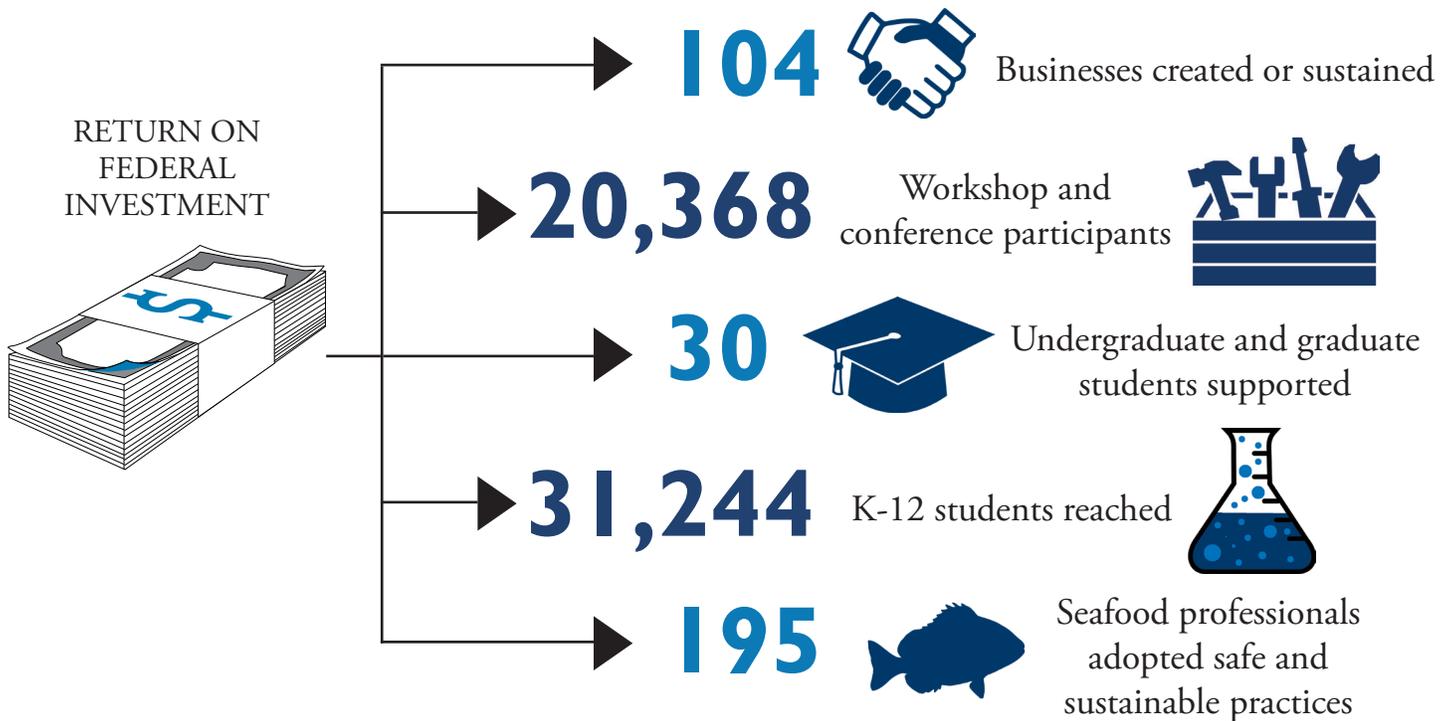


MICHIGAN SEA GRANT

\$3.8 M
economic impact in 2015

*Metrics reported to National Office in June 2016
for work completed Feb 2015 to Jan 2016.*



Sea Grant efforts reduce drowning deaths in Great Lakes

“The emergency boxes, the warning system and education about how to remain calm and how to appropriately respond to getting caught up in a current are the most effective things we can do for now.”

- Dave Guenther,
NOAA National Weather Service

Dangerous currents occur throughout the Great Lakes and can be a potential hazard to swimmers and boaters. A lack of knowledge about water safety and limited access to safety equipment has led to a relatively high number of drowning deaths in recent years. Michigan Sea Grant developed the Dangerous Currents Project in order to increase public knowledge and awareness of dangerous currents by increasing availability of safety equipment, improving safety signage, and developing warning systems in coastal communities.

miseagrant.umich.edu/explore/dangerous-currents



Sea Grant supports research and outreach to keep Michigan waters clean.

Credit: Michigan Sea Grant

“The Sustainable Small Harbors project compiled best practices for coastal communities in regard to place-making strategies, smart waterfront growth, and tools that will allow communities to optimize their waterfronts and downtown connections to the water for local businesses, residents, and tourists.”

- Mark Breederland,
Michigan Sea Grant

Sea Grant supports research to improve water quality to manage muck problem in Saginaw Bay

Community leaders are faced with the challenge of balancing economy, ecology, and aesthetics along their shorelines to attract visitors and provide consistent economic benefits to residents. Mats of decomposing organic matter and algae, colloquially known as “muck,” are a persistent threat to Great Lakes water quality and aquatic life that has the potential to result in significant economic losses in the communities where it appears.

Michigan Sea Grant funded a research team to perform an Integrated Assessment on muck in Saginaw Bay in order to understand its causes, consequences, and public perception of the issue, and to seek possible strategies for mitigating the muck problem. The team is currently synthesizing results of these surveys, research, and workshops in order to formulate future strategies for the management of muck in Saginaw Bay. miseagrant.umich.edu/saginawbaymuck

Sustainable Small Harbors project equips leaders to address waterfront community needs

Michigan Sea Grant funds the Sustainable Small Harbors project to identify barriers preventing small harbors from becoming economically, socially, and environmentally sustainable, and to equip coastal community leaders with the tools to assess and strengthen their own waterfront assets.

In 2015, Sea Grant facilitated community visioning sessions as part of the small harbors project. Plans developed during these sessions helped Au Gres, MI secure a \$30,000 grant from the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe to make sustainable improvements to its mooring facility property, as well as aided New Baltimore, MI in receiving a \$2.85 million Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund grant for the acquisition of the Schmid Marina. Currently, the expanded research team is using the model to develop a toolkit that will make small harbor sustainability strategies accessible to coastal communities statewide. miseagrant.umich.edu/smallharborsustainability



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