by British fur trader Hugh Heward and his French-Canadian crew in two birch-bark canoes on April 24, 1790.



Experienced paddlers may wish to paddle the “full Hugh,” a 50-mile route; recreational paddlers may wish to consider the two abbreviated routes: the 25-mile “half Hugh” or the 13-mile “quarter Hugh.” The event ends at Thompson Field in Portland, where paddlers can swap stories and enjoy a hearty chili dinner. Participants receive a certificate signifying their completion of the full, half, or quarter “Hugh.”

Michigan historian and topologist Jim Woodruff learned about Heward’s journey and wrote extensively on the subject. Woodruff challenged his friend, canoeing legend Verlen Kruger, and the entire mid-Michigan paddling community to match Heward’s 50-mile feat. Kruger accepted the challenge and invited others to join. The Hugh Heward Challenge was born.

Over the past sixteen years, the Challenge has evolved to include paddlers comfortable with shorter distances, offering a 25 mile “Half Hugh” (Grand Ledge to Portland), and a 13 mile “Quarter Hugh” (Charlotte Hwy Bridge to Portland). What is your personal challenge?



Pollution Isn't Pretty

MGROW helped develop an education campaign to raise awareness of pollution in the greater Lansing area. You may have seen our billboards. To find out how you can prevent water pollution visit www.pollutionisntpretty.org.

Paddling Expeditions

MGROW sponsors occasional multi-day paddling expeditions, including the Grand River Expedition every ten years. We have assisted expeditions on tributaries to the Grand River including events on the Looking Glass, Thornapple and Rogue Rivers.

Middle Grand River Heritage Water Trail

The Middle Grand River Heritage Water Trail allows you to “paddle through history” from the Smithville Dam upstream of Eaton Rapids to the former Lyons Dam site in Lyons, Michigan. The Middle Grand River Heritage Water Trail runs 87 miles through Eaton, Ingham, Clinton, and Ionia Counties. The history of the Grand River is significant to Lansing, the State of Michigan, and the entire world. Imagine learning about this significant history while enjoying the peace and beauty of the Grand River!

The Middle Grand River Heritage Water Trail is a three part-project. MGROW produced a 32-page waterproof guidebook, with historical information and maps needed to plan a successful paddling adventure on the Grand River.



The second part is a smartphone app that works like a dashboard GPS in your car. The Android app shows your location on the river and when you approach historically significant sites, information will be provided on your phone or tablet.

Additional historical information is provided on the MGROW website. QR codes in the guidebook allow for quick access to the website.

For more information on the guidebook and free app visit www.mgrow.org/hwt.