**PROTECT THE ROUGE RIVER WATERSHED ALL SEASON LONG**

**WINTER**
- **December**: Purchase a programmable thermostat and set it to lower the heat overnight. Recycle any holiday greenery, such as your tree.
- **January**: Participate in the Friends of the Rouge Winter Snowfly Search.
- **February**: Attend a Friends of the Rouge Frog and Toad Survey workshop.

**MARCH**
- **March**: Recycle or properly dispose of household products that contain chemicals, such as insecticides, pesticides, paint, solvents, and used motor oil and other auto fluids. Participate in your local HHW and E-waste collection day.

**APRIL**
- **April**: Have your septic system inspected. Install a rain barrel to capture rainwater for your garden.

**MAY**
- **May**: Plant Michigan native plants. Use low-phosphorus fertilizer on your lawn.

**JUNE**
- **June**: Participate in Rouge Rescue on the first Saturday of June.

**JULY**
- **July**: Don’t feed the geese! Water your lawn in the early morning or late evening to reduce evaporation and use a soaker hose instead of a sprinkler.

**AUGUST**
- **August**: Use a commercial car wash that treats or recycles its wastewater, or wash your car on the lawn so the water infiltrates into the ground.

**SEPTEMBER**
- **September**: Plant a tree to reduce storm water runoff.

**OCTOBER**
- **October**: Mulch your leaves for use in your garden and on your lawn. Don’t sweep yard waste in the street or into storm drains or streams.

**NOVEMBER**
- **November**: Drain your rain barrel and store it for the winter.

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