



ROUGE GROWING GREEN

Naturalizing the Home Garden

Go Native

Landscaping your yard with Michigan native plants will help protect the Rouge River. Native plants are economical because they are adapted to local soil and climate conditions and require less watering and fertilizing. Native plants also protect water quality by slowing stormwater runoff and filter out pollutants before entering the Rouge River.



Less Work and Money

Enjoy your landscape instead of working at it all day. Native plants have adapted to local soil, climate and water levels and are resistant to the frequent drought and freeze conditions we experience in Michigan. Their deep roots help break up that clay in your yard and rebuild soil. These same roots prevent soil erosion along the Rouge River and help reduce water runoff and filters out pollutants. In addition, native plants require no fertilizer, no protection during the winter and no extra watering after the first year.



Relax and Enjoy

We all know how stressful it is when our landscape gets infested with pests and weeds. Using native plants in your landscape reduces the risk of pests, disease and invasive species taking over. Native plants are less likely to overpower your landscape.



Back to Nature

Using native plants improves Michigan's natural habitats which attract wildlife such as butterflies and hummingbirds. Lots of native wildlife species require specific plants to survive. For example, the Monarch butterfly needs several Milkweed species, which are found in Michigan, to live.



More Information

For a complete list of Michigan native plants go to the Michigan Native Plant Producers Association at www.mnppa.org or for more information visit the MSU Extension at www.msue.anr.msu.edu or:

www.allianceofrougecommunities.com



Alliance
of Rouge
Communities

OURS TO PROTECT

Working together, restoring the river