

What is the REP?

A place-based environmental education program centered around water quality monitoring of the Rouge River, whose watershed is the most urbanized in Michigan.

The Rouge Education Project trains teachers in the way of volunteer water quality monitoring and provides resources and equipment, and they, in turn, take the information they've learned back to their classrooms. Students see the root cause of environmental issues in their local waterway, and begin to think about bigger picture/Great Lakes issues and implications. They are then encouraged to think about and take action to benefit the river.

Mission: To promote awareness and stewardship of the Rouge River watershed through school-based water quality monitoring, investigation, and problem solving.

2019 marked the 32nd year of the REP.

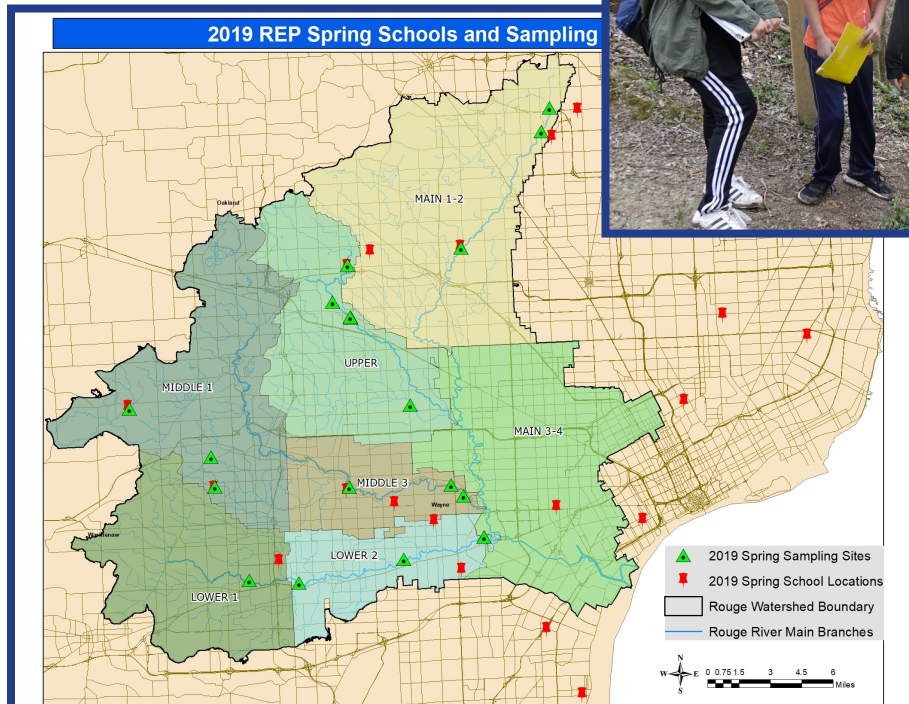
2019 SPRING MONITORING SCHOOLS

- Chandler Park Academy High School, Harper Woods
- Clippert Multicultural Honors Academy, Detroit
- Crescent Academy International, Canton
- Crestwood High School, Dearborn Heights
- Detroit Country Day Middle School, Beverly Hills
- Farmington STEAM Academy, Farmington Hills*
- Fordson High School, Dearborn*
- Garden City High School, Garden City
- Hamtramck High School, Hamtramck*
- Huron Valley Lutheran High School, Westland
- Lincoln Park High School, Lincoln Park*
- Lincoln Senior High School, Warren
- O.L. Smith Middle School, Dearborn*
- Plymouth High School, Canton
- Roosevelt High School, Wyandotte
- Salem Elementary School, Salem
- Steppingstone School, Farmington Hills
- Troy College & Career High School, Troy
- Troy High School, Troy

*new school

19 schools **1,130 students**
45 teachers **17 sampling sites**

RIGHT: Students from Crescent Academy International finish up surveying the river at the Morton Taylor Trailhead in Canton



LEFT: Map of the 2019 spring monitoring schools (red) and sampling sites (green). Shaded areas of color outline Rouge River subwatersheds.

17 schools **1,501 students**
45 teachers **17 sampling sites**



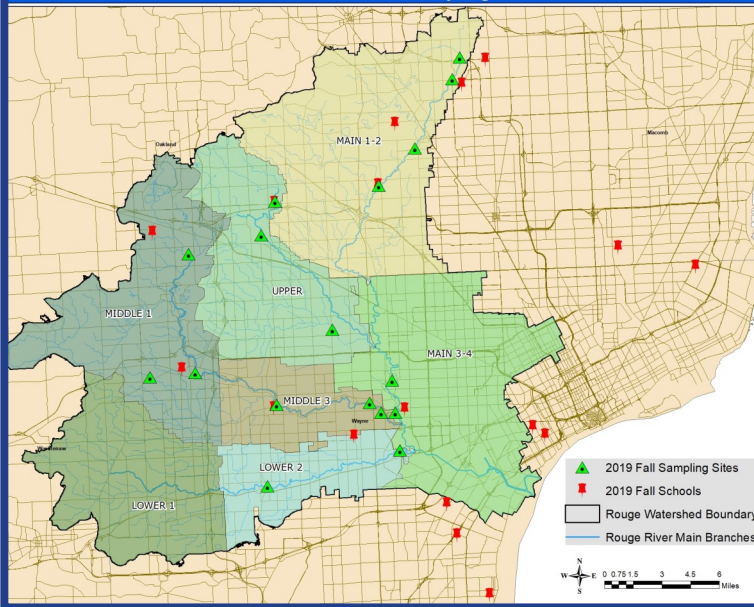
Novi Elementary School students pose at Orchard Hills West Park

2019 FALL MONITORING SCHOOLS

Academy of the Americas High School, Detroit
Birmingham Covington School, Bloomfield Hills
Chandler Park Academy High School, Harper Woods
Clippert Multicultural Honors Academy, Detroit
Crestwood High School, Dearborn Heights
Detroit Country Day Middle School, Beverly Hills
Farmington STEAM Academy, Farmington Hills
Huron Valley Lutheran High School, Westland
Inter-City Baptist School, Allen Park
Lincoln Park High School, Lincoln Park
Lincoln Senior High School, Warren
Novi Meadows Elementary School, Novi*
Roosevelt High School, Wyandotte
Steppingstone School, Plymouth
Tawheed Center School, Dearborn Heights
Troy College & Career High School, Troy
Troy High School, Troy

**new school*

2019 REP Fall Schools and Sampling Locations



*Map of the 2019 fall monitoring schools (red) and sampling sites (green).
Shaded areas of color outline Rouge River subwatersheds.*



Birmingham Covington School students measure stream width at Linden Park in Birmingham

The 2019 numbers...

- Worked with 24 schools and 2,631 students
- 110 volunteers helped with the project, including a mix of parent, corporate, and trained volunteers (“REP Assistants”)
- Brought in six new schools

The results...

- Visit www.therouge.org -> Our Work -> Rouge Education Project
- [2018-2019 Survey Results](#)
- [2019 Spring Data Summary Report](#)
- [2019 Fall Data Summary Report](#)

2019 Events

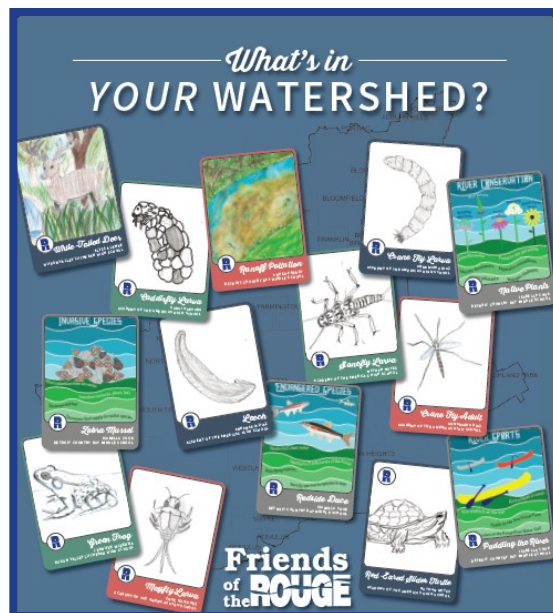
Workshop	Date	Location	# teachers	# volunteers
Advanced Chemical Training	03/09/2019	Beverly Hills	10	5
Bug Identification & Sampling Techniques	04/06/2019	Plymouth	2	5
Bug Identification & Sampling Techniques	04/20/2019	Plymouth	2	3
Returning Teacher Refresher: Mock Monitoring Day	06/19/2019	Plymouth	5	N/A
Returning Teacher Refresher: How to Engage Students in Community Action	06/21/2019	Plymouth	3	1
Returning Teacher Refresher: Reflection & Planning Time	06/24/2019	Plymouth	2	N/A
Summer Institute: New Teacher Orientation	08/05/2019	Plymouth	4	1
Summer Institute: How to Engage Students in Community Action	08/06/2019	Plymouth	3	0
Summer Institute: Advanced Chemical Training	08/07/2019	Plymouth	6	1
Summer Institute: Bug Identification & Sampling Techniques	08/08/2019	Plymouth	7	2
Summer Institute: Reflection & Planning Time	08/12/2019	Plymouth	1	0
Student Symposium	11/15/2019	Livonia	3	43 students

2019 workshops were a great success! New and returning teachers and volunteers were given in-depth, hands-on experience learning about and conducting water quality tests, and how to help young people take action in their community. Differing from previous years, teacher workshops were shifted to the summer time—and the Student Symposium was reintroduced after over a decade long hiatus! Students at the symposium shared and discussed their fall monitoring results, met with experts working in the environmental field, and explored ways to make a difference in their community based on their results.

All workshops were coordinated and facilitated by the Education Manager. A special thank you to Grace Edinger of Earth Force and Science Consultant Dave Bydlowski for their assistance at many of these events.

The Education Manager also hosted a monitoring event for students participating in St. Suzanne’s STEAM Camp at Rouge Park in Detroit this August.

Below: Poster artwork contest design winners



THANK YOU...

LEAD TEACHERS

Audrey Akcasu
William Albrecht
Inara Azeer
Mary Balamucki
Renee Boogren
Diana Chamalia
Emily Cizmas
Jane Culp

Robert de Bear
Audrey Edwards
Jennifer Gabrys
Steven Grosinske
Joshua Hubbard
Diana Johns
Vicki Lowery
Darren McCormick

Reef Morse
Tracy Ortiz
Abeer Savage
Brad Todd
Chris Trepanowski
Tina Weller
Sarah Willis
Robert Zynda

CORPORATE VOLUNTEERS

Arch Environmental Group

- Jack Benson
- Kellie Das
- Jessica Perfetti
- Amanda Peterson

General Motors-Hamtramck

- Erica Fultz
- Elizabeth Gibbons
- Eric Hall
- Jessica Jeffrey
- Meghan Kennedy
- Joseph Norris
- Brian Wilger

Stantec

- Jacob Fielder
- Jeff Goedel
- Jared Jonckheere
- Diane Krueger

REP ASSISTANTS

Anthony Cieri
Jacob Curren
Tricia DeMarco
Susan Girbach

Maria Kaljaj
Katelyn Kroon
Chester Marvin
Julia Sosin

Kaitlyn Tatro
Julia Tituskin

FRIENDS OF THE ROUGE SUPPORTERS

Guardian

- ◆ Bosch Community Fund
- ◆ Community Foundation for Southeast Michigan*
- ◆ Erb Family Foundation
- ◆ National Oceanic & Atmospheric Association—Bay Watershed Education & Training Program*

Protector

- ◆ Americana Foundation*
- ◆ ITC Holdings*

Steward

- ◆ DENSO International America, Inc.
- ◆ DeRoy Testamentary Foundation*
- ◆ U.S. Forest Service*

Advocate

- ◆ Advanced Disposal
- ◆ Consumers Energy Foundation*
- ◆ DTE Energy Foundation*
- ◆ Pure Oakland Water

Supporter

- ◆ Canton Township
- ◆ Carhartt
- ◆ Clif Bar Family Foundation
- ◆ Environmental Consulting & Technology, Inc.
- ◆ Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, & Energy
- ◆ Northville Township
- ◆ Orchard, Hiltz & McCliment, Inc.
- ◆ Roper School Charity Fundraising Event
- ◆ St. Suzanne Cody Rouge Community Resource Center

- ◆ Women’s National Farm & Garden Association, Inc.—Bloomfield Hills Branch

Donor

- ◆ Aisin World Corp. of America
- ◆ Arch Environmental Group*
- ◆ Cardno, Inc.
- ◆ The Dul Foundation
- ◆ Garden Club of Dearborn
- ◆ General Motors LLC-Romulus Powertrain Operations*
- ◆ Hubbell, Roth & Clark, Inc.
- ◆ Michigan Association of Environmental Professionals*
- ◆ City of Southfield
- ◆ Stantec*
- ◆ Trailwood Garden Club
- ◆ Washtenaw County Water Resources Commission
- ◆ Waste Management

**contributed funding, at least in part, specifically for the REP*