

# Rouge River Subwatershed

The Main 3-4 Rouge River Subwatershed covers approximately 91.37 square miles or 58,476 acres in Wayne County. There is little or no open space left in the Main 3-4 subwatershed which is completely developed with the largest land use category being residential housing (56%). Commercial and industrial land uses comprise another 30% of the subwatershed. The Upper, Middle and Lower branches of the Rouge River flow into the Main Branch of the Rouge River in the Main 3-4 Subwatershed at Detroit, Dearborn Heights and Dearborn respectively.

As part of the subwatershed management planning process, long-term goals and short-term objectives were established in the 2001 Main 3-4 Rouge River Subwatershed Management Plan. The long-term goals of the Main 3-4 Rouge River Subwatershed management plan are:

1. Improve water quality in the Rouge River and restore impaired uses.
2. Remove sources of pollution that threaten public health.
3. Educate the public regarding their impact on the River and the River's existing and future potential as a community asset and recreational resource.
4. Improve the water quality of the River to increase recreational opportunities and remove fish consumption advisories.
5. Enhance and preserve habitat, especially next to the River, for fish and wildlife compatible with subwatershed land uses.
6. Reduce water volumes and velocities in the River during a storm event to minimize bank erosion and flooding.

The subwatershed management planning process and subwatershed projects that fulfilled Subwatershed Advisory Group goals couldn't have been completed without partnerships between the communities, the counties, non-profit organizations, stewardship groups, citizens, local schools, colleges and universities.

