



# Southeast Michigan Resilience Fund

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## PARTNERS

- Cleveland-Cliffs
- Fred A. and Barbara M. Erb Family Foundation
- The Kresge Foundation
- Ralph C. Wilson Jr. Foundation
- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
- U.S. Forest Service

## ABOUT NFWF

Chartered by Congress in 1984, the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF) protects and restores the nation's fish, wildlife, plants and habitats. Working with federal, corporate and individual partners, NFWF has funded more than 6,000 organizations and generated a total conservation impact of \$8.1 billion.

Learn more at [www.nfwf.org](http://www.nfwf.org)

## NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS

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American black ducks

## OVERVIEW

The National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF), in partnership with Cleveland-Cliffs, the Fred A. and Barbara M. Erb Family Foundation, the Kresge Foundation, the Ralph C. Wilson, Jr. Foundation, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, U.S. Department of Interior Fish and Wildlife Service, and U.S. Department of Agriculture Forest Service, announced the 2023 round of funding for the Southeast Michigan Resilience Fund. These six new projects will reduce stormwater impact, improve water quality, enhance habitat and increase accessibility and usability of public green space. These grants received a total of nearly \$1.7 million in grant funding and leveraged \$3.5 million in matching contributions to generate a total conservation impact of more than \$5.2 million.

These community-driven investments will strengthen regional resilience by installing green infrastructure, adding more than 4.4 million gallons of stormwater storage, and reducing the threat of flooding and other intensifying environmental stressors. Additionally, projects will restore critical habitat for wildlife and create or enhance public access to and use of natural areas and parks.

### The grants will support projects that also will:

- Add 4.4 million gallons of stormwater storage
- Plant more than 60,300 trees for increased stormwater storage and habitat
- Restore 65 acres through invasive species control
- Help restore the quality and connectivity of the region's unique habitats
- Improve quality of life by increasing public access to natural areas and parks through five new access points

(continued)



St. Suzanne Cody Rouge Community Center rain garden volunteers

**Enhancing Green Stormwater Infrastructure for Public Spaces in Southeast Michigan**

Grantee: Friends of the Rouge  
 Grant Amount:..... \$316,000  
 Matching Funds:..... \$349,600  
 Total Project Amount:..... \$665,600  
 Enhance existing public spaces in underserved communities using placemaking strategies including bioretention features to create habitat and control stormwater runoff, while building capacity for municipalities to expand green stormwater infrastructure in public spaces. Project will build 6,150 square feet of bioretention with amenities and launch an integrated series of engagement activities designed to reduce barriers adopting green stormwater infrastructure in public spaces.

**Opening Public Access and Restoring Habitat at the Kolon-Baki Nature Preserve (MI)**

Grantee: Legacy Land Conservancy  
 Grant Amount:..... \$150,000  
 Matching Funds:..... \$395,000  
 Total Project Amount:..... \$545,000  
 Remove invasive species and prepare a management plan to restore habitat and open public access to the Kolon-Baki Nature Preserve, a rolling oak-hickory forested property featuring intermittent wetlands and remnant fen habitat. Project will restore approximately 55 acres of habitat to increase carbon sequestration, climate resiliency and stewardship opportunities in southeast Michigan.

**Restoring Upland, Wetland and Riparian Ecosystems in Monroe (MI)**

Grantee: Monroe Public Schools  
 Grant Amount:..... \$300,000  
 Matching Funds:..... \$657,000  
 Total Project Amount:..... \$957,000  
 Restore critical ecosystem function of upland, wetland, and riparian areas and enhance visitor infrastructure and educational resources at Knabusch Math & Science Center at Lake Erie in Monroe. Project will build resilience to fluctuating lake levels and improve habitat quality of rare Great Lakes wetland plant communities to benefit birds and other native populations.

**Supporting Green Stormwater Infrastructure in Detroit Neighborhood-Centered Faith Communities (MI) - II**

Grantee: St. Suzanne Cody Rouge Community Resource Center  
 Grant Amount:..... \$300,000  
 Matching Funds:..... \$322,000  
 Total Project Amount:..... \$622,000  
 Support a network of churches in northwest Detroit to maintain existing bioretention practices, install new green stormwater infrastructure, and provide training programs. Project will continue accelerating work to mitigate stormwater runoff and combined sewer overflows and build sustained community support, education and organizational capacity.

**Activating Detroit’s Public Spaces to Improve Habitats for Diverse and Resilient Communities (MI)**

Grantee: National Wildlife Federation  
 Grant Amount:..... \$335,000  
 Matching Funds:..... \$160,000  
 Total Project Amount:..... \$495,000  
 Expand a network of green stormwater infrastructure demonstration sites aimed to increase pervious acreage and develop a self-sustaining network of engaged stewards through programing in Detroit. Project will engage hundreds of community members through installation days, in-person workshops, and garden tours and will divert over 600,000 gallons of stormwater annually.

**Expanding Green Stormwater Infrastructure through Urban Pocket Forests in Pontiac (MI)**

Grantee: Reroot Pontiac  
 Grant Amount:..... \$252,900  
 Matching Funds:..... \$1,669,200  
 Total Project Amount:..... \$1,922,100  
 Repurpose urban lots for green stormwater infrastructure pocket forests and larger urban forest installations in Pontiac. Project will sequester and infiltrate stormwater from heavily impacted urban areas while developing community greenspaces, rebuilding local biodiversity and improving habitat for birds and native pollinators.