

## Alliance of Rouge Communities Trees for Green Schools



### Wayne County & Oakland County Schools November 2012



As part of the Alliance of Rouge Communities (ARC) 2012 Green Infrastructure Education Campaign, Wayne County's Water Quality Management Division (WQMD) coordinated the purchase of trees for each of the recognized Michigan Green Schools in the Rouge River Watershed. The tree species offered were all native to Michigan and included eastern redbud, basswood, tulip tree and sugar maple. The trees were 1.5 inch caliper and depending on the variety, 5'-8' in height. Wayne County offered trees to 75 recognized schools within the Wayne County portion of the Rouge watershed and Oakland County offered trees to 101 schools. Of the 75 Wayne County schools, 29 schools (39%) accepted the offer. 11 of these schools accepted two or more trees. Of Oakland County's 101 qualified schools, 30 schools (30%) accepted the offer, each school took one tree.

The ARC, along with grant funds from the Society of American Military Engineers (SAME) provided white pine seedlings to 50 of the green schools. The seedlings were separated into packs of 30. Informational material including planting instructions, the *Value of Trees flyer*, Rouge River bookmark and instructions on registering the tree through the ARC's website were provided for each student receiving a seedling.



Healthy trees in our communities improve our water quality. In addition to the visual impact of trees, tree canopies and root systems provide a natural filter to our water supply and reduce storm water runoff, flooding and erosion\*.

Trees are natural air filters, too. Their foliage reduces particulate matter from the air, including dust, micro sized metals, and pollutants

such as ozone, nitrogen oxides, ammonia and sulfur dioxides. Forty trees can remove 80lbs of air pollution annually\*.

Trees cool the air naturally from the effects of water evaporating from leaves and from direct shade. Buildings shaded by trees need less energy for cooling, which in turn means lower monthly utility bills in the summer. Four trees planted around each home could save up to 30% on summer cooling costs\*.

For more information on the ARC's Green Infrastructure Education Campaign please contact Ms. Zachare Ball, ARC Executive Director Services call her at (734)769-3004 or email her at [zball@ectinc.com](mailto:zball@ectinc.com). For more information on the Green Schools Program please contact Ms. Nancy Gregor, Wayne County Water Quality Management Division at (734)326-4607 or email at [ngregor@co.wayne.mi.us](mailto:ngregor@co.wayne.mi.us).

\* Information obtained from the *Value of Trees* flyer the Alliance for Community Trees [www.actrees.org](http://www.actrees.org)



## Participating Schools and Communities and Teachers Comments

School	ARC School District
<b>Wayne County</b>	
Becker Elementary	Dearborn
Edsel Ford High	Dearborn
Fordson High	Dearborn
Howard Elementary	Dearborn
Lindbergh Elementary	Dearborn
Michael Berry Career Ctr	Dearborn
Miller Elementary	Dearborn
Salina Intermediate	Dearborn
Garden City High	Garden City
Frost Middle	Livonia
Holmes Middle	Livonia
Kennedy Elementary	Livonia
Divine Child Elementary	Non-Public - Dbn
Muslim American Youth	Non-Public - Dbn
Sacred Heart School	Non-Public - Dbn
Ladywood High	Non-Public - Livonia
Our Lady of Good Counsel	Non-Public - PlyCan
Plymouth Christian Acad.	Non-Public - PlyCan
St Valentine	Non-Public - Redford
St Mary School	Non-Public - Wayne
Hillside Middle	Northville
Field Elementary	Plymouth-Canton
Advanced Tech Academy	PSA - Dearborn
West Village Academy	PSA - Dearborn
Jefferson Elementary	South Redford
<b>Oakland County</b>	
Beverly Elementary	Birmingham
Berkshire Middle School	Birmingham
Greenfield Elementary	Birmingham
Bingham Farms Elementary	Birmingham
Seaholm High School	Birmingham
Derby Middle School	Birmingham
Pembroke Elementary School	Birmingham
Way Elementary School	Bloomfield Hills
East Hills Middle School	Bloomfield Hills
Grandview Elementary	Clarenceville
Our Lady of Sorrows School	Farmington
Gill Elementary	Farmington
Country Oaks Elem.	Huron Valley
Academy of the Sacred Heart	Private
Parkview Elementary	Novi
PACE Academy	Private
St. Hugo of the Hills	Private/Other
Musson Elementary	Rochester
West Middle School	Rochester
ACE High School	Rochester
Birney K-8	Southfield
Larson Middle School	Troy
Troy High School	Troy
Leonard Elementary School	Troy
Costello Elementary School	Troy
Schroeder Elementary School	Troy
Clifford Smart Middle School	Walled Lake
Walled Lake Central High Sch	Walled Lake
Sarah Banks Middle School	Walled Lake

The tree donated to Howard was planted by my engineer the day it was delivered. I have no pictures to share, sorry. The three trees donated over the past three years are replacing the 15 that we have removed because they have died. Keep the trees coming!!

Andy Denison, Principal  
Howard Elementary, Dearborn

*What an exciting experience for my students to contribute to helping the environment by planting trees. They had a great time working with each other on this project.*

*Gaylon Williams  
ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY ACADEMY, Dearborn  
4th/5th grade Social Studies*

Students planted 6 trees on Holmes Middle School property to offer shade and homes for wildlife. Trees were planted, mulched and watered by students fulfilling community service hours to keep our school green.

Margen McGowan  
Holmes Middle School, Livonia