

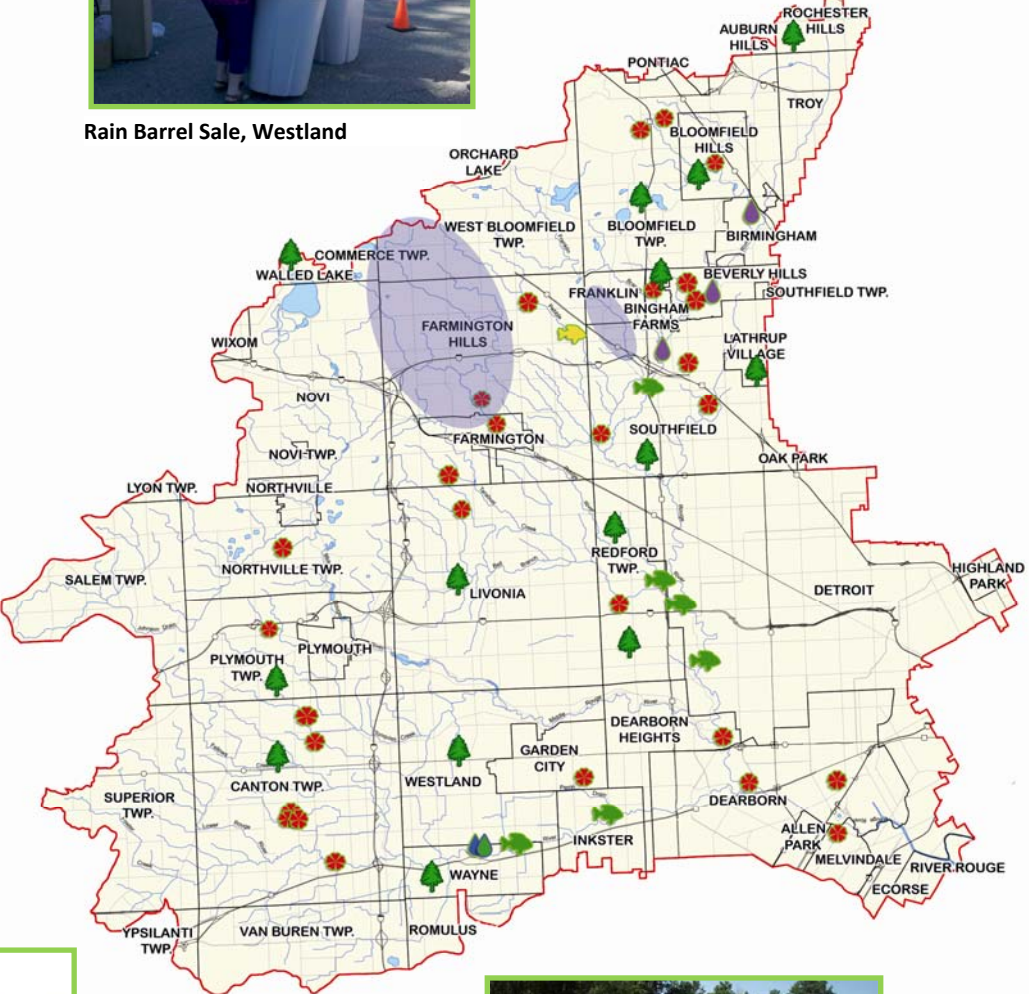


# Executive Director 2011 Annual Report



Rain Barrel Sale, Westland

- KEY**
-  ARC Green Infrastructure Locations
  -  GLRI Danvers Pond Dam Removal
  -  GLRI Transforming the Rouge
  -  Rouge Round X Rouge Green Corridor Locations
  -  Rouge Round X Wayne Road Dam Removal Design
  -  NOAA Wayne Road Dam Removal and Restoration
  -  US Forest Service Restoring Community Trees in an Urban Watershed
  -  CMI Rouge River Monitoring for E. coli TMDL Implementation



Heritage Park Grow Zone, Canton



Danvers Pond, Farmington Hills



Transforming the Rouge, Eliza Howell Park, Detroit

## EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR 2011 ANNUAL REPORT

The 2011 ARC Executive Director's Annual Report discusses all of the activities conducted by the Alliance of Rouge Communities in 2011, including routine administration and meetings of the ARC and all of its committees. It also includes results from specific ARC water quality sampling, ARC IDEP activities and public education activities, including workshops and rain barrel sales and developed products. This report may be attached to your annual report to MDEQ. If you need any other ARC-related information for your annual report, please contact Zachare Ball at [zball@ectinc.com](mailto:zball@ectinc.com).

### **TASK 1: MEETINGS**

#### **A. FULL ALLIANCE MEETINGS**

Staff support was provided for each meeting, including preparation of the agenda (under the direction of the Chair), distribution of the materials prior to the three (3) full ARC meetings, facilitation of the meetings (including note-taking and tallying of votes at the meeting), and preparation/distribution of meeting summaries to members and other interested parties. Alliance of Rouge Communities meetings were held on:

#### **April 26, 2011, Southfield**

John Hartig discussed his book *Burning Rivers: Revival of Four Urban-Industrial Rivers that Caught on Fire*, which included a profile of the Rouge River. Cynthia Stump, from ITC, gave a presentation about the transmission company's tree clearing efforts and green initiatives within the Rouge River Watershed. Executive Director James Ridgway presented the 2010 Executive Directors Annual Report.



#### **August 24, 2011, Canton Township**

John O'Meara, ARC Staff, gave a presentation about ongoing ARC grant projects, including Transforming the Rouge AOC (GLRI), Danvers Pond Dam Removal (GLRI) and Wayne Road Dam Removal Design (RPO Round X). Kelly Cave, Wayne County, gave an update on Gateway Partnership activities.

#### **November 11, 2011, Henry Ford Community College**

ARC Executive Director Jim Ridgway gave a presentation about the ARC grant program (GLRI, NOAA, CMI and SPAC); Tim O'Brien, from the Blue Economy Center gave a presentation about Lower Rouge River Sediment Remediation Project –EPA Legacy Act Collaboration; John McCulloch, Oakland County Water Resources Commissioner, gave a presentation on the state Environmental Advisory Rules Committee and Annette DeMaria, ARC staff, gave a presentation on regional Illicit Discharge Elimination Program activities. The 2011 ARC budget amendments

were approved. The 2012 ARC budget of \$2,122,433 was approved. The budget includes the following line items:

Executive Director Services:	\$ 187,471
Finance Committee:	19,000
PIE Committee:	140,430
Technical Committee:	161,974
GLRI Grants:	1,044,132
Rouge Round X:	9,429
CMI:	26,907
NOAA:	491,768
SPAC:	10,000
Total:	\$2,122,433

Full ARC meeting summaries can be found at <http://www.allianceofrougecommunities.com/arcmeetings.html>.

## **B. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

Staff support was provided for three (3) Executive Committee meetings. Staff support for each meeting included (under the direction of the ARC Officers), preparation of the agenda, distribution of the materials prior to the meetings, facilitation of the meetings (including note-taking and documenting recommendations considered and actions taken), and meeting summary preparation and distribution. This subtask also included ongoing support services for the committee outside of the regular meetings.

The Executive Committee discusses and approves items in advance of full ARC meetings. Agendas and meeting summaries are available on [www.allianceofrougecommunities.com](http://www.allianceofrougecommunities.com). ARC Executive Committee Meetings were held at Farmington Hills City Hall on the following dates:

### March 23, 2011

Executive Director Jim Ridgway informed the Committee that the ARC was granted 501(c)(3) status by the Internal Revenue Service; The draft 2010 ARC Annual Report was presented; a draft ARC membership brochure was presented and the 2010 budget Amendments and 2011 budget amendments were approved.

### July 12, 2011

A grant project update was presented; the ARC was notified that it was awarded a \$1 Million NOAA grant to remove the Wayne Road Dam; The ARC submitted a \$374,980 Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) grant to the U.S. Forest Service (GLRI) to plant 2,000 trees in 12 communities and Wayne County the Rouge River Watershed. 2011 budget amendments to add grant projects were approved. Wayne



County reported that it had received 2011 GLRI funding to implement IDEP and HHW activities under the toxic reduction program.

October 25, 2011

ARC Chair Gary Mekjian discussed the possibility of the ARC serving as a fiduciary for an EPA/GLNPO Legacy Act project to remove and remediate sediment along the Rouge River. Tim Faas, ARC grant officer, reported that the U.S. Forest Service approved the ARC's EAB grant request. The Executive Committee approved 2011 budget amendments to add budget for a CMI monitoring grant and the NOAA Wayne Road Dam removal grant and to pay for additional services required from the ARC accounting firm. The committee reviewed the 2012 draft budget requests and recommended it to the full ARC for approval.

ARC Executive Committee meeting summaries can be found at <http://www.allianceofrougecommunities.com/arcmeetings.html>.

**C. ORGANIZATION COMMITTEE**

The Organization Committee spent 2011 updating the ARC Bylaws and reviewing and recommending ARC Cooperating and Associate members. Additionally, the committee reviewed and recommended the 2012 Executive Director Services budget.

**D. PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT AND EDUCATION (PIE) COMMITTEE**

Staff support was provided for four (4) regular meetings, including preparation of the agenda (under the direction of the PIE Committee Chair), distribution of the materials prior to the meetings, facilitation of the meetings (including note-taking and record of actions taken), and preparation/distribution of meeting summaries to members and other interested parties. Staff provided ongoing support services for the committee outside of regular meetings. PIE meetings were held on the following dates:

- ◆ February 17, 2011, Southfield
- ◆ April 20, 2011, U-M Dearborn EIC
- ◆ July 14, 2011, Beverly Hills
- ◆ October 20, 2011, Wayne County Commerce Court

**Specific PIE Committee activities are listed under Task 3.**

**E. TECHNICAL COMMITTEE**

Staff support was provided for three (3) regular committee meetings and 11 subcommittee meetings. Activities included preparation of the agenda (under the direction of the Technical Committee Chair), distribution of the materials prior to the meetings, facilitation of the meetings (including note-taking and record of actions taken), and preparation/distribution of meeting summaries to members and other interested parties. Ongoing committee support services were also provided. Technical Committee Meetings were held on the following dates:

- ◆ March 10, 2011, Farmington Hills
- ◆ May 12, 2011, Farmington Hills
- ◆ August 10, 2011, Farmington Hills

Additional special subcommittee meetings were held. They were:

- ◆ February 23 (Detroit), March 14 (Detroit), April 20, 2011 (Canton), MS4 Municipal Operations Training for 2011
- ◆ March 8, 2011, MS4 Permit Subcommittee (Farmington Hills)
- ◆ March 7 and April 25, 2011 (Bloomfield Twp), Beta Users Meeting – Permit Reporting System
- ◆ June 7 and September 24, 2011 (Farmington Hills), IDEP Work Group
- ◆ November 22 & 30 and December 9, 2011 (Dearborn), Legacy Act Subcommittee

**Specific Technical Committee activities are listed under Task 4.**

#### **F. SUBWATERSHED ADVISORY GROUPS (SWAGS)**

No SWAG meetings were held in 2011.

#### **G. FINANCE COMMITTEE**

ECT worked with the Finance Committee to develop and administer the annual budget and work plan. ECT prepared monthly financial reports, mailed dues invoices to members, collected dues and paid the ARC's bills. ECT facilitated three (3) Finance Committee meetings by preparing the agenda, distributing materials prior to the meetings, and preparing/distributing meeting summaries to appropriate parties. Finance Committee meetings were held on the following dates:

- ◆ March 16, 2011 Livonia
- ◆ June 14, 2011, Livonia
- ◆ September 28, 2011, Livonia

A special ARC fundraising meeting was held December 6, 2011 in Livonia to discuss fundraising efforts through grants, donations and special events.

#### **H. ADMINISTRATIVE OVERSIGHT/ONGOING SUPPORT SERVICES**

ECT provided ongoing support services to the above committees and SWAGs on an as-needed basis.

### **TASK 2: ADVOCACY AND ADMINISTRATION**

#### **A. FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT (FOIA) AND OPEN MEETINGS ACT – STATE LAW REQUIREMENTS**

The ARC did not receive any FOIA requests in 2011.

#### **B. ROUTINE DISTRIBUTION OF MATERIALS**

Materials distributed in 2011 included all meeting materials for the ARC Executive Committee, the ARC, the PIE, Technical, Organization, and Finance committees and all special meetings.

Staff also distributed materials related to permit discussions with MDNRE, watershed management planning documents and flyers for upcoming events.

### **C. ADVOCATE FOR ROUGE RIVER WATERSHED & PRIMARY LIAISON**

ECT promoted the ARC as the advocate for the Rouge River Watershed, served as the primary spokesperson for the ARC, responded to requests for information and sought opportunities to promote ARC awareness. ECT served as the ARC primary liaison to all members, including both formal and informal interaction with government officials, legislators and staff on a regular basis. The Executive Director and staff participated in the following activities:

#### Statewide Public Advisory Council (SPAC)

Staff attended the Great Lakes Commission Public Advisory Committee (SPAC) grant workshop in Lansing on January 13, 2011 and the SPAC legislative briefing in Lansing on June 15, 2011.

#### E.coli TMDL permit modifications

The Executive Director and staff reviewed the revised E. coli TMDL and permit modifications for the City of Detroit in the Main Branch and attended the DWSD public hearing on its CSO permit and adjusted E. coli TMDL in Detroit on February 23, 2011. Staff also had a pre-meeting with MDNRE to discuss the adjusted TMDL. Staff drafted a memo to ARC members regarding Detroit's E. coli TMDL and its impact on ARC communities. The Executive Director and staff continued to review the draft DWSD NPDES permit. Staff held a conference call with MDEQ to review the revised E. coli TMDL and permit modifications for the City of Detroit and suggested improvements. Staff prepared comments to MDEQ, including comments from ARC members.

#### Healing Our Waters Conference, Washington, D.C.

The Executive Director attended the Healing Our Waters conference in Washington D.C. from March 1-2, 2011 and met with the Michigan Congressional Staff to update them on ARC activities.

#### Storm Water Permit Activities

The Executive Director conducted ARC Permit Subcommittee meetings on January 11, 2011 and January 24, 2011 to discuss next steps after the 2008 storm water permit was voided by the MDEQ. The Executive Director attended a series of stakeholder meetings with MDEQ in Lansing to discuss the 2013 state storm water permit.

#### Partnership Activities

Staff had various discussions with the Alliance of Downriver Watersheds regarding a joint grant application to the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative. Staff also had discussions with ARC Cooperative Partners Friends of the Rouge and Cranbrook Institute of Science regarding a joint GLRI grant application.

Staff provided information to the FOTR Vice-President regarding improvement in the Rouge River for a presentation given at the University of Michigan-Dearborn.

ARC staff participated in the Cranbrook Rouge River Water Festival on September 15, 2011.

The Executive Director and staff continued to work with the following organizations on a variety of initiatives: SEMCOG, the Alliance of Downriver Watersheds, Oakland County Planning and Economic Development/Six Rivers Land Conservancy and the Gateway Partnership.

#### Outreach Activities

ARC staff responded to questions from the National Environmental Defense Council regarding an update on activities in the Rouge River Watershed.

The Executive Director and staff created a tour map and guide of the Rouge Main Branch for a planned tour of the watershed by a MSU professor and a British VIP scheduled for June 22, 2011.

Staff communicated with an Ohio consulting firm to answer questions regarding the Rouge CSO basin costs in response to an ARC web inquiry.

Staff attended Detroit's Green Task Force Water subcommittee meeting on October 20, 2011 to discuss a Detroit Watershed Management Plan.

#### Gateway Partnership

Staff attended a meeting at UM-D with Wayne County, Corps of Engineers, UM-D and The Henry Ford on August 29, 2011 to review progress made on Gateway Partnership projects. The Executive Director and staff attended a meeting at UM-D to meet with UM-D staff, Wayne County and Henry Ford Estate staff to discuss status of the Henry Ford Estate dam on September 27, 2011.

#### Member Requests

The Executive Director met with City of Wayne officials to discuss the Wayne Road Dam design project. The Executive Director and staff responded to individual inquiries from Bingham Farms, Farmington and Lathrup Village.

#### Healing Our Waters /AOC Great Lakes Conference

Staff attended the Healing our Waters/AOC Great Lakes conference in Detroit on October 13-14, 2011. Staff took the ARC's GLRI grant officer on a tour of project locations.

#### Green Infrastructure Report (case studies)

The Executive Director participated in the review and editing of the Rooftops to Rivers II, a report by the Natural Resource Defense Council which used case studies to illustrate the move

nationally towards incorporating green infrastructure practices. The Rouge River Watershed was one of the case studies.

#### D. QUICK BOOKS MONTHLY TRACKING AND REPORTING

The ARC ED staff performs the ARC's financial responsibilities, including Quickbooks, dues collection, bill payments, grant reimbursement submittals, audit preparations and other financial activities. The 2010 financial audit was completed on June 25, 2011.

#### E. ADMINISTRATIVE OVERSIGHT & CONTRACTOR MANAGEMENT

ECT provided administrative oversight of the ARC day-to-day activities, staff, consultants and contractors, and external relationships with other agencies, organizations, and individuals to meet the goals of the ARC. Specific activities were discussed in monthly invoice summaries.

#### F. ARC MARKETING & COMMUNICATIONS STRATEGY

##### NOAA Grants

Staff drafted a press release regarding the NOAA award to the ARC for the removal of Wayne Road Dam.

##### ARC Benefits Brochure

Staff drafted an ARC marketing brochure for ARC members to distribute to local officials and a similar brochure for the general public.

#### G. ANNUAL REPORT

The 2010 ARC annual report was completed and submitted to the ARC in March, 2011.

#### H. GRANT APPLICATIONS

The Executive Director staff applied for the following grants on behalf of the Alliance of Rouge Communities:

- ◆ NOAA Fish and Wildlife Habitat Grant for the Wayne Road Dam Removal project (\$1 Million). The ARC was awarded this grant and work began in Fall, 2011.
- ◆ CMI Monitoring Grant (\$49,895) for monitoring to support E. coli TMDL implementation in the Upper and Main 1-2 Subwatersheds. The ARC was awarded this grant and work began in Fall, 2011.
- ◆ Great Lakes Restoration Initiative Grant to create schoolyard habitat (grow zones) in schools in the Rouge AOC. This grant was not awarded.
- ◆ Statewide Public Advisory Council Grant through the Great Lakes Commission (\$24,989) to create a template for the Upper Subwatershed to show projects that would work toward delisting beneficial use impairments in the Rouge Area of Concern. Work began on this grant in June, 2011.



ARC Marketing Brochure for Members



- ◆ U.S. Forest Service Emerald Ash Borer Grant (\$374,980) to plant 2,000 trees in the Rouge River Watershed. This grant was awarded to the ARC, but did not begin in 2011.

### **TASK 3: PIE COMMITTEE TASKS**

#### **A. GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE CAMPAIGN**

##### Grow Zone Projects

The ARC PIE Committee developed a Request for Proposals (RFP) for communities and organizations to submit project sites for the 2011 Green Infrastructure (Grow Zone) projects. ARC staff provided design, plant material and signage for the approved projects. The Grow Zone Subcommittee received eight proposals and funded all of them. They are:

1. City of Farmington (Shiawassee Park): Riparian Buffer
2. Riverside Park Club (Beverly Hills): Riparian Buffer
3. City of Farmington Hills (Founders Sports Park): Riparian Buffer
4. Henry Ford Community College (M-TEC/East Campus): Native Plant Garden
5. South Redford School District (Jane Addams School): Filter Strip/Native Plant Garden
6. Oakland County Parks (Glen Oaks Golf Course): Riparian Buffer
7. Southfield Public Schools (Birney School): Schoolyard Habitat
8. Canton Township (Heritage Park ponds): Riparian Buffer



**Riverside Park Club in Beverly Hills**

Staff distributed seed and plants for the ARC grow zones on June 2, 2011 at the Wayne County DPW Yard.

Total 2011 ARC grow zones acreage: 0.9 acre

Staff visited ARC 2009-11 grow zone sites on July 25, 2011 and July 28, 2011 and prepared evaluation sheets.

Wayne County Water Quality Management Division staff planned and implemented a workday at Bennett Arboretum and Northville Recreation Area along Hines Drive in Northville on May 7, 2011. Over fifty-six (56) volunteers from several local churches, bike clubs, Ladywood High School Environmental Club, Master Gardeners and local residents participated. Efforts included: The Stewardship Networks Garlic Mustard Challenge 2011; weeding around the trees, kiosk, and interpretive signs; and hauling five (5) yards of cedar mulch to properly place around the trees, kiosk and signs. Twelve (12) garbage bags of invasive species and 27 garbage bags of garlic mustard were collected.

### Workshops

The ARC held a workshop for the general public regarding the design and implementation of residential grow zones on April 13, 2011 at the Southfield Library. There were 40 attendees.

### 2011 Rain Barrel Sales

Five rain barrel sales were held in conjunction with Enviro-World. Dates, locations and number of participating residents are below.

- ◆ June 18, 2011 in Farmington Hills, 141 people bought 208 rain barrels.
- ◆ July 9, 2011 in Southfield, 194 people bought 304 rain barrels.
- ◆ July 30, 2011 in Westland, 466 people bought 778 rain barrels and 47 compost bins. (sold out)
- ◆ September 17, 2011, 261 people bought 322 rain barrels and 53 compost bins.
- ◆ September 24, 2011, 27 people bought 56 rain barrels and 14 compost bins.

A total of 1,668 rain barrels and 114 compost bins were sold in 2012.

### Green Schools

Wayne County staff facilitates the Green Schools program in Wayne and Oakland Counties for the PIE Committee. The state of Michigan has an official Michigan Green School Law, which encourages all public and private schools to administer energy-saving and environmental activities to become designated as a “Green School”. A school is eligible to receive a green, emerald or evergreen school designation if the school coordinator submits proper documentation describing how the school has performed activities from each of the categories: Recycling, Energy, Environmental Protection, Miscellaneous, and Propose Your Own Point. You can receive the Green School designation can be achieved by successfully participating a least 10 activities. The Emerald designation can be achieved by successfully participating in 15 points and the Evergreen designation can be achieved by successfully



Rain Barrel Sale in Westland July 30, 2011

COMMUNITY	TOTAL RAIN BARRELS SOLD THROUGH 2011
Allen Park	14
Auburn Hills	1
Beverly Hills	21
Birmingham	53
Bloomfield Hills	14
Bloomfield Twp.	25
Canton	158
Commerce	4
Dearborn	73
Dearborn Heights	103
Detroit	34
Farmington	39
Farmington Hills	163
Franklin	2
Garden City	134
Highland Park	5
Inkster	10
Lathrup village	35
Livonia	320
Melvindale	1
Northville	25
Novi	16
Oak Park	7
Plymouth	52
Redford	179
Rochester Hills	105
Romulus	11
Southfield	188
Troy	347
Wayne	37
West Bloomfield	9
Westland	339
Wixom	1
Non-Rouge Communities	335
Other	108
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2,968</b>

participating in 20 points. PIE Committee budget for this task was used to purchase 75 trees for schools that were new to the Green Schools program in 2011.

Wayne County offered trees to 83 recognized schools within the Wayne County portion of the Rouge River watershed and Oakland County offered trees to 43 schools. Of the 83 Wayne County schools, 31 schools (37%) accepted the offer. Five of these schools accepted two or more trees. Of Oakland County's 43 qualified schools, 11 schools (25%) accepted the offer and all 9 agreed to take more than two trees.



The Alliance of Rouge Communities (ARC) also provided white pine seedlings to 50 of the green schools. The seedlings were separated into packs of 30 and information that included planting instructions, the *Value of Trees flyer*, Rouge River bookmark and information on registering the tree through the ARC's website.

The list of Rouge River Watershed Green Schools is available on the ARC website at <http://www.allianceofrougecommunities.com/PDFs/PI/Appendix%20B%20Green%20Schools.pdf>.

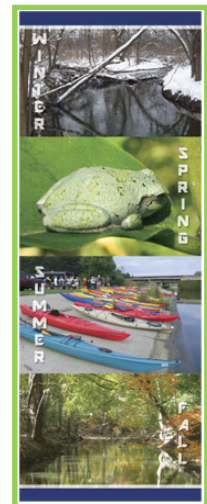
**B. PUBLIC ED MATERIALS**

Bookmarks

ARC staff developed bookmarks to publicize the ARC and promote Rouge Friendly tips to the public. They were distributed to the following entities:  
 40 ARC member communities and agencies (4,000)  
 26 ARC member community libraries (2,600)  
 Green Schools (1,500)  
 Cranbrook Water Festival (2,300)

Fertilizer Clips

The ARC developed fertilizer clips with the ARC logo and the phrase: *Fertilize Sparingly and Caringly* to distribute at public events. More than 800 clips were distributed at rain barrel sales in Farmington Hills, Westland and Novi.



ARC Bookmark



ARC Fertilizer Clips



This task also includes distribution of an e-newsletter. Strong partnerships are necessary to establish and enhance local and regional outreach with communities, other non-profits and governmental agencies to educate and inform the public about key issues within the Rouge River Watershed and change behaviors that directly affect the health of the Rouge River Watershed. In the course of its work, FOTR promotes activities and attends a variety of local and regional meetings to build partnerships and promote Rouge River activities.

### Annual Report

The Friends of the Rouge developed and generated an annual report of the activities it conducted in 2011 that assist ARC members to fulfill storm water permit requirements. The report includes the Frog and Toad Survey, Benthics Monitoring, Rouge Education Project (REP), River Restoration, and Rouge Rescue. Information includes meeting or event dates; workshop dates; number of volunteers attending each event; residency of volunteers, REP Schools, number of students per school, number of teachers per school, monitoring locations for each school; a list of dates, locations for REP workshops and a list of schools that participated. The Friends of the Rouge Annual Report can be found on the ARC website at [http://www.allianceofrougecommunities.com/PDFs/PI/Appendix%20C%20FOTR\\_ARC\\_REPORT.pdf](http://www.allianceofrougecommunities.com/PDFs/PI/Appendix%20C%20FOTR_ARC_REPORT.pdf).

## **TASK 4: TECHNICAL COMMITTEE TASKS**

### **A. ROUGE RIVER WATERSHED MONITORING ACTIVITIES**

#### DO/Flow Monitoring

Operating under the 2009-2013 Five-Year Monitoring Plan, flow and dissolved oxygen monitoring was completed by USGS at site D06 and US10 (flow only) on the Middle Branch in 2011. A summary of this data is included in the Water Quality Summary.

#### Geomorphology

Wayne County Water Quality Management Division (WQMD) staff completed re-surveys at two Rouge River geomorphology sites in August 2011. Two of the sites were located in the Tonquish Creek tributary of the Middle Rouge River. The tractive force ratio, which estimates stability of a stream based on a ratio calculated from the bankfull depth, channel slope and the size of particles found on the stream bed, was calculated for all the sites. Based on the rating scale that WQMD has proposed, the tractive force ratios both were rated stable, which was their rating in 2010. Comparison of the cross sectional areas of each site showed little change. The “stable” sites are the Tonquish Creek at Plymouth Township Park (Middle Rouge), and South Branch Tonquish Creek at Lilley Road (Middle Rouge). The Tonquish Creek at Plymouth Township Park rating changed slightly toward aggrading, but based on little change in the cross section overall the site is still considered stable.

### Water Quality Summary

A Water Quality Summary, describing the results of the 2010 flow and DO data collection effort and an assessment of historic data trends, was completed by ED staff and is available at [www.allianceofrougecommunities.com](http://www.allianceofrougecommunities.com). In addition, the 2010 monitoring data was added to the Wayne County Rouge Project database and the online database (WebView) was updated. The online database can be accessed at [www.rougeriver.com/database](http://www.rougeriver.com/database).

### **B. STORM WATER REPORTING SYSTEM**

The main purpose of this initiative was to assist ARC members in the permit required storm water reporting by focusing on efforts that can be completed on a watershed-wide basis, thereby reducing workload and costs to individual ARC members. The system consists of four elements:

- ◆ SQL Server database
- ◆ MS Access Management System
- ◆ Web interface: data entry
- ◆ Web interface: report generation



In 2011, ED staff further refined the Reporting System developed in 2010. These refinements included edits to the web-interface text based on feedback from the beta tester group, modifying activity assignments based on input from the members, and programming for the county-wide and watershed-wide reports. The reporting system was transferred from the developer's server to the ARC's server and tested by ARC staff. This testing revealed programming issues that prevented updates to the database. ED staff is troubleshooting these issues with the system designer so that it can be released to the members.

### **C. IDEP INVESTIGATIONS AND TRAINING**

#### Investigations

Oakland County continued IDEP investigations in the southeast portion of Farmington Hills. These investigations included smoke testing approximately 6,000 feet each of storm drains and sanitary sewers, televising 1,030 feet of storm drains and dye testing 5 properties, verification of storm drain sizes, GIS mapping, and development of a summary report. As a result of these investigations, six (6) illicit connections containing sanitary wastewater were discovered in 2011. A total of 13 illicit connections have been found in the project area between 2010 and 2011. Additional work in this area is still needed to further characterize all open connections to the storm drains (or to confirm proper drainage to the sanitary sewer). A copy of this report can be found at

<http://www.allianceofrougecommunities.com/PDFs/technical/FH%20ARC%20Project%20Final%20Report%20January%202012.pdf>.

Wayne County conducted dye testing of 52 municipal facilities across five communities (Canton, Southfield, Bloomfield Twp. Westland and Dearborn Heights) to determine proper connection to the

sanitary sewer. As a result of this effort, one illicit connection and four housekeeping issues were identified. One follow up site visit was done at a facility that had a violation noted prior to this effort.

### Facilitation

ED staff provided support to the Southeast Michigan IDEP Work Group which was organized in 2011. This support included conducting a peer review and edits of Wayne County's pollutant load calculator tool and creation of a draft IDEP Tip Card for municipal staff. Both items can be found at <http://www.allianceofrougecommunities.com/PDFs/technical/IDEP%20Tip%20Card2.pdf?v=qRljMX4eaS8>.

### Training

IDEP training was held on December 8, 2011 in Canton Township. Thirty (30) municipal staff attended the session.



IDEP Tip Card

## **D. COMPLIANCE INITIATIVES**

The focus of this task was to provide support to the membership in fulfilling their obligations for their storm water permit. This could include support for the MDEQ permit audits, storm water plan preparation, and training for municipal staff. Due to the withdrawal of the 2008 permit, some of the focus of this task was shifted to provide support in the development of a new permit. ED staff completed the following:

- ◆ Drafted a memo describing how the ARC's efforts fulfill the EPA's six minimum measures.
- ◆ Drafted a memo describing specifically how the ARC was addressing IDEP requirements and presented at a MDEQ MS4 Permit Stakeholder meeting.
- ◆ Participated in five (5) MDEQ MS4 Permit Stakeholder meetings held in Lansing over the course of 2011 to provide input for the new permit. Participation included meeting summaries and updates to the membership.
- ◆ Supplied support to the Municipal Storm Water Pollution Prevention Training sessions held across southeast Michigan. This included program development and presentation at the Wayne County session.
- ◆ Collaborated with SEMCOG and other regional leaders regarding MS4 permit training ideas for 2012.

## **E. MONITORING TO SUPPORT E. COLI TMDL IMPLEMENTATION**

In 2011, the ARC was awarded a grant from the MDEQ to conduct monitoring to locate illicit connections in priority areas of the watershed. This is a multi-year project and the focus area is Pernick Creek in the Main 1-2 located in Southfield and Franklin. In 2011, the Quality Assurance Project Plan was developed and sent to the MDEQ for approval. The draft QAPP is available at <http://www.allianceofrougecommunities.com/PDFs/technical/QAPProugev11.pdf>.

