



Restoring Community Trees in the Rouge River Watershed

In partnership with:



GLRI-USDA Forest Service Grant:

- 2012 grant award: \$374,980
- 2014 grant award: \$100,000
- 2,680 trees planted in 19 communities and Wayne County

Benefits of restoring trees in the Rouge River Watershed:

- An estimated \$35,258 per year in energy, carbon dioxide (CO2), air quality, stormwater and aesthetics benefits.
- An estimated 65,245 gallons of rainfall will be intercepted each year by these trees reducing stormwater pollution.

In 2012 the Alliance of Rouge Communities (ARC) was awarded a GLRI USDA Forest Service grant for \$374,980 that sought to replace 2,000 trees to the Rouge River Watershed, which lost thousands of trees due to the Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) since 2002. In 2014 the GLRI USDA Forest Service awarded a subsequent grant to the ARC in the amount of \$100,000 to plant 680 new trees and create a healthy, functional and more diverse urban tree canopy in the Rouge River Watershed. These grants aided in reducing the effects of stormwater pollution, such as soil erosion, air pollution and effects to habitat.

Tree planting is a priority project in the Rouge River Area of Concern (AOC) Beneficial Use Impairment (BUI) Delisting Strategy (2012). This watershed is a high to medium priority area for EAB according to the State Forest Action Plan and these projects helped address the plan's Issue 9: Reforestation of Urban and Ex-Urban Areas. The approach for restoration has evolved from merely improving water quality to maximizing ecological integrity within the AOC.

The ARC member partners for the 2012 grant project were: Bingham Farms, Bloomfield Hills, Bloomfield Township, Canton Township, Lathrup Village, Livonia, Plymouth Township, Redford Township, Southfield, Walled Lake, Wayne, Westland and Wayne County. The ARC member partners for the 2014 grant were: Bingham Farms, Bloomfield Township, Canton Township, Inkster, Novi, Oak Park, Plymouth, Plymouth Township, Rochester Hills, Southfield, Troy, Village of Franklin, and Wayne County.



ROUGE GROWING GREEN!

THIS TREE PLANTING PROJECT IS PARTIALLY FUNDED BY THE U. S. FOREST SERVICE AND THE GREAT LAKES RESTORATION INITIATIVE TO IMPROVE WATER QUALITY



USDA, Forest Service Grant:
15-DG-11420004-002





The ARC is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization consisting of local municipalities, counties, educational institutions and stewardship groups working together to improve the Rouge River. Founded in 2005, the ARC is funded by membership dues from local governments and supported by grants. The ARC and its partners work cooperatively to meet water quality requirements mandated by the state's storm water permit and to restore beneficial uses, such as canoeing, fishing and other recreational activities, to the Rouge River. That means better water quality for less cost to its members!

**For more information about other ARC activities visit our website at:
www.allianceofrougecommunities.com**

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