

**KATCH Grants are not available at this time!**

**Be sure to contact Mark Stephens at 517-432-2700 for updates and other possible sources of partnerships for your project.**

**A “new” Kids Are True Conservation Heroes Guide will be available shortly that will help you prepare for upcoming grants and projects in your community.**

**The past KATCH Grant application is attached to give you an idea of the process we encourage when funds become available ..... we hope to help you soon. Please don't hesitate to contact Mark at [steph143@msu.edu](mailto:steph143@msu.edu)**

**It's for the Kids!**



MICHIGAN 4-H FOUNDATION  
**K.A.T.C.H. Grants**



**“Kids Are True Conservation Heroes”**  
Funding for Youth-Initiated Fish & Wildlife Community Projects

The Michigan 4-H Foundation and Michigan State University Department of Fisheries & Wildlife are sponsors of grant opportunities starting fall 2004, called **“Kids Are True Conservation Heroes”**, **K.A.T.C.H.** All Michigan 4-H Clubs and other youth groups are encouraged to identify, plan, and accomplish a land or water related community service project in their local area. Grants between \$300-\$1500 are available to provide the necessities for completing the project.

**K.A.T.C.H.** is a hands-on education and community service opportunity for youth. It will foster fisheries and wildlife stewardship and help kids develop into “True Conservation Heroes,” preparing them to be involved community members and future landowners.

The following **K.A.T.C.H.** coordinators are available to assist clubs, with selecting and planning the service project, providing advice, support, announcement of training opportunities, etc.:

- Mark Stephens, MSU Department of Fisheries & Wildlife, 517-432-2700, [steph143@msu.edu](mailto:steph143@msu.edu)
- Andrea Grix, Michigan 4-H Foundation/Kettunen Center, 231-829-3421, [agrix@kettunencenter.org](mailto:agrix@kettunencenter.org)

The youth groups participating in **K.A.T.C.H.** will receive recognition from the sponsors for their community accomplishments i.e. certificates, plaque, etc.

The sources of funding are the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation and other donors to the Michigan 4-H Foundation.



**Grant evaluation guidelines:**

The service project must...

- Clearly show that youth chose, planned, wrote the application, and/or will implement the project.
- Have specific goals that demonstrate positive and sustainable impact on land, water, fish or wildlife resources. (refer to KATCH’y Service Project Ideas)
- Involve professional staff from local offices and/or agencies.
- Include community involvement in addition to your group members.
- Include local donors for supplies or services.
- Have a plan of how the project will be publicized.
- Complete an application (2-4 pages) for review - December 15, 2004 through January 15, 2005. \* Contact Grant Coordinator if pre-proposal work cannot be completed during this time period.\*
- Have youth and their leaders take part in evaluating the project.
- Be completed and a final written report submitted by October 1, 2005.

## K.A.T.C.H. Check List for Submitting a Proposal

The purpose of the checklist is to guide you through the process of submitting a proposal. Questions asked in this checklist are designed to help you think of things you may not have thought of in the excitement of “doing a service project”.

- 1.) Have you identified a topic for your service project? \_\_\_\_\_ If no, see the “Katchy Ideas” form in this packet.
- 2.) Why should we do this project, and do we understand the purpose and value? \_\_\_\_\_
- 3.) Have you contacted a local resource professional to help your group understand the benefits to the wildlife and your community? \_\_\_\_\_
  - Have you contacted your local conservation district? Visit [www.macd.org](http://www.macd.org) for the district and contact person nearest you.
  - Have you contacted a local DNR biologist/specialist to talk with you group? You can find out who to contact at [www.michigan.gov/dnr](http://www.michigan.gov/dnr)
  - Have you considered talking with a local conservation organization about your topic. You can find a club near you at [www.mucc.org](http://www.mucc.org).
  - Have you collected resource materials to help your group understand the purpose and value of the project?
  - Is this project going to be safe for the kids to accomplish?

\* Now that you have more information on your topic, **Is there still an interest to go forward?**

#### 4.) **Here are a few questions or, tasks to consider, to meet your objectives!**

Have you contacted potential partners to for:

- Permission to use the public area you are planning to use (Public meeting, school administration, township commission etc.)
- Financial assistance (local banks, businesses, charitable funders)
- Supplies and product (local businesses, nurseries, [www.mnla.org](http://www.mnla.org))
- Volunteer help to accomplish the work, physical and paperwork.
- Public Awareness and access to media support

This checklist is simply to help you think through your project before you even get started. If you should have questions or need further assistance, contact:

- Andrea Grix, Northern Michigan Representative, [agrix@kettunecenter.org](mailto:agrix@kettunecenter.org), 231-829-3421
- Mark Stephens, Southern Michigan Representative, [steph143@msu.edu](mailto:steph143@msu.edu), 517-432-2700



**APPLICATION FORM**  
**K.A.T.C.H. Grants**  
**“Kids Are True Conservation Heroes”**



Applications will be reviewed on a “first-come, first-serve basis.” Applications will be accepted between December 15, 2004 and January 15, 2005. Grants of \$300-\$1500 are available in this funding cycle. Consider a pre-proposal if your group needs assistance in selecting and planning a service project. This application should be between 2-4 pages in length. Have fun planning & making an area in your community a better place for fish or wildlife!

(This document is available on disc in Microsoft Word or Word Perfect.

Contact a coordinator by e-mail to request a copy)

Complete the following statements or questions (use separate paper or modify this document on your computer):

- 1. Group Affiliation:**  
**County:**
- 2. Youth Contact Person’s name and age:**  
**Complete Address:**  
**Phone number:**  
**E-mail:**
- 2. List names and ages of other youth involved in the project planning process.**
- 3. Adult Advisor Name & complete contact information.**
- 4. Total Dollar Amount of Grant requested.**
- 5. Title and Brief Description of the service project.**
- 6. Briefly describe why this project should be done in your Community, and how the project supports a positive and sustainable impact on land, water, fish or wildlife resources.**  
(refer to KATCH’y Service Project Ideas)
- 7. List all professional staff from local offices or agencies that will assist you with the planning or implementation of your project.**

8. List other community adults or youth partners involved in the planning or implementation of your project.
9. List local businesses, foundations or other sources of funding and donations of supplies for your service project.
10. How do you plan to publicize your service project? (i.e. with local newspapers, TV stations, radio, community newsletters, flyers or other methods.)
11. What plans do you have to maintain your project over a longer period of time? How will this project be continued or expanded in the future?
12. How will you evaluate the success of your project?
13. Complete Project Budget Form attached: listing supplies, equipment, and other expenses required to make this project a success.
14. Make and send 5 copies of complete proposal.

**Send your completed K.A.T.C.H Grant Application to:**

Mark Stephens  
Department of Fisheries & Wildlife  
Natural Resources Building  
Michigan State University  
E. Lansing, Michigan 48824  
517-432-2700  
[steph143@msu.edu](mailto:steph143@msu.edu)

For questions in Southern Lower Michigan contact: Mark Stephens  
and in the UP or Northern Lower Michigan contact: Andrea Grix at 231-829-3421 or  
[agrix@kettunecenter.org](mailto:agrix@kettunecenter.org)



## K.A.T.C.H. Project Budget Information Form



Please complete this form to the best of your knowledge. Keep in mind that you will need to contact local donors and estimate values prior to applying for this grant. This process may be the most time consuming and frustrating. Hang in there!

### Items you will need funding for:

Description of Item/Supply	Estimated cost of item	Amount requested

Total Requested \$

### Donor/Partner Contributions

Donor/partner	Description of Donation	Estimated Donation Value

Total Donation Value \$

### Estimated Total Volunteer Time and Numbers

Number of Youth Volunteers	Estimated Work Hours

Number of Adult Volunteers	Estimated Work Hours

When will youth and adults volunteer their time? (circle those that apply)

During the months of : Oct Nov Dec Jan Feb Mar Apr May Jun Jul Aug Sep



## ***K.A.T.C.H. 'y Service Project Ideas***

Note: Many of these suggested projects are truly beneficial for fish and wildlife only if planned and implemented in partnership with local fish and wildlife agencies See suggested resources below.

### **Habitat Management/Improvement Projects**

Woodlot Timber Management	Vacant Lot Restoration
Wildlife Nesting Structures & Food Plot Creation	Wetland Restoration/Enhancement
Native Plantings (Wetlands, Forests and Prairies)	Non-Native Species Control
Cropland Management for wildlife and watersheds	Brushland Management

### **Water Quality Improvement Projects (Stream, Rivers, Lakes and Wetlands)**

Water Quality Monitoring	Aquatic Nuisance Species Control
Native Species Planting	Stream Bank Erosion Prevention

### **Fish and Wildlife Management Projects**

Statewide Wildlife Monitoring Surveys	Wildlife Marking and Banding
Public Recreation Enhancement (fishing piers, parking, increased access)	Nose Tagging/Fin Clipping
Deer Pellet Counts/Browse Surveys	Creel Surveys
	Nuisance Wildlife Management

### **Public and Private Lands Including School Yards, Parks, and County Fairgrounds**

Habitat Improvement for Wildlife	Wildlife Viewing Stations
Outdoor Learning Stations	Wildlife Plantings
Litter Control Project	

### **Public Education Project About Conservation Issues**

\*\* Public Education is often the key and lasting ingredient to natural resource stewardship. For K.A.T.C.H. you will need to show the result of your teaching; what does your audience do for land or water resources. For example if you teach a class on how to plant for wildlife, how much "wildlife planting" did your audience do after the class?

Teens Teaching Younger Children	Teaching Local Community Classes
Study a Local Issue	Public Display About Fish and Wildlife Management Practices

### ***Suggested Resources:***

Michigan Department of Natural Resources District Offices, Michigan State University Extension Office in your county (Refer to [The Walk](#) Bulletin #4-H 1593 and/or [Managing Michigan's Wildlife: A Landowner's Guide](#)), Michigan Nursery and Landscape Association ([www.mnla.org](http://www.mnla.org)), Natural Resources Conservation Service Office, Local Soil Conservation District, United States Fish and Wildlife Service, State and Local Sportsmen's Organizations.

If you are interested in any of these ideas and need further information, contact: Mark Stephens 517-432-2700, [steph143@msu.edu](mailto:steph143@msu.edu) . or Andrea Grix at [agrix@kettunecenter.org](mailto:agrix@kettunecenter.org), 231-829-3421



*Final Checklist for KATCH Application*



- Completed the KATCH Check List
- Contacted our KATCH coordinator with questions. (optional)
- Completed all pages of the grant application

\_\_\_\_\_ Cover Page (questions 1-5)

\_\_\_\_\_ Questions 6-12

\_\_\_\_\_ Budget Page (question 13)

- Contacted MSU Extension office in our county to inform them of our K.A.T.C.H. Project. (Required, however we will assist as an option, see next check off item)

Extension Contact Name \_\_\_\_\_

County \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

- Please assist us in contacting our MSU Extension Office.