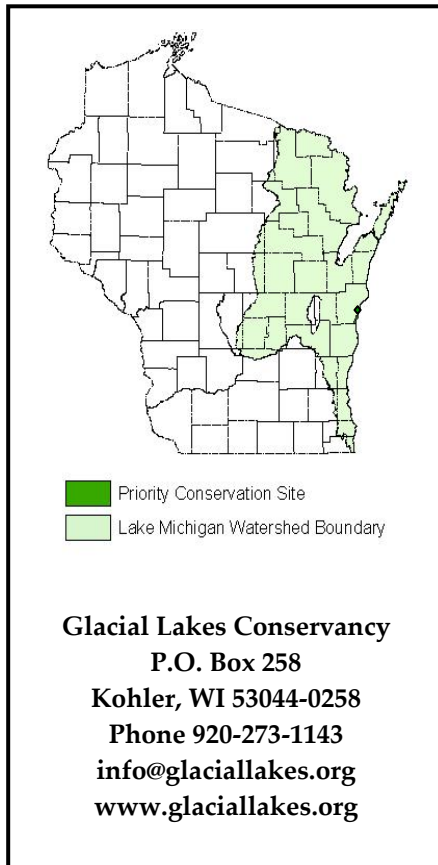


Point and Fischer Creeks

Partnership in action



The outlets of Point Creek and Fischer Creek have been recognized for several years by local groups as important and vulnerable sites. These groups have initiated significant protection efforts to preserve the mouths of these creeks, forming innovative and effective partnerships.



Ecological Significance:

Point Creek and Fischer Creek are two of the most pristine streams in the Lake Michigan Basin. The outlets of these creeks support high-quality sedge meadows and marshes because water level fluctuates due to the influence of "seiche tides" on Lake Michigan. The watersheds of these streams remain primarily undeveloped, and protecting them not only preserves key examples of an undisturbed riparian ecosystem, but also results in improved water quality in the streams, and consequently in Lake Michigan. Many migrating songbirds use the Lake Michigan shoreline as a stopping point for food and rest on their spring and fall journeys.

Potential Threats:

The primary threats to Point and Fischer Creek are nonpoint pollution and accidental manure spills from agricultural land-use in their watersheds. These streams also lie within a growing region and will face development pressure.

Current Activities:

The outlets and watersheds of Point and Fischer Creek have been designated a *Priority Conservation Site* by Glacial Lakes Conservancy and the Lake Michigan Shorelands Alliance and, along with nearby Cleveland Swamp, as a Wisconsin DNR acknowledged *Land Legacy Site*. Glacial

Lakes Conservancy, Manitowoc County and the University of Wisconsin help manage the 39-acre property surrounding the outlet, now called the *Point Creek Natural Area*. The mouth of Fischer Creek has become the 160-acre *Fischer Creek Conservation Area* due to efforts to save it from development. Point Creek, and nearby Centerville Creek, are a part of the Manitowoc County UW-Extension Discovery Farms research project. In addition, a local citizen group, Centerville Cares and UW-Stevens Point continue to monitor water quality in order to understand threats to surface and ground water.

Glacial Lakes Conservancy has completed a project in the area and is available to work with more willing landowners and other partners who wish to engage in land conservation projects.

Glacial Lakes Conservancy is a private, non-profit land trust serving Sheboygan ▪ Manitowoc ▪ Kewaunee ▪ Calumet ▪ Fond du Lac Counties providing enduring solutions for land conservation in Wisconsin's Lake Michigan Basin



Photo credit: E. Judziewicz, courtesy of WDNR.