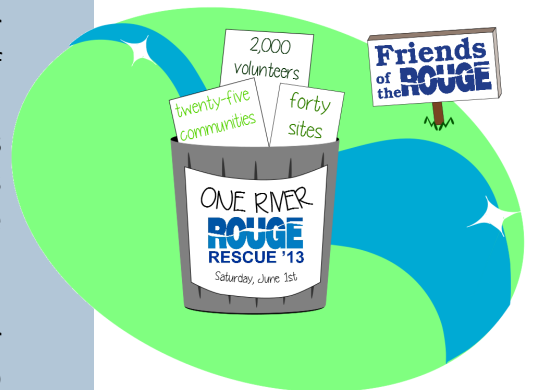


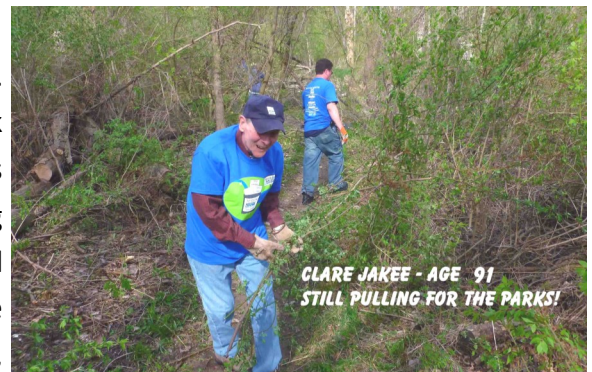
Each June, Friends of the Rouge, in partnership with Rouge communities and other organizations, brings volunteers together from across the watershed to work toward the common goal of improving the Rouge River for generations to come. This annual event, known as Rouge Rescue, began in 1986 with volunteers removing large quantities of trash from the river. As river sites improved, public perception of the river shifted away from the thought that the river was just an open sewer and a place to dump trash. Today, much of the event is focused on river restoration and volunteers also work to remove invasive plants from the river corridor, install native plantings and stabilize stream banks to improve the health of the river.



Event Summary

Over 1,700 people participated in Rouge Rescue 2013. Volunteers worked to improve the Rouge River at 41 work sites in 20 communities across the watershed. Activities were scheduled on multiple dates with most activities taking place on Saturday, June 1st. Seven sites worked in April and May, two sites worked later in June and two work sites were cancelled. Multiple workdays were held at the Cranbrook, Rouge Park and Goudy Park work sites. Five sites were new. Six sites were led by new site coordinators.

Site coordinators are the backbone of this event. The amazing amount of work completed through Rouge Rescue would not be possible without these dedicated volunteers who plan and organize the individual work sites. The Friends of the Rouge team sincerely thanks these individuals for all they do to make Rouge Rescue successful!



Rouge Rescue brings people of all ages and backgrounds together to work to improve the Rouge River.



Goudy Park Site Coordinator, Kurt Kuban, holds a trophy found in the Rouge during Rouge Rescue.

Event Summary (Continued)

And successful it was! This year, over 120 acres were cleared of 82 cubic yards of trash. That is a lot of trash – enough to fill more than 250 55-gallon drums. Even more astonishing is the amount of invasive plant material removed by volunteers through Rouge Rescue – over 8,000 cubic yards were removed from 12 acres. That is enough plant material to fill 25,000 more drums than trash.



The amount of trash removed during Rouge Rescue would fill 250 55-gallon drums. The invasive plant material removed would fill a whopping 25,250 drums!

Smaller amounts of trash being removed from larger areas is a trend we have experienced for many years now, which is a good sign that less waste is being dumped in our natural areas. The large quantity of invasive plants being removed from a small area of land, however, shows the impact of invasive plants and how wide-spread they are throughout the region. Work to remove invasives has become a growing trend over the past decade and today as many sites work on invasive removal as trash removal.

Table 1: Site Participation by Activity	
Activity	# Sites
Trash removal	23
Invasive plant removal	22
Plantings	8
Type of plantings installed:	
Riparian buffers	4
Rain gardens	2
Native gardens	1
Bio-swale	1
Trees	1
Woody debris management	7
Trail maintenance	6
Educational activities	9
Streambank stabilization	1

Table 1 indicates the number of sites working on each activity during Rouge Rescue 2013. In addition to trash removal and invasive plant control, volunteers worked to install native plantings, manage wood in the river, maintain trails and stabilize eroding stream banks. Many work sites also offered educational opportunities such as nature walks, live animal demonstrations, bird house building and storm drain marking.

Twenty-three sites worked to clean trash from watershed parks. Twenty-two sites worked to remove invasive plants. Nine sites coordinated an educational activity. Eight sites had volunteers planting native vegetation to restore the river. Of these, five sites planted riparian buffers along streams or ponds to protect the water bodies from erosion and pollutants carried by rain water. Two sites created rain gardens to

reduce the amount of rain water flowing to the river through the storm sewer. One site worked to plant a native demonstration garden, one planted a bio-swale (ditch) and one planted trees.

Seven sites managed large woody debris in the river by removing trash and opening a path for a canoe to pass through. Twenty log jams were opened. Floating wood was moved to protect river banks from erosion. Six sites maintained trails. One site installed coir logs and native vegetation along the river to stabilize 60 lineal feet of streambank.



Volunteers pull garlic mustard from a beech-maple woodland at the Kosch-Headwaters Preserve work site in Superior Township. The site is the origin of the Lower Branch of the Rouge River.

A summary of the type and quantity of trash removed during Rouge Rescue 2013 is provided in table 2 and described below. The bulk of the trash removed consisted of paper, wrappers, styrofoam, balls, bottles and cans. These everyday items are carried to the river by wind and water. This type of waste could easily be prevented from entering the river if people would properly dispose of the trash in covered trash receptacles. Other items removed were most likely dumped, intentionally, and consisted of 31 tires, 27 shopping carts, 4 mattresses, bicycles, a lazy boy chair, a hot tub, and household appliances. Our friends at Aristeo Construction removed another vehicle from the river this year. This brings the total vehicles removed to 29 ½ since 2006.

Table2: Quantity and Type of Items Removed	
Item	Qty
General trash (in cubic yards)	82
Tires	31
Shopping carts	27
Furniture/Appliances	2
Vehicles	1
Mattresses	4
Invasive plants (in cubic yards)	8,001
Native plantings	
Wildflowers/grasses	1,141
Trees	25

Invasive plant removal has become an important activity volunteers participate in during Rouge Rescue. These non-native plants are highly invasive and have advantages to enable them to out compete our native plants. They often produce an abundance of seed or have the ability to alter the soil to prevent other species from thriving. These plants generally don't have predators (insects or animals that consume them) to keep their population in check.



Volunteers remove garlic mustard from the floodplain in Detroit's Rouge Park

Garlic mustard, one of the common invaders pulled during Rouge Rescue, has several advantages over our spring wildflowers – they shoot up early in the spring and shade the ground before native wildflowers begin to come up. Each plant can produce 3,000 seeds and the seeds stay viable for years. Other invaders commonly removed during Rouge Rescue are Canada thistle, Dame's rocket, honeysuckle species, and buckthorn species. Another growing threat in the watershed is Japanese knotweed. Quick action to control this species before it completely takes over the river corridors is highly recommended.

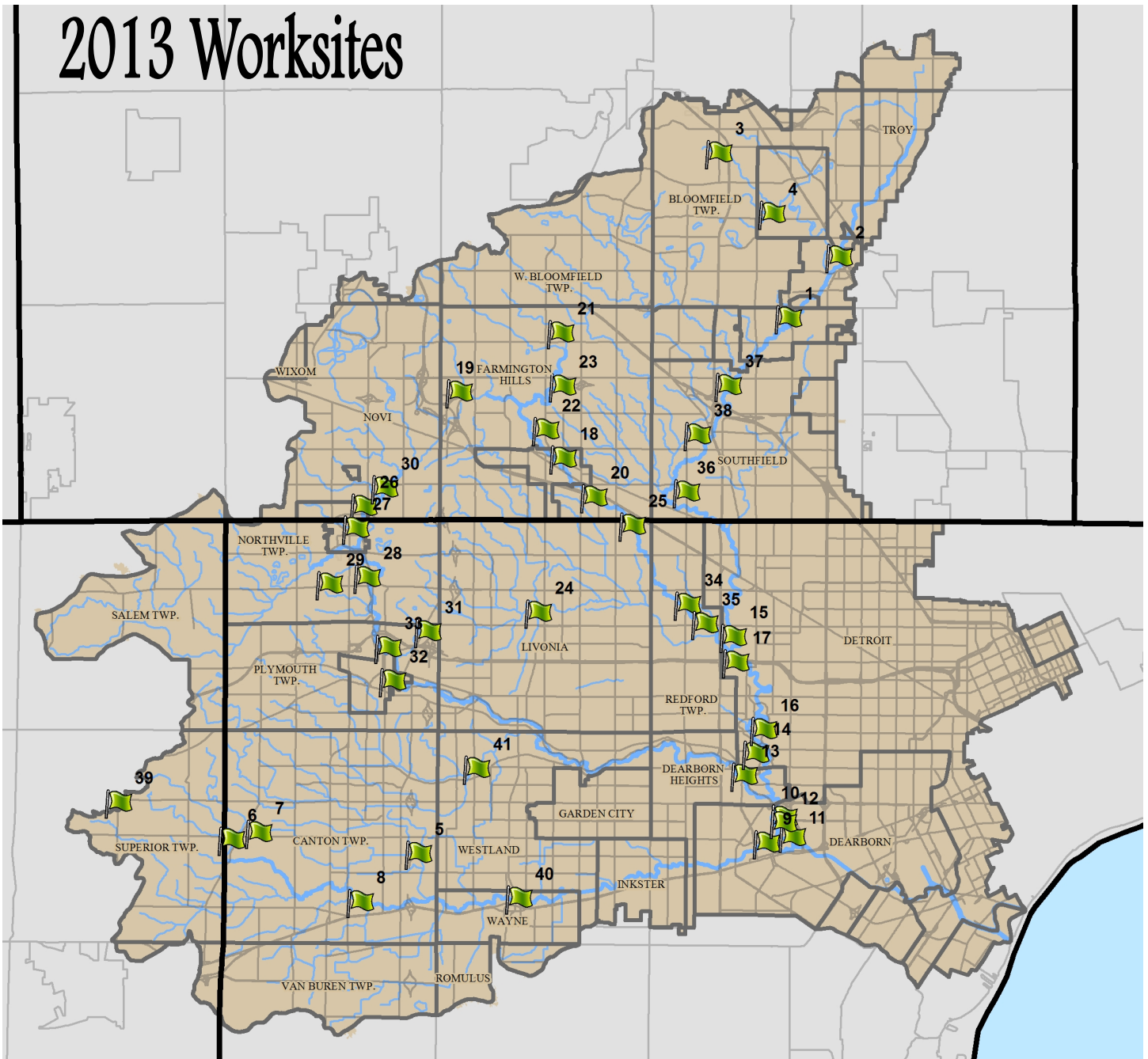


Mill Race Village volunteers stabilize the streambank and plant a native buffer to reduce erosion, improve water quality and provide wildlife habitat.

A great source of information on invasive species is the Midwest Invasive Species Information Network (www.misin.msu.edu). Available information includes species fact sheets, identification information, control methods and maps of reported species and coverage areas.

We are very grateful for the support provided by our corporate sponsors. A complete list of sponsors is on the back page of this report. We are also grateful for the in-kind contributions provided by Michigan Poly Supplies and HD Edwards Company.

2013 Worksites



Douglas Evans Nature Preserve	1	Rouge Park*	16	Bosch Plymouth	31
City Parking Lot # 6	2	St. Paul of the Cross Retreat	17	Woods Drive area of Hines Parkway	32
EL Johnson Nature Center	3	Shiawassee Park	18	Plymouth Township	33
Cranbrook Institute of Science*	4	Bosch Farmington Hills	19	Lola Valley Park	34
Meadows of Canton	5	Botsford Commons Senior Community	20	Redford Chiropractic	35
Rivers Edge	6	Canterbury Commons Subdivision	21	Beech Woods Recreation Center	36
Workman Elementary	7	Heritage Park	22	Berberian Woods	37
Lower Rouge Recreational Trail	8	Oakland Community College	23	DENSO	38
Greenway Trail	9	Coventry Gardens	24	Kosch-Headwaters Preserve	39
Henry Ford Community College	10	Moelke Park	25	Goudy Park*	40
Henry Ford Estate/EIC	11	Allen Drive Park	26	Holliday Nature Preserve	41
UM-D Env. Interpretive Center	12	Mill Race Village	27		
Outer Drive at Hines Drive	13	Bennett Arboretum	28	<i>*Multiple workdays held at site</i>	
Parkland Park	14	Northville Twp Fire Station	29		
Eliza Howell Park	15	Rotary Park	30		

Site Highlights

Beverly Hills

Douglas Evans Nature Preserve

Evergreen Road between 13 Mile and 14 Mile Roads

Coordinated by: Erin Wilks, Village of Beverly Hills

Project summary: Participants learned about the history of the Preserve and about invasive plants, including garlic mustard, Dame's rocket and buckthorn. Volunteers pulled second year garlic mustard plants and walked the exterior length of the site.

Highlights

- # Volunteers: 19
- Local groups: Berkshire Middle School, Holy Name, BLIA
- Invasive plants removed: 3.86 cubic yards of garlic mustard and Dame's rocket were removed
- Other Activities: Public education activities, nature walk
- Details: Educated volunteers on plants and walked path by Rouge

Birmingham

City Parking Lot #6

Old Woodward just north of Harmon Street

Coordinated by: Connie Folk, City of Birmingham

Project summary: Volunteers removed invasive plants along the Rouge River

Highlights

- # Volunteers: 9
- Invasive plants removed: 4.46 cubic yards of garlic mustard, Dame's rocket, buckthorn, and honeysuckle were removed from a 9,000 sq ft area

Bloomfield Hills

Cranbrook

Woodward and Lone Pine

Coordinated by: Lisa Appel, Cranbrook Institute of Science

Project summary: Invasive plants were pulled from the wooded area behind the Cranbrook Institute of Science on May 20 and 24.

Highlights

- # Volunteers: 15
- Local groups: Cranbrook high school students
- Invasive plants removed: 1.19 cubic yards of garlic mustard and Dame's rocket were removed from a 2,000 sq ft area

EL Johnson Nature Center

Franklin Road north of Long Lake Road

Coordinated by:

Dan Badgley, E.L. Johnson Nature Center

Charles Markus, Charter Township of Bloomfield

Project summary: Volunteers planted trees and shrubs as

part of a reforestation project. Volunteers also cleared invasive shrubs - several trailer loads of invasives were removed and transported to a chipping area. Six flower beds were mulched and a team removed trash from a 1.5 mile section of Franklin Road. The workday was held on April 27.

Highlights

- # Volunteers: 58
- Trash removed: Trash was removed from a 0.5 acre area
- Invasive plants removed: Several trailer loads of invasive shrubs were removed from another 0.5 acre section of the grounds

Canton

Lower Rouge Recreational Trail

Morton Taylor Road north of Michigan Avenue

Coordinated by: Anne Naszradi, Canton Township

Project summary: Celebration of the River

Highlights

- # Volunteers: 244
- Local groups: Schuler, Girl scouts, Boy scouts, Robotics club, Charter school
- Trash removed: 2.97 cubic yards of trash was removed from a 3 mile area, including 3 tires, plastic water bottles, alcohol/beer bottles, wrappers, kids toys, and fishing gear
- Invasive plants removed: 2.23 cubic yards of garlic mustard were removed from a 1,000 sq ft area along the Lower Rouge
- Plantings: Reestablished a rain garden. Planted remaining plants around Canton Twp ponds in Heritage Park. Planted 380 native flowers/grasses in a 525 sq ft area
- Other activities: Public education activities, nature walks
- Trails maintained: 3 miles
- Details: Removed trash and woody debris from trail. Public education - Leslie Science Center (Hunter w Eagle), building bird houses, scavenger hunt, word puzzles and coloring bugs for children



Birdhouse building at the Meadows of Canton work site.

Meadows Of Canton

Lotz Road between Cherry Hill and Palmer Roads

Coordinated by: Keshav Raizada, Meadows of Canton

Project summary: Around 2 mile area cleaned - from Lotz Rd to Cherry Hill and Palmer

Highlights

- # Volunteers: 112
- Trash removed: 1.34 cubic yards of trash were removed from 2 miles of river

Rivers Edge (new site)

Gold Ridge Lane and High Meadow Crossing

Coordinated by: Maureen Rice, Canton resident

Project summary: Volunteers worked in and around the river in the subdivision. Trash and construction debris was cleaned up. Trees and natural material blocking culverts was cleared away. Volunteers also mulched and trimmed trees and bushes around the river and ponds.

Highlights

- # Volunteers: 16
- Local groups: Rivers Edge subdivision residents
- Trash removed: 3.71 cubic yards of trash were removed, including construction debris and natural material
- # Log jams managed: 2
- Details: opened 2 culverts/grates that were blocked with natural debris



Volunteers weed a native prairie restoration and improve pathways at the Workman Elementary Habitat work site.

Workman Elementary Habitat

Cherry Hill and Denton Roads

Coordinated by: Lisa Bank, Workman Elementary

Project summary: Teasel, thistle and clover were removed from the schoolyard habitat paths. Volunteers also picked up trash from the schoolyard.

Highlights

- # Volunteers: 13
- Local groups: Workman PTO, local high school and middle school students
- Trash removed: 0.15 cubic yards of trash were removed from a 0.25 acre sq. ft. area, including plastic bottles and loose garbage
- Invasive plants removed: 1.19 cubic yards of teasel, thistle, and clover were removed from a 0.25 acre sq ft area

Site Highlights (continued)

Dearborn

Henry Ford Community College

Southwest of Ford and Evergreen Roads

Coordinated by: Sam Greco, Henry Ford Community College

Project summary: Removed garlic mustard, honeysuckle and buckthorn from Ford Rd overpass to campus. Painted sewer grates. Hot dog cookout for volunteers.

Highlights

- # Volunteers: 47
- Invasive plants removed: 38.91 cubic yards of garlic mustard, honeysuckle and buckthorn were removed along the bike trail from the Ford Road overpass to Kingfisher Bluff
- Other activities: Painting "Dump No Waste" near storm drains along HFCC campus drive



Pulling garlic mustard at the Henry Ford Estate and UMD grounds at the garlic mustard pull together work site.

Garlic Mustard Pull Together

Evergreen and Michigan Avenue

Coordinated by:

Martha Gruelle, Stewardship Network Lakeplain Cluster
Karen Marzonie, Henry Ford Estate
Cyndi Ross, Friends of the Rouge
Rick Simek, University of Michigan-Dearborn

Project summary: On April 27th, four organizations joined forces to pull garlic mustard from the UM-D campus and the grounds of the Henry Ford Estate.

Highlights

- # Volunteers: 27
- Local groups: See above
- Invasive plants removed: 7.43 cubic yards of garlic mustard were removed

Ford Field Greenway Trail

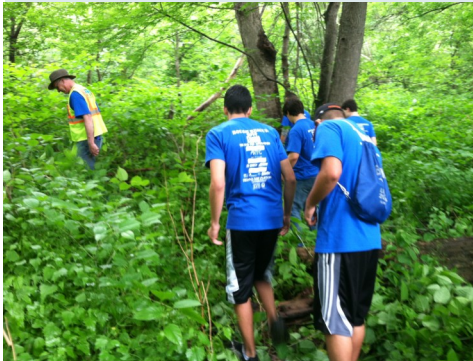
Brady Street north of Michigan Avenue

Coordinated by: Thomas Trimble, Christ Episcopal Church-Dearborn

Project summary: Picked up trash at the Rouge River Gateway Trail trailhead

Highlights

- # Volunteers: 16
- Trash removed: 1.63 cubic yards of trash removed from a 1,000 sq. ft. area, including 1 construction barrel and 2 large metal rails



Stomping Japanese knotweed along the Lower Rouge at the University of Michigan-Dearborn work site.

University of Michigan - Dearborn

Evergreen Road between Michigan Avenue and Ford Road

Coordinated by:

Sydney Parmenter, University of Michigan – Dearborn
Rick Simek, Environmental Interpretive Center
Jill Lucas, Friends of the Rouge

Project summary: Participants learned about the impact of invasive plant species. Volunteers then stomped Japanese knotweed - a pioneering technique originally used in the UK to manage the species - Rick Simek followed up with herbicide treatments later in the growing season.

Highlights

- # Volunteers: 19
- Local groups: Dearborn High Key Club (Teen Kiwanis)
- Invasive plants removed: Stomped Japanese knotweed to stress the plants and later treated with herbicide
- Other activities: Public education activities

Dearborn Heights

Outer Drive at Hines Drive

Helm's Haven Rec Area, Hines Drive

Project summary: The site was cancelled due to unforeseen circumstances. One dedicated volunteer hung out and pulled garlic mustard from the floodplain even though nobody else showed up.



Parkland Park volunteers gather for a photo

Parkland Park

Ann Arbor Trail east of Outer Drive

Coordinated by: Barbra Goryca and Steven Roberts, Dearborn Heights Watershed Stewards Commission

Project summary: Volunteers worked to maintain 30 trees the Watershed Stewards planted 2 years ago. Weeds were removed from around the trees and then wood chips were placed around them.

Highlights

- # Volunteers: 37
- Local groups: Crestwood HS National Honor Society Students
- Other activities: Woody debris management, public education activities, nature walks
- Trails maintained: 1 mile

Detroit

Rouge Park Spring Clean-up

Joy Road and Spinoza Drive

Coordinated by: Sally Petrella, Friends of Rouge Park

Project summary: Volunteers cleaned trash along Spinoza and the Brennan Pools parking lot on April 27.

Highlights

- # Volunteers: 13
- Local groups: Friends of Rouge Park, City of Detroit, Far West Civic Association, West Outer Driver Civic Association, Buffalo Soldiers Heritage Association
- Trash removed: 5.94 cubic yards of trash removed, including 2 tires, 2 mattresses, kitchen tear out, 200 sq ft tile, 5 gallon paint buckets, drywall, dead geese and 3 dead dogs



Hauling trash from the woods in Rouge Park.

Eliza Howell Park

Fenkell Street east of Telegraph Road

Coordinated by: Larry Quarles, Friends of Eliza Howell Park

Project summary: Volunteers joined the activities at the Rouge Park work site due to a low turnout at this site



A vehicle (in pieces) and other debris removed by the Aristeo Construction team fill this truck in Rouge Park.

Rouge Park

Southeast corner of Joy & Spinoza

Coordinated by: Sally Petrella, Friends of Rouge Park

Site Sponsored by: Friends of Rouge Park, City of Detroit, Detroit Aero Modelers, Greening of Detroit, Commissioner Alisha Bell

Project summary: A large group from Social Security cleaned up paint ball debris and opened a log jam; three groups pulled garlic mustard including a group from Marathon; a student in Greening of Detroit's Our Land program pulled garlic mustard and planted 7 trees; Aristeo Construction removed one car; weeded a planting at Warren Rd; replaced 6 Grow Zone signs; lunch cooked by Detroit Aero Modelers; LTU students showed their master plan ideas; Dtown Farm and Buffalo Soldiers barn had volunteers work on maintenance.

Highlights

- # Volunteers: 251
- Local groups: Friends of Rouge Park, Scouts, Social Security, Marathon
- Trash removed: 22.28 cubic yards of trash removed, including 1 vehicle, hot tub, mattress, pallets, plywood, and 2 dead dogs
- Invasive plants removed: 12.48 cubic yards of garlic mustard were removed from an 80,000 sq ft area
- Plantings: Seven large native trees were planted as part of a planting of 135 trees. Planting at Warren weeded and thinned
- Other activities: Woody debris management, public education activities, trail maintenance
- # Log jams opened: 1
- Details: 6 Grow Zone signs were replaced, one blockage on a Rouge tributary opened, trail cleaned, park master plans presented

St. Paul of the Cross Retreat

Schoolcraft Road east of Telegraph

Coordinated by: Bernadette Beach, St. Paul of the Cross Passionist Retreat & Conference Center

Project summary: Pulled and bagged lots of garlic mustard and picked up several bags of trash. Lunch was provided for all volunteers.

Highlights

- # Volunteers: 24
- Local groups: FOTR, Brightmoor residents, St Paul volunteers and staff
- Trash removed: Cement, bricks, and misc. trash
- Invasive plants removed: 1.49 cubic yards of garlic mustard were removed

Farmington

Shiawassee Park

Powers Road north of Grand River Avenue

Coordinated by: Lisa Lytle & Martha Ross, Friends of the Rouge Volunteers

Project summary: Volunteers worked to remove invasive plants from a restoration planting originally installed in 2004.

Highlights

- # Volunteers: 10
- Invasive plants removed: 7.49 cubic yards of garlic mustard, Dame's rocket, buckthorn, and honeysuckle were removed from a 6,000 sq ft area
- Details: 10 bags of garlic mustard and Dame's Rocket (herbaceous) were removed and 6 cubic yards of honeysuckle and buckthorn (woody shrubs) were cut and/or pulled from the planting

Farmington Hills

Botsford Commons Community (new site)

Tuck Road at 9 Mile Road

Coordinated by: Mike Coggins, Dave Comiskey and Maureen O'Connell, Botsford Commons Senior Community

Project summary: Established a path along the river, cleaned up trash, opened log jams.

Highlights

- # Volunteers: 15
- Local groups: Botsford Commons Community, neighbors
- Trash removed: 1.78 cubic yards of trash were removed from a 5,000 sq. ft. area.
- # Log jams opened: 2



Volunteers pull garlic mustard and create a walking trail along the Rouge River at the St. Paul of the Cross work site.

Heritage Park

Farmington Road between 10 Mile and 11 Mile Roads.

Coordinated by: Randy Lovett, City of Farmington Hills

Project summary: Volunteers were split into four groups. Group 1 pulled garlic mustard (girl scouts), Group 2 cut and chipped buckthorn and honey suckle, Group 3 planted native trees in an area buckthorn had been removed in 2012, Group 4 pulled garlic mustard along the nature trails.

Highlights

- # Volunteers: 67
- Local groups: Girl scouts, the Volunteers of Heritage Park Hill and Dale Garden Club, neighborhood associations
- Invasive plants removed: 7,813.68 cubic yards of garlic mustard were removed from a 4,000 sq ft area
- Plantings: Installed 200 trees and a 1,225 sq ft native plant demonstration garden



Volunteers gear up to collect trash at the OCC work site in Farmington Hills.

Oakland Community College Orchard Ridge

Farmington Road south of 12 Mile Road

Coordinated by: Mike Kadrofske, Oakland Community College

Project summary: Volunteers worked to clean up trash. Styrofoam, plastic jugs, paper products were some of the common items removed from the stream and bank areas. Volunteers also worked to removed invasive plants and filled approximately 20 bags with invasive plants.

Highlights

- # Volunteers: 28
- Trash removed: 2.97 cubic yards of trash removed from 0.5 Mile section Minnow Creek, including styrofoam, plastic jugs, and paper products
- Invasive plants removed: 2.97 cubic yards of garlic mustard and phragmites were removed

Canterbury Commons Subdivision

13 Mile Road east of Farmington Road

Coordinated by: Robert Elliott, Canterbury Commons HOA

Project summary: Volunteers weeded the streambank stabilization planting installed with Friends of the Rouge last fall and cleaned trash from the stream.

Site Highlights (continued)

Highlights

- # Volunteers: 3
- Trash removed: Plastic bags, plastic bottles and small paper debris were removed

Bosch Builds Workday (new site)

12 Mile and Halsted Roads

Coordinated by: Pascale Fallot, Robert Bosch, LLC

Project summary: Removed Canada thistle, garbage and garlic mustard around the east side of the Bosch building and into the ravine.

Highlights

- # Volunteers: 9
- Trash removed: 0.6 cubic yards of trash removed, including glass, battery, foam, styrofoam, plastic and bike chain
- Invasive plants removed: 5.05 cubic yards of garlic mustard and Canada thistle were removed

Livonia

Coventry Gardens Park

Farmington Road and 5 Mile Road

Coordinated by: Chuck Eastman, Coventry Gardens Improvement Association

Project summary: Good weather, lots of energy, no one fell in the water, a good day

Highlights

- # Volunteers: 12
- Trash removed: 0.45 cubic yards of trash removed, including beer bottles and pop cans
- Invasive plants removed: 3.71 cubic yards of garlic mustard were removed

Moelke Park

Seven Mile Road west of Inkster Road

Coordinated by: Doug Moore & Amy Walker, City of Livonia

Project summary: Moved to rain day make-up on 6/8/13. 6/1/13 was scheduled date and rain/high water caused issues. Picked up trash from 7 Mile to 8 Mile Rds; planted natives and opened log jams

Highlights

- # Volunteers: 25
- Trash removed: 5.97 cubic yards of trash were removed from 0.75 mile of river, including styrofoam, lumber, general trash and sporting balls
- Plantings: Planted 100 native wildflowers along the Upper Rouge to improve the riparian buffer
- Other activities: Woody debris management
- # Log jams managed: 2

Northville

Allen Drive Park

8 Mile and Novi Roads

Coordinated by: Callie Milroy and Scotti Martin Dunn, City of Northville Residents

Project summary: Removed garlic mustard, buckthorn and trash from a portion of Allen Drive Park. Followed by neighborhood pot luck and bird house building, painting and erecting. A donation from Hiller's Market allowed organizers to purchase water for the work site.

Highlights

- # Volunteers: 18
- Local groups: Neighbors and relatives of neighbors
- Trash removed: 0.15 cubic yards of trash removed, including paper waste, cans, and bottles
- Invasive plants removed: 3.27 cubic yards of garlic mustard were removed
- Other activities: Bird house building, painting and erecting. Assisted children with 6 new bird house builds and repurposed 2 old bird houses.



Young volunteers pull garlic mustard from the river corridor at the Allen Drive Park work sites in Northville.

Mill Race Village

Griswold north of 7 Mile Road

Coordinated by: Edward Gabrys and Luci Klinkhamer, Northville Historical Society

Project summary: Placed coir log to prevent erosion and created a buffer zone of native plantings

Highlights

- # Volunteers: 13
- Local groups: Northville Historical Society
- Trash removed: 0.15 cubic yards of trash was removed
- Invasive plants removed: 0.74 cubic yards of invasive plant material were removed
- Plantings: Installed 10 shrubs and 50 wildflowers and grasses to create a 250 sq ft riparian buffer
- Bank stabilization: 60 lineal feet of bank stabilized with coir logs and plantings



Volunteers stabilize the eroding streambank with coir logs and plant a buffer of native wildflowers, shrubs and grasses at the Historic Mill Race Village work site

Northville Township

Bennett Arboretum

Hines Drive south of 7 Mile Road

Coordinated by: Wayne County Commissioner Lora Cox

Project summary: Volunteers removed trash and weeded a native grow zone

Highlights

- # Volunteers: 50

Northville Twp Fire Station (new site)

Six Mile and Sheldon Roads

Coordinated by: Jill Rickard & Tom Casari, Northville Township

Project summary: Volunteers worked to install a rain garden at the new fire station.

Highlights

- # Volunteers: 27
- Local groups: Northville High School Honor Society
- Plantings: Installed a 400 sq ft rain garden. Eight trees/shrubs and 107 flowers/grasses were planted into the garden.
- Other activities: Public education activities
- Details: Twp hosted a rain garden seminar in May



Volunteers planting a rain garden at the Northville Twp Fire Station were real troopers. The heavy rain before planting day made for a soggy work site.

Novi

Rotary Park

9 Mile Road between Novi and Meadowbrook Roads

Coordinated by: Wendy DuVall, City of Novi, Parks, Recreation & Cultural Services

Project summary: The river was too high and running too fast to work in. Volunteers removed trash, pulled weeds, planted flowers and maintained trails.

Highlights

- # Volunteers: 68
- Local groups: Rotary Club, Togrum, Beautification Commission, Frog Force, Troop 1826, Pack 239, Girl Scouts, Individuals
- Trash removed: 2.82 cubic yards of trash were removed from a 66 acre area
- Plantings: Installed a 400 sq ft bio-swale with 8 flats of flowers
- Trails maintained: 1 mile

Plymouth

Woods Drive Area of Hines Parkway

Hines Drive west of Haggerty Road

Coordinated by: Adam Gerlach, City of Plymouth

Project summary: The site was cancelled the day before the event due to high water and the poor weather forecast

Plymouth Township

Pointe Park

Ann Arbor Road and Ann Arbor Trail

Coordinated by: Susan Vignoe, Charter Township of Plymouth

Site Sponsored by: AISIN

Project summary: Native species planting along Tyler Creek

Highlights

- # Volunteers: 22
- Local groups: AISIN Associates, FOTR Member
- Trash removed: 0.30 cubic yards of trash were removed from the east shore of Newburgh Lake along Newburgh Road.
- Plantings: 51 plants were installed to create a buffer along Tyler Creek.



Bosch employees learn about the environmental work others have done at the Plymouth campus.

Bosch Builds Workday (new site)

5 Mile and Haggerty Roads

Coordinated by: Todd Brigmon, Robert Bosch, LLC

Project summary: A walk was held to inform Bosch Associates of the protected wetlands on the grounds and the value/benefits these areas provide. Employees learned about the great work the Bosch green team has completed including creating habitat for bees, installing nesting boxes for birds and wood ducks and creating an organic vegetable garden.

Highlights

- # Volunteers: 9
- Trash removed: 1.34 cubic yards of trash was removed from the Plymouth campus.
- Invasive plants removed: 0.74 cubic yards of garlic mustard, Canada thistle were removed
- Other Activities: Educational walk



Volunteers remove trash and garlic mustard from the floodplain in Redford Twp.

Redford

Lola Valley

Beech Daly south of 6 Mile Road

Coordinated by: Erin Cassidy & Justin Wehrheim, Friends of the Rouge

Project summary: Volunteers cleaned up litter and pulled garlic mustard. Work was done on Redford Twp's property at Woodbine and Graham. There was also a group that picked up litter around Lola Valley in the disc golf course.

Highlights

- # Volunteers: 38
- Local groups: Boy Scouts, Hilbert school teacher and students
- Trash removed: 1.49 cubic yards of trash removed from a 13.5 acre area, including 1 tire, 1 shopping cart and a garbage can
- Invasive plants removed: 4.75 cubic yards of garlic mustard were removed from a 0.75 acre area
- Other activities: Public education activities
- Details: Redford Twp provided informational material

Redford Chiropractic (new site)

5 Mile Road west of Telegraph Road

Coordinated by: Dr. Kim M. Zell, Redford Chiropractic

Project summary: Volunteers cleaned up trash and opened a large log jam and placed the wood along the bank to reduce erosion.

Highlights

- # Volunteers: 22
- Trash removed: 2.82 cubic yards of trash removed, including 1 tire, pvc pipe, plastic signs, glass, chair, plywood, blanket, and chair cushion
- Bank stabilization: 40 lineal feet stabilized with woody debris
- # Log jams managed: 2

Southfield

Berberian Woods

12 Mile and Telegraph Road

Coordinated by: Gail Barber, Southfield Resident

Supported by: Six Rivers Regional Land Conservancy & Southfield Parks and Recreation

Project summary: Volunteers pulled invasive plants from the Berberian Woods section of the Valley Woods Nature Preserve

Highlights

- # Volunteers: 29
- Local groups: DENSO, Southfield
- Invasive plants removed: 28.96 cubic yards of garlic mustard, Dame's rocket, and honeysuckle were removed from a 5 acre area



DENSO associates along with volunteers from the public celebrate their work of removing nearly 30 cubic yards of invasive plants from the Berberian Woods section of the Valley Woods Nature Preserve in Southfield. Hip Hip Hooray!

Beech Woods Recreation Center & DENSO Corporate Campus

Beech Road at 9 Mile & 10 Mile and Telegraph Road

Coordinated by:

Brandy Siedlaczek, City of Southfield

Melissa Smith, DENSO International America, Inc

Project summary: Volunteers worked to remove invasive plants from sites in Southfield and the DENSO corporate campus. A native plant garden was installed on the DENSO campus. Public education activities were also coordinated at the DENSO work site and children painted bird, bat and owl boxes.

Highlights

- # Volunteers: 143
- Local groups: DENSO, Korean Presbyterian Church
- Invasive plants removed: 34.61 cubic yards of garlic mustard were removed
- Plantings: Installed a Native Plant Garden
- Other Activities: Public education activities
- Details: Bird/bat box: 9 bird, 3 owl, 6 bat

Site Highlights (continued)



Denso volunteers create a native wildflower garden at their corporate headquarters in Southfield.

Superior Twp

Kosch-Headwaters Preserve

Ford and Prospect Roads.

Coordinated by: Carla Bisaro, Southeast Michigan Land Conservancy

Site Sponsored by: Southeast Michigan Land Conservancy, Superior Land Conservancy Chapter and Washtenaw County Parks and Rec Commission

Project summary: Washtenaw County Parks and Rec. naturalist gave background on garlic mustard and showed features of the maple/beech forest and why we seek to preserve it. Volunteers worked to pull garlic mustard.

Highlights

- # Volunteers: 14
- Local groups: Southeast Michigan Land Conservancy, Superior Land Conservancy, Girl Scouts, Archive Charter Academy
- Invasive plants removed: 2.08 cubic yards of garlic mustard were removed
- Details: Because of previous years' efforts, garlic mustard was thin, but spread out - we covered a lot of area
- Other activities: Public education activities, nature walk



Participants at the Kosch-Headwaters Preserve work site were treated to an educational walk in the beech-maple woodland in Superior Township.

Wayne

Goudy Park

Wayne Road and Michigan Avenue

Coordinated by: Kurt Kuban, Resident of Wayne

Site Sponsored by: Wayne Rotary Club

Project summary: The work occurred over two days (6/1 and 6/8). The first day volunteers pulled invasives from the stormwater basins at city hall. The second day a group of about 15 worked to open log jams between Newburgh and Wayne roads. Other volunteers worked to remove trash and open log jams between Elizabeth and Wayne roads.

Highlights

- # Volunteers: 129
- Local groups: Boy scouts, PD Graham Elementary, local volunteers, MPC
- Trash removed: 14.46 cubic yards of trash were removed from 1/2 mile of river, including 24 tires, 20+ shopping carts, bikes, tar mixing tub, lots of bottles, lawn blower, and a large steel rail that was pulled out by DPW
- Invasive plants removed: 4.46 cubic yards of garlic mustard, honeysuckle, and other invasives were removed from stormwater basins
- Other activities: Woody debris management
- Trails maintained: 1/2 mile
- # Log jams managed: 10
- Details: Had a great crew opening log jams between Newburgh/Wayne Roads



Nearly 15 cubic yards of trash was removed from the river in Wayne—including 24 tires and 20 shopping carts!



Volunteers improve the appearance of the river by painting the Wayne Road bridge in the Holliday Nature Preserve.

Westland

Holliday Nature Preserve

Wayne Road south of Joy Road

Coordinated by:
Kevin Buford, City of Westland
Bill Craig, Holliday Nature Preserve Association

Project summary: Trash cleanup, woody debris management and painted over graffiti on Wayne Road bridge. (1,800 sq ft)

Highlights

- # Volunteers: 58
- Trash removed: 8.91 cubic yards of trash removed, including 6 Shopping carts, Lazy Boy chair, tent, blankets, bed springs, car seat, plywood, stroller, folding chair, glass bottles, plastic bottles, and styrofoam
- Invasive plants removed: 15.45 cubic yards of garlic mustard (bags), honeysuckle and buckthorn (chipped) were removed from a 1,000 sq ft area
- Other activities: Woody debris management, painting over graffiti
- # Log jams managed: 1



Site Coordinator Larry Quarles and wife Nancy staff the registration table at the Eliza Howell Park work site.



I hope that when my life ends,
I would have added
a little beauty, perception,
and quality for those who follow

Jacob Lawrence, American artist



Your participation in Rouge Rescue will have
a lasting impact and will improve the
Rouge River...for today and tomorrow.



Thank you Sponsors

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Rouge Rescue was celebrated at the Redford Twp. Memorial Day Parade, thanks to FOTR Member Michael Stack.

Also funded by

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Fred A. and Barbara M.
Erb Family Foundation

Friends of the Rouge extends a heartfelt thank you to all who participated in Rouge Rescue 2013! The Rouge River is flowing a little cleaner because of you.

Join us for Rouge Rescue 2014 ~ Saturday, May 17th

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To learn about sponsorship and volunteer opportunities contact
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