



New Buffalo Shoreline Alliance
P.O. Box 425
New Buffalo, Michigan 49117

November 12, 2019

Dear Grand Beach Resident,

The New Buffalo Shoreline Alliance (NBSA) was formed to find and fund a means of preserving, protecting and restoring the beaches and shoreline of Lake Michigan in the Southwest communities of New Buffalo, New Buffalo Township, and Grand Beach. The NBSA is recognized by the IRS as a 501c3 not for profit corporation. Contributions or gifts are tax deductible. Any money spent to protect our beaches is an investment in our homes, our schools, our communities, our economies, and our future. Why should the whole community be concerned about someone's beach? First, the problem is caused by a public structure, the harbor jetty, and more importantly, without the beaches, what would our local economies, our local communities, our property values look like? The beaches drive property values which generate tax revenues for public services. They drive tourism. This is a public problem that touches every aspect of our lives.

We are the only organization working on restoring the beaches south of the harbor and we believe we are the only ones that have demonstrated any success. A quick recap of our accomplishments in 2019.

- \$275,000 in dredging was done this year, paid for by the federal government. Those dredging sands were placed on the feeder beach in New Buffalo.
- \$225,000 has been awarded in this year's budget from Great Lakes Fishery and Eco System Restoration to design offshore breakwaters to increase fish habitat and solve shoreline erosion.
- \$625,000 in dredging funds for New Buffalo are in the 2020 work plans submitted by the Corps.
- \$200,000 for a Section 216 study is also in the Corps work plan for 2020.
- \$50,000 in funds has been released to fund the first phase of a Section 111 study.
- The NBSA applied for a Michigan Department of Natural Resources, Office of the Great Lakes (OGL), Michigan Coastal Zone Management (CZM) Program Grant. The NBSA is pleased to announce that we have partnered with Michigan State University (MSU) and MSU will be our grant administrator.

To continue the success of the alliance, it will need money. If successful on the CZM grant, we will need to match the \$75,000.00 grant. To continue our work we need to ask for your help. It will cost about \$100,000 next year to keep these efforts moving forward. The board members do not take ANY form of salary from the Alliance. All time is donated. We believe the loss of our beaches are solvable. Two of the critical elements that may cause us to be unsuccessful are time and money. If we run out of either, our efforts cease. This is where you can help. Ideally, we would like to ask each homeowner for a tax-deductible contribution of \$1,000.00. At a recent homeowner meeting, the homeowners were considering a number of projects. There was a park project, landscaping projects and a beach overview project. One of the participants said, "None of these projects will add to my property value. Our first priority must be restoring the beaches". As a result, this HOA gave the NBSA 60% of their total yearly revenue.

We are the only organization working on a solution and the only one that has had any success. If you would like your beaches and property values back, it's time to support us by sending us a check.

Sincerely,

New Buffalo Shoreline Alliance