The MICHIGAN NATURAL RESOURCES TRUST FUND was established under the Kammer Recreational Land Trust Fund Act of 1976 to provide a permanent funding source for the public acquisition of land for resource protection and public outdoor recreation.

Funding was provided by revenue derived from royalties on the sale and lease of state-owned oil, gas and mineral rights.

This landmark piece of legislation came to fruition thanks to the collaborative efforts of the Michigan Oil and Gas Association, Michigan United Conservation Clubs and state legislators on behalf of all Michigan citizens.

The MNRTF has contributed immeasurably to protecting our state’s natural beauty and helped paved the way for wise and prudent development of our state’s abundant energy resources.

To date, the MNRTF has awarded over $1 billion in grants to local units of government and state agencies for projects throughout all 83 counties.

Of this total, $196 million have been invested in trails. In excess of 1,000 public parks have been acquired and/or developed. Other projects funded include ball fields, tennis courts, trailheads, restrooms and other amenities, for a total of just under 2,200 MNRTF-assisted projects since 1976.
CASS COUNTY

Cass County has received more than $2,816,947 in 13 Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund Grants (MNRTF).

CASS COUNTY
- Dodd Park Water Trail Development Project: $277,500
- Dr. T. K. Lawless Park: $81,400
- Dr. T. K. Lawless Park East 80: $96,000
- Dr. T.K. Lawless Park North: $151,700

DNR - FISHERIES DIVISION
- Dowagiac Creek Access & Corridor Acquisition: $749,900

DOWAGIAC
- Youth Sports Park Acquisition: $100,000
- Silver Creek Russom Park Development: $300,000
- Rudolphi Woods: $115,100
- Northwest Park: $64,500
- Heddon Park: $42,647

MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY
- Newton Woods: $440,000

SILVER CREEK TOWNSHIP
- Silver Creek Area Youth Sports Park: $100,000
- Silver Creek Russom Park Development: $298,200