



Restoring Trees & Green Infrastructure in the Rouge River Watershed

In partnership with:



Great Lakes Restoration Initiative–United States Department of Agriculture (GLRI-USDA) Forest Service Grant:

- Four grants totaling more than \$800,000
- 4,700+ trees & 2.9 acres of green infrastructure planted in 25 communities & Wayne, Oakland & Washtenaw County

Benefits of restoring trees & green infrastructure in the Rouge River Watershed:

- An estimated \$80,000 per year in energy, carbon dioxide (CO₂), air quality, stormwater & aesthetics benefits.
- An estimated 1.5 million gallons of rainfall will be intercepted each year by these trees & green infrastructure reducing stormwater pollution.

In 2012 the Alliance of Rouge Communities (ARC) was awarded its first GLRI-USDA Forest Service grant for \$372,700 that sought to replace more than 2,500 trees to the Rouge River Watershed, which lost thousands of trees due to the Emerald Ash Borer (EAB). Since then the GLRI USDA Forest Service has awarded three subsequent grants to the ARC totaling more than \$460,000. These grants allowed communities to plant more than 2,200 new trees and with the help of community volunteers to plant and retrofit 2.9 acres of green infrastructure. These projects create a healthy, functional and more diverse urban tree canopy in the Rouge River Watershed and aid in reducing the effects of stormwater pollution such as soil erosion and air pollution and the effects to habitat.

Tree planting is a priority project in the Rouge River Area of Concern (AOC) Beneficial Use Impairment (BUI) Delisting Strategy (2012). The Rouge River Watershed is a high to medium priority area for EAB according to the State Forest Action Plan and these projects help address the plan's Issue 9: Reforestation of Urban and Ex-Urban Areas. The approach for restoration has evolved from merely improving water quality to maximizing ecological integrity within the AOC.

The ARC member partners for these grant projects are: Bingham Farms, Birmingham, Bloomfield Hills, Bloomfield Township, Canton Township, Dearborn Heights, Farmington Hills, Inkster, Lathrup Village, Livonia, Northville Township, Novi, Oak Park, Plymouth, Plymouth Township, Rochester Hills, Redford Township, Southfield, Troy, Village of Franklin, Walled Lake, Wayne, Westland, Wixom and Wayne, Oakland and Washtenaw County.

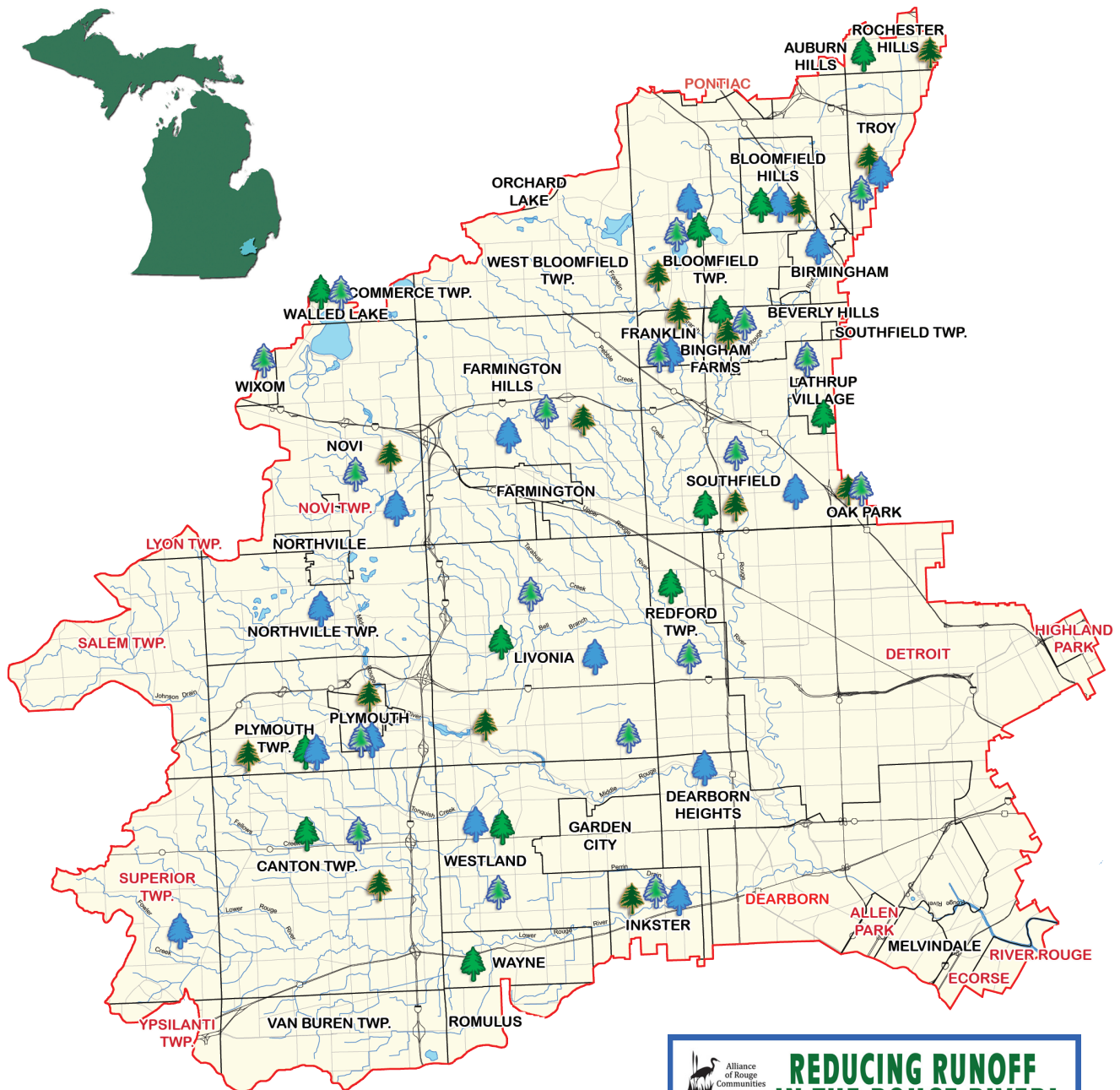


The ARC is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization consisting of local municipalities, counties, educational institutions and stewardship groups working together to improve the Rouge River. Founded in 2005, the ARC is funded by membership dues from local governments and supported by grants. The ARC and its partners work cooperatively to meet water quality requirements mandated by the state's storm water permit and to restore beneficial uses, such as canoeing, fishing and other recreational activities, to the Rouge River. That means better water quality for less cost to its members!





**For more information about other ARC activities visit our website at:
www.allianceofrougecommunities.com**

This project is funded through a grant from the GLRI-USDA Forest Service (grant number 12-DG-11420004-013, 15-DG-11420004-002, 18-DG-11420004-006 & 21-DG-11094200-07)

Four GLRI-USDA Forest Service Grants Plant Trees in the Rouge River Watershed



KEY

-  - 2012 ARC members receiving trees
-  - 2014 ARC members receiving trees
-  - 2017 ARC members receiving trees
-  - 2020 ARC members receiving trees &/or green infrastructure

Red Text - Non-ARC Members
Black Text - ARC Members

**REDUCING RUNOFF
IN THE ROUGE RIVER!**

This planting project is funded in part by a Great Lakes Restoration Initiative grant through the U. S. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to improve water quality

Great Lakes RESTORATION U.S. EPA

USDA, Forest Service Grant: 21-DG-11094200-007

This institution, EPA, and the Forest Service are equal opportunity providers.

Project signs posted at planting sites

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