

Friends of the ROUGE



2019 ANNUAL REPORT

LEADERSHIP REPORT

Dear Friends,

Reflecting on the last decade, Friends of the Rouge has been backed by an incredible host of partners to make the restoration of the Rouge so tangible. We see ourselves as the voice piece of the Rouge, honoring all who have been part of telling the story of a river's rebirth—yet none of this work would be possible without YOUR support.

Fifty years after the Rouge River caught fire, on October 9, 2019 we stood with many other collaborating partners to break ground on a brand new park—Fort Street Bridge Park. A decade in the making and led by the Fort Rouge Gateway Partnership, this park commemorates the 1932 Ford Hunger March—but with a colorful historical complexity that intertwines the labor movement and the environmental movement so deeply their stories cannot be told alone. The fire on the Rouge led Congressman John D. Dingell to help create and pass the 1972 Clean Water Act environmental legislation that set in motion cleanup efforts so that today—we can now see ourselves kayaking on a river that was once on fire.

Congresswomen Rashida Talib and Debbie Dingell stood with us and spoke about the park as a symbol for rebirth and as a focal point for the community to link back to itself through land and water. Congresswoman Dingell said she had never felt so close to John (late Congressman and husband) as she did when kayaking the rouge just the day before. This park stands for hope. Not just for the community where it grows, but for all of SE Michigan—as we reinvent ourselves as a more connected and conscious community.

The culminating events to celebrate fifty years of recovery ignited our media attention in 2019. With assistance from our newly formed Earned Media collaborative with sister watershed groups—Friends of the Detroit River, Huron River Watershed Council and the Clinton River Watershed Council—we engaged with media firm Robar/Near Perfect Media to leverage 170 media hits in the Rouge alone. This equated to 113 million impressions and nearly \$1 million in earned media. This staggering escalation of regional and national attention put Friends of the Rouge at the forefront of mind for state and national leadership, inviting us to speak at the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative announcement on Belle Isle, to have a voice in priority setting conversations with elected officials including the Lieutenant Gilchrist Listening Tour in Dearborn, and on the panel for the Congresswoman Debbie Dingell Environmental Town Hall.

Friends of the Rouge took several giant leaps for the Rouge in 2019. Our newly formalized Lower Rouge River Water Trail Leadership Committee adopted a long term-living strategic document to guide the development of the newest water trail in Southeast Michigan. Most importantly, we methodically put our thoughts together in an overall comprehensive strategic plan for the entire organization (overdue for more than a decade), with input from staff, board, membership, community partners alike. This monumental step forward has set the course for the next five years.

As we look to 2020, riding on the wave of the past decade, we have begun revising all our programs holistically via a lens of “Education” “Restoration” and “Monitoring” rather than individual programs, reviewing the scope of services we currently offer—and what could be added to our menu of services to the watershed to meet our mission. Our next steps include partnering with our sister watershed groups to conduct Diversity, Equity and Inclusion trainings and organizational assessments, with a plan to integrate these principles deeply into the core of our work. We strive to uphold our core values in doing a better job recruiting and retaining membership, leadership and staff who reflect the diversity of the communities in which we serve. We believe that the entire community benefits when everyone has equal access to information, programs, services and activities. With that work, we also plan to focus more deeply on board retention, recruitment, engagement and training to understand what skills board members bring to the table—and what skill sets we need to better foster.

We have exciting opportunities approaching with our Rouge River Water Trail to move conceptual plans for ADA accessible launches forward to engineering and construction, and integrate non-motorized land-based trails into a “Trails Department.” We're also looking to develop a Trail Towns program that integrates all green and blue ways into economic redevelopment strategies for the ten communities along the Lower Rouge River Water Trail integrated into the Rouge Gateway Trail and Lower Rouge Greenway Trail.

Thanks to all of YOU, Friends of the Rouge has flowed into the second decade of the century, the current in our favor, with a solid foundation for many exciting new endeavors. After numerous decades with a steady boat, we boldly move forward toward a new and bright horizon. We look forward to having you join us.

Warmest wishes,

Marie McCormick
Executive Director

THE MISSION OF FRIENDS OF THE ROUGE IS TO
RESTORE, PROTECT AND ENHANCE THE ROUGE
RIVER WATERSHED THROUGH STEWARDSHIP,
EDUCATION AND COLLABORATION

Friends of the Rouge's restoration programs engaged 2,200 people in activities to improve the Rouge River through Rouge Rescue, Rain Gardens to the Rescue, Land + Water Works, and Rouge River Green Infrastructure Education, Installation and Marketing programs in 2019. The latter three programs focused on rain garden education and installation resulted in the installation of 35 rain gardens that manage nearly 72,000 gallons of the first inch of rainfall every time it rains.



Our annual river clean up event, Rouge Rescue, attracted just over 1300 volunteers who participated in river cleanup and stewardship projects over 8 work days, at 31 sites, in 18 communities across the Rouge River watershed. Activities were scheduled on multiple dates from late April to early June. The main event was held on May 18, with 22 sites working on this day. Four sites held early events, five sites held later events, and three sites were canceled. Early morning rain threatened work on May 18, but all events went on as planned. The month of May began with heavy flooding in watershed communities, with the third wettest April on record for the area according to the National Weather Service.

New this year was the creation of a system for displaying and organizing the Rouge Rescue site list on the FOTR website. The new system allowed volunteers to search by location or by activity to find their preferred site.

Below is a summary of the great work carried out by our volunteers through Rouge Rescue.

Trash removal

Volunteers filled 580 bags, equivalent to 52.5 cubic yards, of trash from the watershed at 21 cleanup sites. Items removed included a radio flyer wagon, a snowboard, a grill, a hose, an oil drum, sports balls, painting supplies, lawn chairs, 19 tires, 7 TVs, and 2 car bumpers. Plastic bottles and wrappers are the most common items picked up. According to American Rivers, plastic bottles take 500 to 1,000 years to break down. During that time, they release chemicals and break down into smaller pieces.

Invasive plant control

Twenty (20) Rouge Rescue sites worked to control glossy



and common buckthorn, garlic mustard, honeysuckle, Dame's Rocket, and Narrowleaf bittercress. In total they removed 9,113 cubic yards of invasive plant material from our parks and nature preserves.

Native plantings

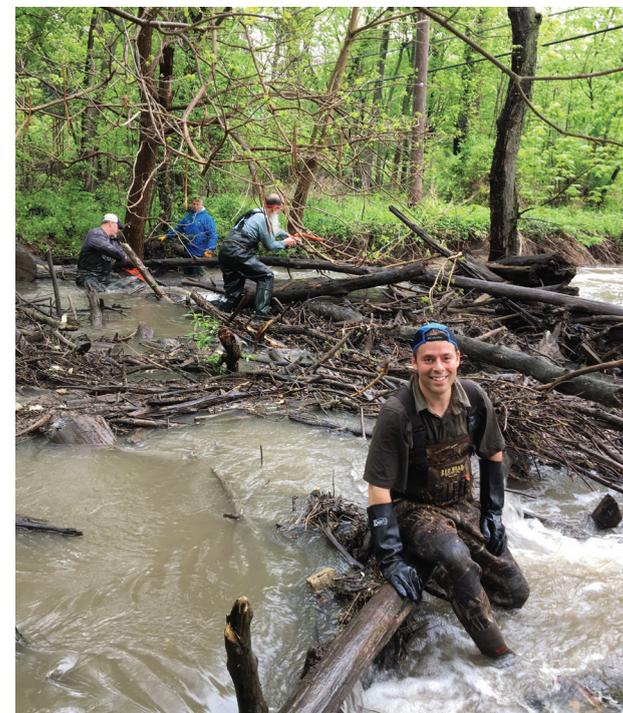
Rouge Rescue 2019 engaged volunteers in planting native flowers, grasses, shrubs, and trees at 13 work sites. These sites planted 1,550 native flowers and grasses and 39 trees and shrubs. Two sites planted native species in local cemeteries to honor veteran graves, beautify the grounds, and create habitat. A few of the native species planted were butterfly weed, swamp milkweed, Joe-pye weed, blue lobelia, bee balm, marsh blazing star, wild strawberry, cardinal flower, columbine, Indian grass, and purple coneflower.

Trail maintenance

This year, 6 sites worked to maintain 3,800 lineal feet of trails. Most sites working on trails spread fresh wood chips on existing paths. In Detroit's Rouge Park volunteers also installed wooden walkways.

Cleaning and opening log jams

Six (6) log jams were cleaned and opened using the Woody Debris Management 101 technique, where large log jams are cleared of trash and man-made debris and loose or floating branches and sticks are removed. These methods are designed to preserve the benefits for fish and wildlife.



Top: Mike Rudell on a log jam at Holliday Nature Preserve on the middle Rouge River. Center: Volunteers pull trash from Main branch at Eliza Howell. Right, in sidebar: Volunteers at Oak Grove AME Church planting. Opposite page: 355 volunteers at Rouge Park.



FOTR is part of a coalition made up of 9 non-profit organizations, led by Detroit Future City, which provides Detroit residents with

the resources needed to become better stewards of their environment. Through this work Friends of the Rouge and Sierra Club coordinate workshops, training and rain garden plantings. The Land + Water Works coalition and programming is generously funded by the Fred A. and Barbara M. Erb Family Foundation.

Workshops & Demonstration Rain Gardens

Friends of the Rouge and Sierra Club partner to provide non-profit and faith-based organizations rain garden education and installation through the LWW Coalition. Cristo Rey High School hosted a series of workshops, which included the installation of a 700 sq. ft. rain garden that has the capacity to manage just under a 2-inch rain event at 4,323 gallons. Oak Grove African Methodist Episcopal Church also hosted the workshop series and received two rain gardens that manage approximately 4,000 gallons every time it rains.

Ambassador Training

FOTR and other coalition members provide training for volunteers who are trained to serve the community as Land + Water Works Ambassadors. FOTR introduces them to nonpoint pollution and combined sewer over flows, teaches about rain gardens as a solution and provides classes on disconnecting downspouts. FOTR purchased 2 Enviroscape models and developed training material for LWW Ambassadors. This tool enables Ambassadors to share information about point and nonpoint pollution within the community.





Rain Gardens Continue to Rescue the Rouge and Detroit Rivers

Our 6th annual Rain Gardens to the Rescue program, generously funded by the Fred A. and Barbara M. Erb Family Foundation, engaged 270 Detroit residents and professionals working in Detroit in learning and expanding awareness about stormwater issues, nature based solutions, and the water quality, economic, human and community benefits these solutions provide. The work was coordinated in collaboration with the Sierra Club of Michigan.

Green Your Neighborhood Public Forum

This public seminar kicked off the Rain Gardens to the Rescue program for 2019. Attendees learned about the correlation between green infrastructure (greenspace) and improved public health by Dr. Kathleen Wolf of the University of Washington, College of the Environment, sensor technology to better manage our water infrastructure from Dr. Branko Kerkez from the University of Michigan and Sundeep Varma, a Ph.D. Student at Wayne State University. Breakout sessions provided actionable steps to living more sustainably. These sessions were led by partner organizations including Keep Growing Detroit, National Wildlife Federation, Detroit Audubon, and more.

Training Workshops

Twelve Detroit residents participated in the RGttr workshop series to learn all about rain gardens and the steps to design and create a garden of their own.

Rain Garden Installation

170 participants worked to create 10 rain gardens in Detroit's east-side neighborhoods. The gardens prevent 16,700 gallons of rain water from entering Detroit's combined sewer system every time it rains.

Storm Water Specialist Training

FOTR and Sierra Club piloted a workforce development training course in 2019. Nine people completed the 8 week/16 class course designed to provide skills to design, install, and maintain rain gardens. One graduate was hired by U of M to install monitors at 7 RGttr and Land + Water Works rain garden sites.

Tours

A green infrastructure bus tour was held on August 10. Participants visited residential rain gardens as well as larger-scale bio-retention projects in public parks and Detroit businesses.

*Report Your Rain Garden or Rain Barrel!
If you have a rain barrel or rain garden, report your efforts so that we can include it as we track progress towards the 1,000 rain garden goal. Visit TheRouge.org/rainsmart for more!*

Rain Garden Educational Signage

Friends of the Rouge received funding from The Nature Conservancy to design and install interpretive signage at 8 rain garden demonstration sites installed through the Land + Water Works program. The signs inform passersby about rain gardens and the benefits they provide. FOTR facilitated input sessions with the host sites and members of the L+WW Coalition. Signage unveiling events were held following the completion of the project at St. Suzanne Cody Rouge Community Resource Center and Cristo Rey High School. 75 people participated in the design process and unveiling events.

Rouge River Green Infrastructure Education, Installation and Marketing

In 2019 Friends of the Rouge completed a three-year project funded by Michigan's Environment, Great Lakes & Energy Nonpoint Source Program. Over three years, the work engaged 1,189 people in learning about rain gardens, as well as the installation of nine public and nine residential demonstration rain gardens.

Education

Friends of the Rouge held *Rain Gardens 101: Get Your Lawn a Job* in Westland. Thirty-eight residents participated in a fun orientation and roadmap to building a rain garden at their own homes, using playdough as a medium to showcase the components of a garden plan.

Master Rain Gardener Program

Friends of the Rouge held the Rouge's second-ever Master Rain Gardener Training Program, engaging 24 participants in the art of rain garden design. The Master Rain Gardener Training Program began in Washtenaw County in 2010, developed by Susan Bryan, Harry Sheehan, and Shannan Gibb-Randall. Since that time, hundreds of gardeners have earned certification as a Master Rain Gardener and built beautiful rain gardens! Rain Gardens filter and cool stormwater so that our streams and rivers run clean. To

date, Rouge Master Rain Gardener trainees have designed and built 6 rain gardens.

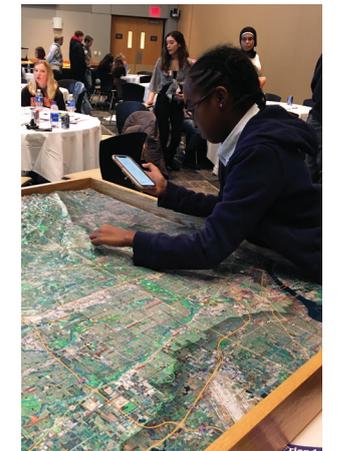
Installations

Working with over 275 volunteers in May and June of 2019, Friends of the Rouge installed 15 rain gardens at both public sites and private residences. Public sites included: Salem Township Hall, Plymouth Township Park (*see the before, during and after below!*), Moraine Elementary School, and PARC (Plymouth Arts and Recreation Complex). 2018 installations included rain gardens at the Plymouth Municipal Yard, PCEP Canton High School, and Hulsing Elementary School. Altogether, these rain gardens soak up just shy of 50,000 gallons of water each time it rains.

Marketing

In 2018, Friends of the Rouge launched the RainSmart campaign, which set the goal of 1,000 rain gardens and 6,000 rain barrels for the Rouge by 2025 (per the watershed management plan). The RainSmart website (TheRouge.org/rainsmart) provides a wealth of resources, including design manuals, garden photos, plant lists, a rain garden professionals list, as well as a Facebook group, to help you on your journey to build a rain garden.





Rouge Education Project Report and Updates

The Rouge Education Project (REP) is a school-based environmental education program involving elementary, middle, and high schools from across southeastern Michigan. Students perform hands-on scientific exploration of the Rouge River to determine overall stream health; including the evaluation of chemical, biological, and physical parameters of water quality. Students are further encouraged to take action to restore and protect the river based on their results.

Throughout 2019, the REP worked with a total of 2,631 students and 61 teachers from 24 schools throughout Metro-Detroit. Monitoring events occurred throughout the spring and fall thanks to the REP's amazing dedicated teachers and a small army of volunteers.

Partnerships grew to continue our work with Earth Force, whose mission is to engage young people as active citizens who improve the environment and their communities now and in the future. The Program began a formal partnership with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Association's Bay Watershed Education & Training Program (NOAA B-WET) and the United States Forest Service (USFS), and continued our work with the Aerokats & Rover Education Network (AREN)—an extension of the Global Learning and Observations to Benefit the Environment (GLOBE) program through the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA). Working with these organizations helped strengthen program content and brought in experts to meet our students during the Student Symposium.

After more than a decade, a Student Symposium was held in November at Schoolcraft College's VisTaTech Center in

Livonia. This symposium was designed for students to interact, share, reflect, and explore. Students met each other, presented on their monitoring findings, met with experts working in the environmental field, reviewed data, and explored what it all meant. They identified issues in their community, and thought more about what they could do or who they could talk to about it to learn more. It was an inspiring event, and put their monitoring event in a larger context which gave the experience more meaning.

The REP also underwent a shift in timeline and offered a new Returning Teacher Refresher course over the summer, as well as a new Summer Institute for both new and returning teachers. This changed focus from spring to fall monitoring—a shift which gave new teachers more time to learn the content, and students more time throughout the school year to reflect on their monitoring field trip and come up with projects to address issues they identified.

In addition to putting on a suite of training workshops and facilitating monitoring events, the Program Manager also organized a monitoring day for a STEAM Camp in the summer—a program at St. Suzanne's in Detroit for teens. Students visited Scout Hollow at Rouge Park in Detroit and learned how to monitor water quality.

It is an exciting time for the REP as we continue to further our mission by working with young people. Empowering students with knowledge and tools to generate positive change in their communities is a skill they will carry with them through the rest of their lives.

Volunteer Monitoring Report

BUG HUNTS

Benthic Macroinvertebrate Monitoring (Bug Hunts) are used to track stream health by assessing the type and abundance of aquatic insects, clams, snails, etc. that live in the streambed. Volunteers participate at **Bug Hunts** held in the spring and fall and a **Winter Stonefly Search**. Experienced volunteers are trained as team leaders to lead at individual sites. Additional sites are sampled by Wayne County, Susan Thompson, Schoolcraft College, and Wayne State students. FOTR data is used by the state and local communities.

2019 Winter Stonefly Search: We created a new event in 2019 called “Stonefly Refresher” to give Team Leaders and other volunteers an opportunity to practice or learn stonefly identification prior to the Stonefly Search. Held in the FOTR Bosch Lab, 20 people attended and gave positive reviews. The January 26 Stonefly Search, held at the PARC Building for the first time, had seventy-nine volunteers despite temperatures in the teens. Eleven teams sampled 21 sites. Stoneflies were found at fourteen of the 33 sites (42%). All fourteen sites had slender winter stoneflies (Capniidae). One site also had Perlodids.

2019 Spring Bug Hunt: The Spring Bug Hunt was not held in 2019 due to lack of funding. FOTR worked with Wayne County Department of Public Services to survey a minimal number of sites with the assistance of six FOTR volunteers. A total of 16 sites were sampled, much reduced from the prior year’s 48 sites, and 3-5 sites were sampled for each river branch. Most sites scored in the Fair (28) range with 81% stable and 19% declining. The Middle branch had a positive trend in scores; no other subwatershed or branch had any significant trend.

2019 Fall Bug Hunt: Three new Team Leaders were recruited and well trained prior to the Fall Bug hunt. Hosted at Schoolcraft College again, seventy-six volunteers in ten teams participated in the October 19 Fall Bug Hunt. A total of 31 sites were sampled including partner data. Most sites scored in the Fair (28) range and 84% were stable, 13% were improving, and 3% were declining. Long term trends show improving scores for the Middle 3 subwatershed and Johnson Creek and declining scores in the Main 1-2, Lower 1 and Upper branches.

Left, top: 84 volunteers attended the Frog and Toad Survey Group Listen in April. Center: Fall Identification Night. Bottom: Winter Stonefly Search Team looks through trays. Opposite: New Team Leader Trainees Molly and Steve pick trays for bugs.



FROG & TOAD SURVEY

This is a listening survey in which volunteers track frog and toad presence through listening surveys. Volunteers are assigned blocks where they keep track of what species are calling. Due to lack of funding, only one training workshop was held with 53 attendees. A Group Listen was held in West Bloomfield on April 26 with 84 attendees. Seventy four veteran surveyors signed up again for a total of 121 surveyors assigned to 176 blocks.

Sixty survey teams submitted data for a total of 100 survey blocks. An average of 3.6 species were heard per block. Two of the early calling species (wood frog and spring peeper) were calling in a lower percentage of blocks. All the later calling species and American toads were heard in a larger percentage of blocks. The Middle 1 and Lower 1 subwatersheds both had the highest diversity of species calling with an average of 4.4 and 4.1 species calling per block.

FISH MONITORING

Fish seining surveys have been overseen by FOTR since 2012 and we have the most up-to-date data on Rouge River fish since 1998. Due to lack of funding this year, a minimal number of sites were sampled. FOTR monitored 14 sites on 7 survey days with volunteers contributing 244

hours of time. We continued to track the movement of the invasive round goby on the Lower Rouge, checked for the endangered redbreast dace, and checked the newly opened Henry Ford Oxbow in two places.

We sampled nine sites on the Lower in 2019 and found no round goby (*Neogobius melanostomus*) upstream of Beck Road on either the Lower branch or Fowler Creek and low numbers of johnny darter (*Etheostoma nigrum*) at sites with round goby. The invasive round goby moved up the Lower Rouge from the Wayne Road Dam beginning in 2012 and reached Beck Road in 2016. Our results show that once a goby is first found at a site, the native johnny darter population disappears almost completely in three years.

No redbreast dace (*Clinostomus elongatus*) were found at Heritage Park. We have not found this endangered species since 2012. We checked Lola Valley for rainbow darters, a sensitive species found upstream but found none.

The Oxbow at the Henry Ford was partially opened on the north upstream end this year. We sampled on both sides of the oxbow this year as well as in 2017. In comparison to 2017, more species and more total fish were found on the newly opened section this year although 200 of the 393 fish were round goby.



Rouge River Water Trail Gains Traction with Increased Media Coverage

Detailed plans for the Lower Rouge River Water Trail, a 29 mile route that begins in Canton and travels through the cities of Wayne, Westland, Inkster, Dearborn Heights, Dearborn, Allen Park, Melvindale, Detroit and River Rouge were developed and approved in 2019. Public Safety Officers provided their expertise at a Safety Summit held in February in Inkster and a small group of them assisted in the development of a Safety Plan for the trail as well. Residents gave their feedback on the Strategic Plan draft at an open house in April in Westland, and then both plans were officially approved by the Lower Rouge River Water Trail Leadership Committee. Work then began on the design for a pilot signage plan and launch sites in

Melvindale and River Rouge.

The trail received far more media coverage in 2019 than ever before and many people paddled on the Rouge. Two public trips were held: a kayak trip on the industrial stretch with 25 paddlers, and a canoe trip on the lower branch with 27 paddlers after a work day to open logjams was held. Fox 2 News reporter Jack Nissen, Michigan Radio's Lester Graham and Michigan Under the Radar's Tom Daldin all paddled the Rouge and published stories. U.S. Congresswoman Debbie Dingell and Rashida Talib (*pictured below*) also paddled the Rouge accompanied by all three local television channels.



In 2019, Friends of the Rouge took a greater role in advocating for legislation and policies that help us meet our mission to restore, protect and enhance the Rouge watershed. Advocacy for public charities incorporates communication about our mission, lobbying for change and providing fact-based education and storytelling to influence decision makers. The National Council of Nonprofits sees nonprofit advocacy as legal, needed and easy. From educating elected and appointed officials with Michigan State University Extension-Sea Grant partnership to offer Water School in the Rouge, to an invitation to participate in the state-wide Water Table to discuss water issue priorities, Friends of the Rouge has taken big leaps toward advancing water-based advocacy in the region.



GLRI Funding

Executive Director Marie McCormick shares success stories about the Rouge River recovery, advocating for the enhancement of Great Lakes Restoration Initiative (GLRI) funding at a press event with Senator Debbie Stabenow and Senator Gary Peters on Belle Isle in Detroit on August 22, 2019. McCormick was joined by sister watershed group leaders from the Clinton River Watershed Council and Friends of the Detroit River.

Dingell Town Hall

On October 7, 2019, Monitoring Manager Sally Petrella participated in a town hall discussion on efforts to clean up industrial pollution from the past across Downriver communities. This event was held at the Wyandotte Boat Club and was hosted by Congresswoman Debbie Dingell, State Senator Stephanie Chang, State Representative Cara Clemente, and State Representative Darrin Camilleri.



Listening Tour

Friends of the Rouge represented at the Lt. Gov. Garlin Gilchrist "Thriving Cities" Listening Tour at the Ford Community & Performing Arts Center on October 25, 2019. Concern was voiced over crumbling water infrastructure and air pollution issues faced in SW Detroit and east Dearborn.



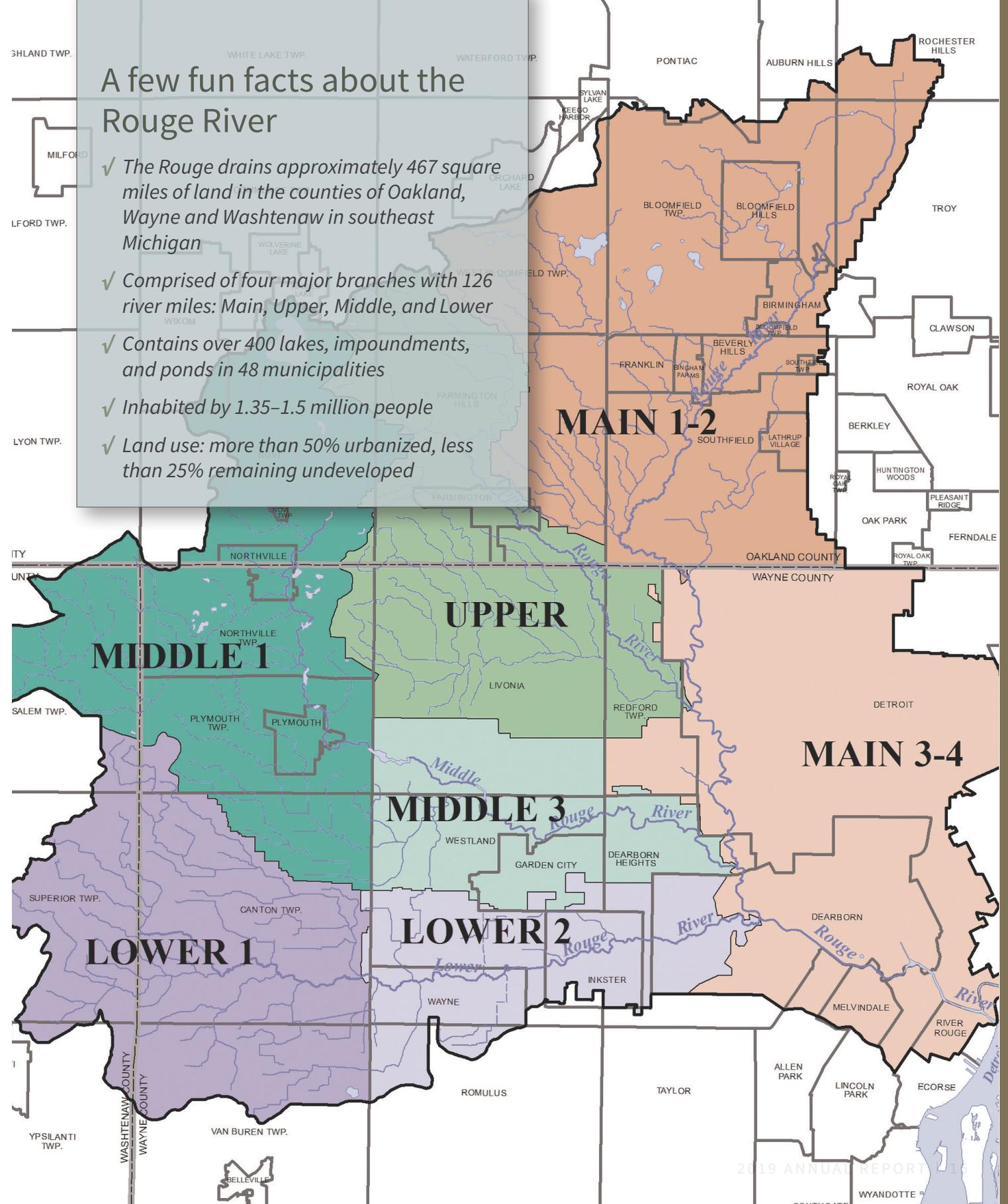
Commemorating the 50th Anniversary of the Infamous Rouge River Burn



The Rouge Burn Anniversary, October 10, 2019 at Marine Pollution Control in SW Detroit commemorated the 50th Anniversary of the Rouge River fire of 1969 and celebrated all the incredible collaborative work to restore the Rouge. The event featured dinner, live music, Downey Brewing Company beer specially brewed for the event called "Oil Slick Stout," a visit from the Curtis Randolph, Detroit Fire boat and tours with Marine Pollution Control staff of the old channel of Zug Island.

A few fun facts about the Rouge River

- ✓ The Rouge drains approximately 467 square miles of land in the counties of Oakland, Wayne and Washtenaw in southeast Michigan
- ✓ Comprised of four major branches with 126 river miles: Main, Upper, Middle, and Lower
- ✓ Contains over 400 lakes, impoundments, and ponds in 48 municipalities
- ✓ Inhabited by 1.35–1.5 million people
- ✓ Land use: more than 50% urbanized, less than 25% remaining undeveloped



FISCAL YEAR 2019 JANUARY 1 - DECEMBER 31

TOTAL REVENUES = \$738,549



Please note: net assets in the amount of \$318,200 were released from restrictions in 2019. This resulted in revenues for use in 2019 of \$1,056,749.

TOTAL EXPENSES = \$826,645



2019 FUNDRAISING REPORT

Our annual ROUGE CRUISE was once again a big success, raising over \$24,000 on a beautiful August evening!



Thank you to our 2019 Rouge Cruise Sponsors—Giffels Webster-Captain, Midwestern Consulting-First Mate, AK Steel, Carneuse, Marathon Petroleum, MJ Electric, Atwell, HRC, US Ecology, ECT, Inc., Aaron Contracting, TSP Environmental, Utility Lines Construction Services, Kelly & Kelly PC



DETROIT FREE PRESS MARATHON
Over \$1,200 raised

CAPITAL CAMPAIGN
\$42,990 raised since 2018

YEAR-END APPEAL
\$15,486 raised

PARTNERS

AISIN
Alliance for the Great Lakes
Alliance of Rouge Communities
Americorps
Arch Environmental Group
Bloomfield Hills Schools
Bloomfield Township
Bosch Community Fund
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Boy Scouts Local
Buffalo Soilders Heritage Association
Canton Township
Christ Episcopal Church, Dearborn
City of Birmingham
City of Dearborn
City of Dearborn Heights
City of Detroit
City of Farmington
City of Farmington Hills
City of Inkster
City of Livonia
City of Melvindale
City of Northville
City of Novi
City of Plymouth
City of River Rouge
City of Southfield
City of Troy
City of Wayne
City of Westland
Clif Bar Family Foundation
Clinton River Watershed Council
Community Foundation for Southeast Michigan
Cranbrook Institute of Science
Cristo Rey High School
Dearborn Heights Watershed Stewards Commission
DENSO International America
Destination Downriver
Detroit AeroModelers (Rouge Park)
Detroit Audubon Society
Detroit Country Day Schools
Detroit Future City
Detroit Public Library, Hubbard Branch
Downriver Linked Greenways
Earth Force
Earth Share of Michigan
Eastside Community Network
EL Johnson Nature Center
Environmental Consulting and Technology
Environmental Interpretive Center at U of M Dearborn
Environmental Protection Agency
Farmington Hills Nature Center
Ford Fund / Model Teams
Ford Motor Company
Fort-Rouge Gateway Partnership (FRoG)
Fred A. & Barbara M. Erb Family Foundation

Friends of Eliza Howell Park
Friends of Maybury Park
Friends of Rouge Park
Friends of the Detroit River
General Motors–Romulus & Hamtramck
Geneva Presbyterian Church
Giffels-Webster
Great Lakes Restoration Initiative
Great Lakes Water Authority
Greening of Detroit
Heavner Canoe Rental / Jeff Vallender
Henry Ford College
Henry Ford Estate–Fair Lane
Henry Ford Heritage Association
Holiday Nature Preserve Association
Hoover Elementary School
Hulsing Elementary School
Huron River Watershed Council
Inkster Beautification Committee
Inkster Department of Public Services
Keep Growing Detroit
Keep Plymouth Lead
Kessey Fieldhouse, Melvindale
Land Information Access Association
Lawrence Technological University
LivingLab
Meadows of Canton
Metro Detroit Nature Network
Michigan Clean Water Corps
Michigan Department of Environmental Quality
Michigan Department of Natural Resources
Michigan Environmental Council
Michigan League of Conservation Voters
Michigan Nonprofit Association
Michigan Sea Grant
Moraine Elementary School
National Kidney Foundation
Northville Art House
Northville Historical Society
Northville Township
Oak Grove AME Church
Oakland Community College
Oakland County Water Resources Commission
Office of the Great Lakes
OHM Advisors
Parallel Solutions LLC
Plymouth Arts and Recreation Complex
Plymouth Township
Plymouth-Canton Educational Park
Pure Oakland Water
Quicken Loans
Ralph C. Wilson Foundation
Redford Beautification

Committee (Lola Valley)
Redford Cemetery Association
Repair the World Detroit (Rouge Park)
River Network
River Restorations Inc.
Riverside Kayak Connection
Robert Bosch, LLC
Salem Township
Samaritan Center
Schoolcraft College
Sierra Club Michigan Chapter
Social Security Administration
Southeast Michigan Council of Governments (SEMCOG)
Southeast Michigan Land Conservancy
Southeast Michigan Land Conservancy, Superior Land Conservancy
Southeast Michigan Stewardship (SEMIS) Coalition
Southwest Detroit Business Association
Southwest Detroit Environmental Vision
St. Michael's Green Team (Merriman Hollow)
St. Paul of the Cross Retreat & Conference Center
Stage Nature Center
Stantec
Sunnyside Farms, Detroit
Superior Township
The Nature Conservancy
U.S. Forest Service
University of Michigan- Dearborn
Village of Beverly Hills
Village of Bingham Farms
Village of Franklin
Washtenaw County Parks & Recreation Commission
Washtenaw County Water Resources Commissioners Office
Waste Management
Wayne County Commissioner Dianne Webb
Wayne County Commissioner Terry Marecki
Wayne County Community College
Wayne County Department of Environment
Wayne County Department of Public Services
Wayne County Parks
Wayne County Regional Educational Service Agency (RESA)
West Bloomfield Parks & Recreation
Wildlife Habitat Council
Women's National Farm & Garden Association
Workman Elementary School

SPONSORS

GUARDIAN—
\$20,000
Bosch Community Fund
Erb Family Foundation

PROTECTOR—
\$15,000
ITC Transco

ADVOCATE—
\$5000
The Block Foundation

SUPPORTER—
\$2500
OHM Advisors
Waste Management

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\$1000
Arch Environmental Group
Dul Foundation Fund
Garden Club of Dearborn
ECT, Inc.
General Motors Romulus
Parker Hannifin
Aisin
Cardno, Inc.
Hubbell, Roth & Clark

OTHER 2019 DONORS
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Bill Craig
Block Foundation
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City of Southfield
City of Troy
City of Westland
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Kroger Community Rewards
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Marine Pollution Control
Mark and Patty Malcolm
McKenna
Northville Township
Northville Township
OHM
Orin and Charlette Gelderloos
PEA
Plymouth Township
Redfin
Redford Township
Shaw Construction
The Roeper School
US Steel
Village of Beverly Hills

GRANTORS

Alliance of Rouge Communities
Americana Foundation
Canton Township
City of Dearborn
City of Inkster
Clif Bar Family Foundation
Community Foundation for Southeast Michigan
Consumers Energy Foundation
Detroit Future City
DTE Energy Foundation
Fred A. and Barbara M. Erb Family Foundation
Garden Club of Dearborn
General Motors Foundation
Great Lakes Commission
Great Lakes Restoration Initiative
ITC Holdings
Master Gardener Association of Wayne Couty
Matthaei Botanical Gardens and Nichols Arboretum
Michigan Association of Environmental Professionals
Michigan Department of Environmental Quality
Michigan State University
Mike Miller Building Company
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