

Friends of the ROUGE



2017 ANNUAL REPORT



The mission of Friends of the Rouge is to restore, protect and enhance the Rouge River watershed through stewardship, education and collaboration.

LEADERSHIP REPORT

On behalf of the Board of Directors and Team here at Friends of the Rouge, thank you for your continued support. As the backbone to the organization, you provide the fuel that drives our mission. As a result, the Friends of the Rouge continues to successfully sustain and expand programs and priorities to preserve, protect and enhance the Rouge River Watershed!

This letter comes at an exciting time of key transition for our organization—and with much anticipation from many of our members, volunteers and sponsors. You will see, as you review this annual report, that in this last year we have accomplished a number of key initiatives that position the FOTR for greater future successes.

Over the past year, the organization celebrated and embraced many new and exciting changes. In January, the Friends of the Rouge brought Marie McCormick on as Executive Director. Marie notes that she was “humbled and honored to have the opportunity to work with a group of people so dedicated to the protection and restoration of my hometown watershed.” Originally from Northville, Michigan, Marie transplanted to Flagstaff, Arizona in early 2009 to pursue a master's degree in Sustainable Community Development. The opportunity to come home and work in the watershed where she learned to love the outdoors struck the FOTR as perfectly serendipitous.

We have been incredibly impressed by the passion and fortitude of the people we have the privilege to work with each day. The FOTR staff not only hold expertise, but hold heart for the work within the watershed. Each day, they share their talents with the community, giving endlessly of their time beyond the confines of their job duties.

Our fifteen member board of directors serves as a model working board. These dedicated individuals have generously given of their time, talent and treasure: the three T's of a successful board member. Each one of them have grown exponentially over the past year, stepping up as dedicated committee members, fundraisers, and committing to the exciting prospects for organizational sustainability.

The FOTR took a major step in sustainable funding by establishing an endowment fund and charitable gift annuity program with Community Foundation for Southeast Michigan. On top of this, the FOTR have taken on a primary leadership role as the fiduciary and caretaker of the Rouge River Water Trail on the lower 25 miles from Canton Township to River Rouge. We also have made major changes to the FOTR website and greatly expanded our FOTR social media reach from 1,000 to 8,000 likes.

Our keystone programs continue to develop with the needs of our community and the changing watershed landscape. Through our Restoration Program, the Rain Gardens to the Rescue Program has expanded exponentially to service residents of Detroit in establishing community driven rain gardens (50 gardens installed so far, with 55-60+ anticipated to be installed in the next three years). Along with the Detroit program, the Restoration Program expanded to the western suburbs of the Rouge River Watershed with special attention to Johnson and Tonquish creek sub-watersheds. We expect the installation of 20+ rain gardens by 2019.

Our Rouge Education Program staff, teachers and volunteers educated close to 2,300 students in 29 schools

across the watershed. With the success of a Crowdrise fundraiser, we also created a beautiful, waterproof three-dimensional terrain model of the watershed along with a story-map, curriculum and teaching materials for stormwater/watershed public education.

The Volunteer Monitoring Program staff and volunteers successfully surveyed over 123 sites since 2012 for fish, finding over 55 species of native fish, eight non-native fish, and two endangered species: redbreast dace and new in 2017, the pugnose shiner minnow. The past year also included the monitoring of over 120 sites, or 55-60 sites three times a year, for benthic macroinvertebrates and over 147 quarter square mile blocks for frogs and toads.

In the upcoming year, we look toward a broader, more robust programmatic scope to meet our mission. Some of the upcoming initiatives include: 1) Work on Phase II of the Rouge River Water Trail with community partners, including the build out of a long-term strategic plan; 2) Creation of a Friends of the Rouge strategic plan; 3) Continuation and expansion of the Rain Gardens to the Rescue program and respective other rain garden projects watershed-wide; 4) Development and expansion of the Rouge Education Program to include more public/classroom engagement with the three dimensional terrain model, and other upcoming public education developments and opportunities; 5) Continued monitoring of fish, benthic macroinvertebrate and frog/toad populations, with a possible expansion into water quality monitoring with a volunteer base; expansion of our Fund Development initiatives; and 6) To move the Friends of the Rouge office to the Plymouth Arts and Recreation Complex.

As you read this Annual Report, we hope it inspires continued participation with the FOTR! Each day, the work done by and on behalf of the mission continues to drive our personal dedication to the Rouge River watershed. Together, we made a difference.

For those of you who have tirelessly dedicated time and energy to the success of the organization, THANK YOU. For those of you who are new, welcome! We look forward to working with all of you in 2018.

Warmest wishes,

Michael Darga
President, FOTR Board of Directors

Marie McCormick
Executive Director

Rouge Watershed Terrain Model

Introducing our newest educational tool: the three-dimensional terrain model of the Rouge Watershed! This 3.5' x 3.5', interactive, waterproof model has vertical relief, watershed boundaries, sub-watersheds, ghost streams, geographic markers and more! The terrain model task force worked with Howard Models to formalize design and layout. The Friends of the Rouge plan to develop an interactive tool-kit, curriculum and presentations around the model to inspire understanding and stewardship of the Rouge Watershed. Made possible with generous gifts from Bosch Community Fund, the Fred A. & Barbara M. Erb Family Foundation and over 50 individual donors, this model will visit classrooms, public presentations and events to educate the public about the Rouge Watershed.

Endowment Fund Established

Friends of the Rouge established the Friends of the Rouge Endowment Fund with the Community Foundation for Southeast Michigan in September 2017. The Fund will provide perpetual support for the organization's mission to promote the restoration and stewardship of the Rouge River ecosystem for the purpose of improving the quality of life for the people, plants, and animals of the watershed. If you would like to make a secure online contribution to the Friends of the Rouge Endowment Fund, please visit our Leave a Legacy Page on our website. The Fund can also accept gifts of all kinds, including cash, bequests, stock, real estate, life insurance, and retirement assets. Friends of the Rouge is also participating in the Community Foundation's Charitable Gift Annuity (CGA) program. CGAs allow donors to receive lifetime income and at the same time makes a charitable gift to participating charities.

RIVER RESTORATION PROGRAM

Friends of the Rouge joins the Land + Water Works Coalition

The Land + Water Works! Coalition, led by Detroit Future City, is a newly formed coalition and public education campaign developed to create a green culture shift initiative to motivate Detroit businesses and residents to become land and water stewards. Through education and installation of green stormwater infrastructure, we hope to build a community that embraces a new way of thinking about land and water resources.

The city of Detroit's Water and Sewerage Department has been rolling out their updated drainage fee policy that includes green credits for property owners that manage stormwater onsite. This has created an opportunity for us to inform Detroiters about the city's combined sewer system and the pollution that enters the Rouge and Detroit Rivers when these systems exceed capacity and overflow into these local waters. It has also increased public interest in learning how to manage rainwater on their property.

The Land + Water Works Coalition will be organizing multiple public forums, rain garden workshops with hands-on plantings, a summit and more to help Detroit residents and businesses learn how they can earn green credits to lower their drainage fee, and protect our water resources.

The coalition has also developed an Ambassador program where individuals and nonprofit organizations receive training and a small stipend to help carry land and water stewardship messaging across the community. The Land + Water Works initiative is funded by the Fred A. and Barbara M. Erb Family Foundation.



Volunteers work to rescue the Rouge from trash and invasive species while working to restore the river by planting native flowers

ROUGE RESCUE is an annual river clean up event that involves community partners and watershed residents in caring for the Rouge River. Volunteers remove trash and invasive plants from the river corridor and natural areas, manage woody debris in the stream, plant native vegetation to restore the land and learn how human activities impact the health of the river. The 2017 event attracted 1,200 volunteers who participated in river clean up and stewardship activities at 28 work sites in 17 municipalities. Participants from all sectors of the community participated including families, individuals, seniors, youth groups, school groups, scouts, faith based organizations and corporate partners.

Volunteers worked hard to improve the Rouge River. Here's what they accomplished →



TRASH REMOVAL

Thirty-four (34) cubic yards of trash was removed from 161 acres of open space in the region. This year, FOTR purchased hand-held scales and asked work sites to weigh the trash collected – 2,760 pounds of trash were reported. That’s nearly the weight of a 2017 Ford Focus! Some sites did not report the weight of the trash they collected so this number isn’t a total weight for all trash removed. Some of the large items removed included lawn chairs, wood fence railing, tires, rug, car bumper, construction debris, lumber, trash carts, sleds, concrete, asphalt, tarps, and bottles, cans, balls and plastic wrappers.

INVASIVE PLANT REMOVAL

Eight hundred eighty-four (884) cubic yards of invasive plants were removed from 25 acres. The bulk of invasive control work involved hand pulling garlic mustard and lopping woody shrubs like buckthorn and honeysuckle. A few sites also worked to control dame’s rocket, Canada thistle and narrow-leaved bittercress. Sites that reported the weight identified 30,550 pounds of plant material removed.

NATIVE PLANTINGS

Many sites worked to manage rain water or reduce streamside erosion by installing native demonstration plantings, streamside buffers, tree plantings, bio-swales

and rain gardens. Thanks to the Bloomfield Hills Garden Club, who provided funding for native plants for Rouge Rescue work sites, nearly 1,700 native flowers and grasses and 27 shrubs were planted at multiple locations.

Fifteen (15) native plantings were installed or expanded during Rouge Rescue; these include six native demonstration gardens, three rain gardens, three riparian buffers (stream-side plantings) and three tree plantings. An additional 530 native flowers and 58 trees were provided by partners coordinating work sites.

Volunteers also worked to maintain 1,150 lineal feet of trail in local parks and preserves. Seven (7) log jams were cleaned and opened using the Woody Debris Management 101 Clean and Open Method. A few sites conducted other educational activities, such as bird house building, storm drain marking, thermometer exchange, and nature walks.

This work would not be possible without the support and leadership from our site coordinators, community partners and sponsors as well as all the volunteers who came out to lend a hand to help improve the Rouge River ecosystem. Friends of the Rouge is grateful for everyone who helped make this year’s event such a success.

Rain Gardens Continue to Rescue the Rouge and Detroit Rivers

We had another successful year coordinating the Rain Gardens to the Rescue (RGttR) program. Southwest Detroit neighborhoods were the target area for the Rain Gardens to the Rescue program in 2017. Twenty sites (20) were selected from the 26 applications received. The program was coordinated in collaboration with the Sierra Club and Keep Growing Detroit.

WORKSHOPS

The four training workshops, held at The Workshop on Bagley Ave., were attended by 35 individuals. Workshops were led by Friends of the Rouge and the Sierra Club and supported by Keep Growing Detroit. The workshops were a repeat of the previous years' and included an Introduction to Rain Gardens; Native Plants, Site Conditions and Garden Sizing; Rain Garden Design Exercise and Just Weed It! Maintenance Workshop. Four graduates from 2015 and 2016 helped instruct portions of the workshops. Workshops were held on June 12, July 10, July 17 and July 24 from 6 to 8 pm.

PLANTINGS

Twenty-two rain gardens and one bioswale were created at 20 locations. These gardens total 6,186 sq. ft. and will keep 10,000+ gallons of rain water out of the combined sewer system during a 1-inch rainfall. This amount of water would fill a 3.5 ft. deep, 15 ft. x 30 ft. oval pool. The average rainfall in Detroit is ¼ inch, which means these rain gardens will keep nearly all rain water flowing into them out of the combined sewer system.

The sites included 17 residential front yards, the Downtown Boxing Gym (a non-profit youth mentoring organization), Three Squared Inc. (model container home) and Wayne State University. The WSU bioswale is 2,880 square feet in size and receives rain water from the surrounding parking lot, which is located at Woodward Ave. at Harper St. All are visible to the public and will serve as low cost examples of what individuals can do to manage rainwater on their property.

The WSU planting led by Daryl Pierson engaged biology professor Michelle Serryn and the Detroit Biodiversity Network student group who grew a variety of native plants for the project. The WSU project was a much larger project than the RGttR program could support. Wayne State University paid for most of the materials for the project and the contract work to create the swale. We appreciated being a part of this exciting project.

The rain garden plantings provided opportunities to teach others about the purpose and value of rain gardens in urban areas. One hundred eighty (180) students, neighbors, friends and family members of program participants gained experience and an understanding of rain gardens as they helped install a rain garden.

This year three downspouts were disconnected from the combined sewer system, which was far less than had to be disconnected in past years. Thirteen additional downspouts were extended to direct rainwater to flow into the rain gardens. In past years downspout extensions were buried to provide a neater appearance and to prevent homeowners from having obstacles to mow around. An unexpected result was that the extensions were essentially hidden and people walking by or visiting the gardens didn't realize there was a connection between the rain garden and the home. This year we tried something different to create a visual connection between the two. Dry creek swales were created to convey rainwater from the downspouts to the rain gardens at three sites.

All project partners led rain garden plantings this year. Friends of the Rouge secured materials for the plantings. Sierra Club tracked volunteers and their participation. Keep Growing Detroit provided native plants for all the sites with the exception of the Wayne State project, where they provided a portion of the plant material. Denise Kennedy (2015 graduate) assisted with leading 12 garden installations. Mary Tatum, also a 2015 graduate, helped with one garden installation.

CELEBRATION

Thirty-two (32) people attended the celebration dinner, held on November 16 at The Block on Cass. Keep Growing Detroit provided a hearty vegan meal. All 2017 gardens were showcased and program graduates received certificates of completion. Five outstanding participants were recognized. They were Lynnette Bowens, Valerie Burris, Robin Douglas, Deborah LaViolette and Denise Kennedy.



Rain Gardens for Johnson and Tonquish Creeks: Solving Problems and Saving Creeks

Friends of the Rouge made excellent progress in 2017 implementing a \$179,234 grant from MDEQ's Nonpoint Source Program. The grant funds 21 rain garden installations at public and private sites to restore Tonquish Creek and protect Johnson Creek, which run through the communities of Plymouth, Canton, Northville, Salem, and Westland. It also supports efforts to teach residents how to build rain gardens at home to solve problems—like icy sidewalks and flooded basements—and save creeks.

In May, FOTR hired Matthew Bertrand to assume project leadership. A recent graduate from the landscape architecture program at U-M's School of Natural Resources & Environment, Matthew brings a passion and vision for transforming home and community landscapes to benefit the river.

Project milestones in 2017 included successful completion of a broad community survey to guide outreach efforts. We identified the nine public rain garden demonstration sites, which include the Plymouth Municipal Yard, Hulsing Elementary School, Canton High School, and the Northville Art House. Each demonstration site will cut pollution while also showcasing attractive options for home landscapes. Stay tuned in 2018 for both classroom and hands-on learning opportunities to help you make rain gardens a part of your life.



Students from St. Valentine Catholic School in Redford read the results of a chemical test at Bell Creek Park in Redford.

2017 proves to be another successful year for the Rouge Education Project

The Rouge Education Project 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. This comprehensive student-led water quality monitoring program model was the first of its kind and is nationally recognized.

Throughout 2017, the REP worked with a total of 2,276 students and 67 teachers from 29 schools throughout Metro-Detroit. Four of those schools were new to the Rouge Education Project in spring 2017. Monitoring events went off without a hitch thanks to the REP's amazing dedicated teachers and a small army of volunteers. Twelve of these trained volunteers, the REP Assistants, along

with 15 corporate volunteers, assisted schools during their monitoring event(s), as well as 162 parent and other volunteers.

Complementing their work with the Rouge Education Project, seven schools joined the Aerokats and Rover Education Network (AREN) – a partnership between Friends of the Rouge, the Wayne County Regional Educational Service Agency (RESA), the National Atmospheric and Space Administration (NASA), and the international Global Learning and Observations to Benefit the Environment (GLOBE) program. These middle or high schools received new technology that supported their work with water quality testing, while allowing them to contribute to an international database of scientific measurements. Vernier water sensors for conductivity, dissolved oxygen, pH, salinity, temperature, and turbidity, and an “Aerokat”—a kite equipped with weather sensors and a camera—allowed them to compare REP measurements and collect new data.

This added a meaningful layer to their monitoring event, and work will continue throughout 2018 when more REP schools are added to the Network.

A former Rouge Education Project student from Troy High School completed a fellowship with the Stage Nature Center during the summer of 2017. Jennie Yang, now studying at Princeton University, reached out to Friends of the Rouge because she was interested in conducting water quality monitoring as part of her fellowship. She remembered the project from high school, was currently studying Ecology and Evolutionary Biology, and thought it would be a good fit. Friends of the Rouge provided equipment and minimal support as Jennie independently studied parts of the river system at the Nature Center for eight weeks. She presented her findings at the conclusion of her fellowship, a demonstration of

the wonderful impression the REP makes on its students, and how its impact encourages them to pursue more environmental work.

The REP Guide continues to go through updates and rebranding—chemical test demonstration videos were produced for schools using the advanced kits. The “EZ Tab” chemical kits for our elementary schools will also have their own set of videos soon. These are a great way for schools/students to review the chemical tests beforehand, or to watch and follow along while they are out in the field.

The REP is excited to bring on four new schools in spring 2018, and looks forward to providing more resources for teachers as well as greater opportunities to deepen this environmental education experience for their students.

“As a teacher, it is incredible to get my students outside- up close and personal with Nature. Urban students do not normally have experiences that allow them to bond with the natural world and see their role in it. Most of them think of Nature and bugs as “icky” and while we are out at the water, I get to see them fall in love it instead. They also begin to understand the impacts of human beings on the world around them, in a way I can’t re-create in the classroom. When they see the damage that is done directly, that has an impact. I can talk about it in class, they can look it up online, but standing on the banks of a river and seeing how people have caused erosion and affected the ecosystem- has far more impact. The chemical testing aspect allows them to work in a way they can’t in school. Many urban schools have limited budgets and some students never touch a chemical. The REP is a game changer for students in that aspect. The kids are also proud that they are doing ‘real’ science. It’s a win/win. I love the REP and hope it is always there for my students.”

—Mary Groesbeck-Balamucki, Lincoln Senior High School (Warren)





Volunteer Monitoring

BUG HUNTS (BENTHIC MACROINVERTEBRATE MONITORING) 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 in FOTR’s monitoring 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. Wayne County participates in the program by sampling additional sites. FOTR data is used by the state and local communities.

	2017 WINTER STONEFLY	2017 SPRING BUG HUNT	2017 FALL BUG HUNT
NUMBER OF VOLUNTEERS	82	78	60
BUG HUNT SITES SAMPLED	20	26	23
ADDITIONAL SITES SAMPLED	11	22	19
TOTAL SITES SAMPLED	31	48	42

2017 Winter Stonefly Search: Eighty-two volunteers in ten teams participated and stoneflies were found at eighteen of the 31 sites (58%). All eighteen sites had slender winter stoneflies (Capniidae), two sites had Perlodids, two sites had Taeniopterygidae, and one site had Nemourids. Additional sites were sampled by Wayne County, Schoolcraft College, and Susan Thompson.

2017 Spring Bug Hunt: Seventy-eight volunteers in thirteen teams participated. Most sites (64%) had Fair (39) scores. A new species of mayfly was found—little stout crawlers (Leptohyphidae). Trend analysis showed Johnson Creek, the Middle 1 and Middle 3 subwatersheds with positive trends in scores and no trend for other subwatersheds. Additional sites were sampled by Wayne County, Susan Thompson, Schoolcraft College, and Wayne State students.

2017 Fall Bug Hunt: Sixty volunteers in twelve teams participated. Most sites scored in the Fair (25) range. Of the 44 sites that have been sampled for three years or more, 67% were stable, 7% were improving, and 26% were declining. Long term trends show improving scores for the Middle 3 subwatershed and Johnson Creek and declining scores in the Main and Upper branches. Additional sites were sampled by Wayne County, Susan Thompson, Schoolcraft College, and FOTR staff.

DATE	2017 TRAINING WORKSHOPS			GROUP LISTEN	VOLUNTEERS	
	2/25	3/4	3/18	4/7/17	Total Volunteers	236
LOCATION	Farm. Hills	Livonia	Canton	W. Bloomfield	Workshop Attendees	156
VOLUNTEERS	42	45	69	26	Veteran Volunteers	112
					Blocks Surveyed	151

The **FROG & TOAD SURVEY** is a listening survey in which volunteers track frog and toad presence through calling surveys. Volunteers are assigned blocks where they keep track of what species are calling. Three training workshops were held with 156 attendees. A total of 236 volunteers, including 112 veteran surveyors signed up to collect data. Data was received for 151 survey blocks. An average of 3.8 species was heard per block. American toads, northern leopard frogs, eastern gray treefrogs and bullfrogs were calling in a higher percentage of blocks than average. The Lower 1 and Middle 1 subwatersheds both had the highest diversity with an average of 4.0 species calling per block.

	2017 SPRING FISH SURVEYS	2017 FALL FISH SURVEYS	TOTALS
# OF VOLUNTEER HOURS	200	195	378
SITES SAMPLED	20	25	39
SAMPLING DAYS	11	19	22

FISH MONITORING FOTR monitored thirty-nine sites on 22 survey days with volunteers contributing 378 hours of time. We continued to track the movement of the round goby on the Lower and Middle Rouge as well as adding sites to fill in gaps in data. We found northern redbelly dace at additional sites on Pebble Creek. We sampled Morris Lake, Curtis Lake and Upper Long Lake. In Upper Long Lake we found pugnose shiners, an extremely rare fish last seen in the Rouge in 1906. In Curtis Lake and Upper Long Lake we found Iowa and least darters. We surveyed the Greenfield Village oxbow and found 17 species including sensitive fish like logperch and game fish like northern pike and yellow perch.

Since we began surveying for fish in 2011, we have identified 61 species including eight new native species and two non-native species and have identified over 35,000 individual fish. In 2018, we will continue this work and are also creating a booklet and presentation on the findings.

EVENT	2017 COMMITTEE MEETINGS					WDM WORK GROUP	KAYAK TOUR	ZOO WORK DAY	MIDDLE CANOE TRIP
DATES	2/6	4/20	6/15	9/21	11/16	12/21/17	9/16/17	10/4/17	10/7/17
ATTENDEES	13	9	7	9	16	6	39	21	36

The **ROUGE RIVER WATER TRAIL COMMITTEE** met six times in 2017, and welcomed new participation from the communities of Inkster, Westland and Melvindale. A proposal was developed to the Erb Family Foundation for Phase II of the trail, which was funded for 2018. This funding will cover the development of a strategic plan, signage plan, woody debris management training and the development of MOUs with the communities. FOTR led group trips to the Industrial Rouge on September 16, the Middle Rouge on October 7, and assisted with a tour for the Green Infrastructure Conference on June 1. The October 7 trip was planned for the Lower branch but had to be moved to the Middle branch due to low water levels on the Lower caused by the temporary stoppage of treatment plant discharge. This allowed time for cleanup, and on October 4, 21 Detroit Zoo staff and other volunteers cleaned shopping carts, tires and other debris from the river in Wayne and repaired the launch.

FISCAL YEAR 2017

JANUARY 1 - DECEMBER 31, 2017

TOTAL REVENUES = \$942,475



Grants	\$	762,153	81%
Community and Corporate Support	\$	45,189	5%
Membership	\$	30,284	3%
Fundraising	\$	55,861	6%
Investment and Interest Income	\$	38,166	4%
In-kind Support	\$	10,822	1%

TOTAL REVENUES	\$	942,475	100%
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Revenues listed by source for time period of January 1 – December 31, 2017
Includes \$406,000 restricted grant support for 2018 projects

TOTAL EXPENSES = \$402,154



Program Service Costs	\$	331,137	63%
Management and General	\$	162,660	31%
Fundraising	\$	32,388	6%

TOTAL EXPENSES	\$	526,185	100%
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Expenses listed by use for time period of January 1 – December 31, 2017

2017 NET INCOME: \$416,209

2017 FUNDRAISING



The FOTR Terrain Model at work educating our young citizens!

ROUGE CRUISE

- › August 8, 2017
- › 165 voyagers

Thank you to our 2017 Rouge Cruise Sponsors!

- ITC Holdings
- DENSO International America
- Advanced Disposal
- Marathon Petroleum
- ECT
- Hubbell, Roth & Clark, Inc.
- Midwestern Consulting
- Natural Community Services

- › Over \$26,000 raised!

TERRAIN MODEL

- › 52 donors
- › Over \$10,800 raised

DETROIT FREE PRESS MARATHON

- › October 15, 2017
- › 21 runners
- › 3 volunteers
- › \$5,475 raised!

SAVE THE BUGS

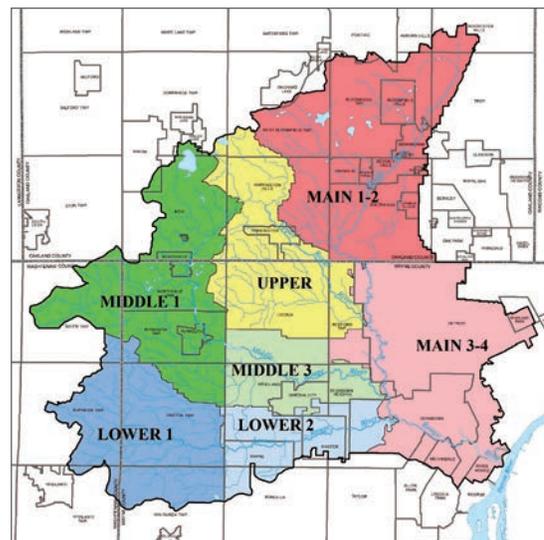
- Fundraising began in October 2017*
- › 19 donors
 - › Over \$4,000 raised so far!

YEAR-END APPEAL

- › 32 donors
- › Over \$2,000 raised

Rouge River facts:

- ✓ The Rouge drains approximately 467 square miles of land in the counties of Oakland, Wayne and Washtenaw in southeast Michigan
- ✓ 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



PARTNERS

Advanced Disposal
AISIN
Alliance of Rouge Communities
Arch Environmental Group
Bloomfield Township
Bosch
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
Clinton River Watershed Council
DENSO International America
Detroit Audubon Society
Detroit Country Day Schools
Detroit Future City
Earth Force
Earth Share of Michigan
EL Johnson Nature Center
Environmental Interpretive Center at U of M Dearborn
Environmental Protection Agency
Farmington Hills Nature Center
Friends of Rouge Park
Friends of the Detroit River
General Motors - Romulus & Hamtramck
Greening of Detroit
Heavner Canoe Rental / Jeff Vallender
Henry Ford College
Henry Ford Estate - Fair Lane
Holliday Nature Preserve Association
Hulsing Elementary School
Huron River Watershed Council
Keep Growing Detroit
Kessey Fieldhouse, Melvindale
Lawrence Technological University
Latin Americans for Social & Economic Development (LASED)
Michigan Clean Water Corps
Michigan Department of Environmental Quality
Michigan Department of Natural Resources
Moraine Elementary School
Northville Art House
Northville Township
Oakland County Water Resources Commission
Plymouth Township
Plymouth-Canton Educational Park
Quicken Loans
Riverside Kayak Connection
Salem Township
Schoolcraft College
Sierra Club Great Lakes Great Communities
Social Security Administration
Southeast Michigan Council of Governments (SEMCOG)
Southeast Michigan Land Conservancy
Superior Land Conservancy
Southeast Michigan Stewardship (SEMIS) Coalition
St. Paul of the Cross Retreat & Conference Center
Stage Nature Center
Stahelin Street Tigers Block Club
Stantec
Superior Township
University of Michigan-Dearborn
Village of Beverly Hills
Washtenaw County Parks & Recreation Commission
Wayne County Commissioner Terry Marecki
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

MEMBERS

STONEFLY SOCIETY

Orin & Charlette Gelderloos
Marilyn & Jeffrey Gilbert

REDSIDE DACE

Carolyn Blackmore & Nicholas Bell
Dennis & Carole Zikowski

LEOPARD FROG

AWTEC USA
Marguerite Barrett
Larry Clayton
John Colby
Susan Mogill-Cousin & Peter Cousin
Mike & Nancy Darga
Mark & Jennifer Davidson
Mark & Donna Frentrup
James & Diane Munro
Sally Petrella & Paul Stark
Jim & Pat Robertson
Paul & Mark Sayers
Patti & Bob Shaw
Brandy & Todd Siedlaczek
Terry & Jeff Snyder
Guy Stark
William Stone
Jim & Gail Straith
Susan Thompson
Helena Thornton & Jonathan Cotter
Paula Trilety
Al & Peggy VanKerckhove
Ralph Williams

CADDISFLY

Lisa & Steven Agosta
D. Karen & Barry Andrews
Anonymous
Robert & Catherine Anthony
Gail Barber & Marlene Davis
Joseph Berkowski & Ina Fernandez
Angela & Jason Black
Luther Blackburn
Patricia Burke & Richard Schmidt
Marilou & Thomas Capo
Kevin & Sue Cassidy
Adam & Erin Cloutier
Rebecca Corrin
Philip Crookshank
Andrea & Peter Cushman
Lynn DeGrande & Stuart Steel
Amy Donoghue
Alan & Ann Frank
Martin Gaertner
Cheryl & David Garrett
Christopher Gieske
Jim Graham & Gail Reagan
Kevin & Margaret Green
Susan Guenther & William Eisenman

Marie Hausch
Cheryl Hiatt
William & Billie Jo Hickey
Lisabeth Hock
Bonnie & Gary Hollander
David & Eve Howell
Catherine Hudak
Kevin Hulse & Robert Simmons
Robert & Heather Johncox
Joseph Keefe
John Kelly
Kathleen Klein
Ted & Teri Kozlowski
John Lambert
Suzanne & Gene Leich
Robert Lewandowski
Daisy Lovain
Lillian & Daniel Mahaney
Joan & Richard Marshall
Scot Martin
Wayne McGarrah
Noah & Sabrina Mehalski
Christopher Merlo
Jennifer & Robert Moll
Wanda Moon
Emily & Ken Nietering
William Paxton
Paul & Mary Jo Plante
Stephen Ray
John Schmittroth
Vicki & Chuck Schroeder
Bill Secrest & Misty Callies
Carla Serfas
Cynthia & Michael Sevilla
Barbara Siepierski
Six Rivers Regional Land Conservancy
Donald & June Summers
Martha & Gary Vartanoff
Laura Wagner
Wayne County Department of Public Services-WMD
Steve Weis
Daniel Wellman
Anthony Wesley
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