

City of Rochester Hills Green Space Advisory Board



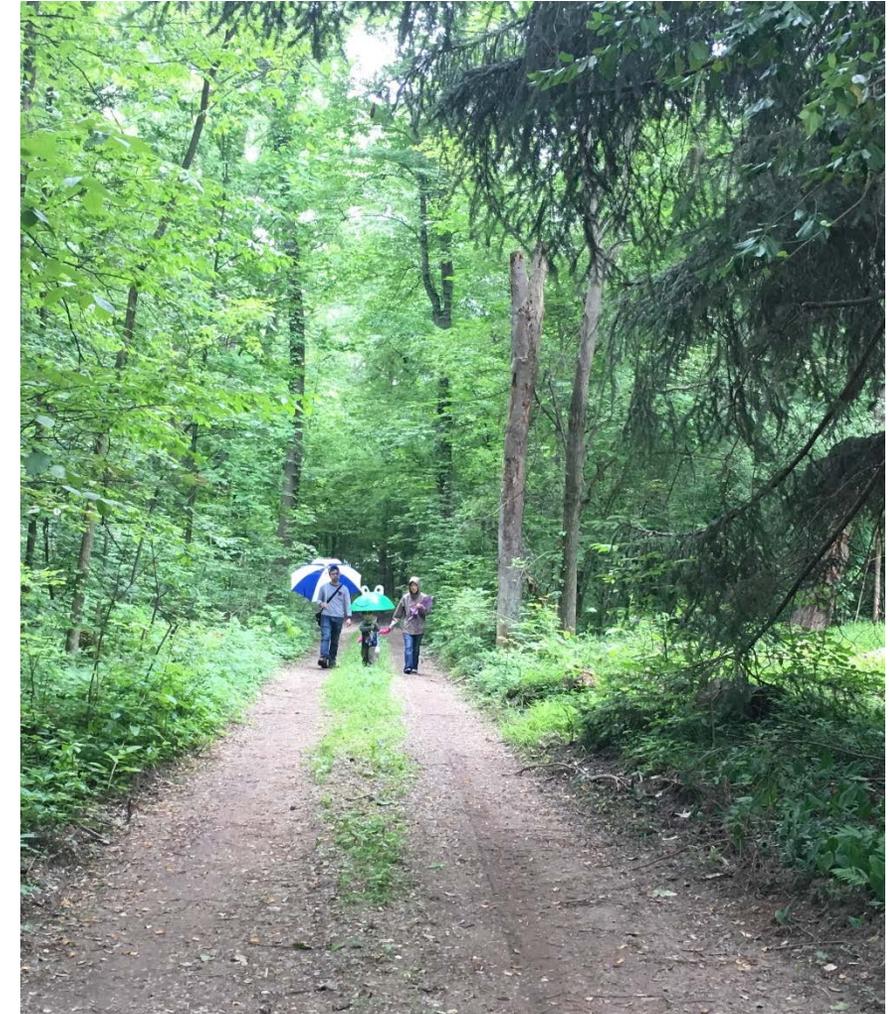
UPDATE – JULY 15, 2019



**Darlene Janulis, Chair
Heidi Morris, Member**

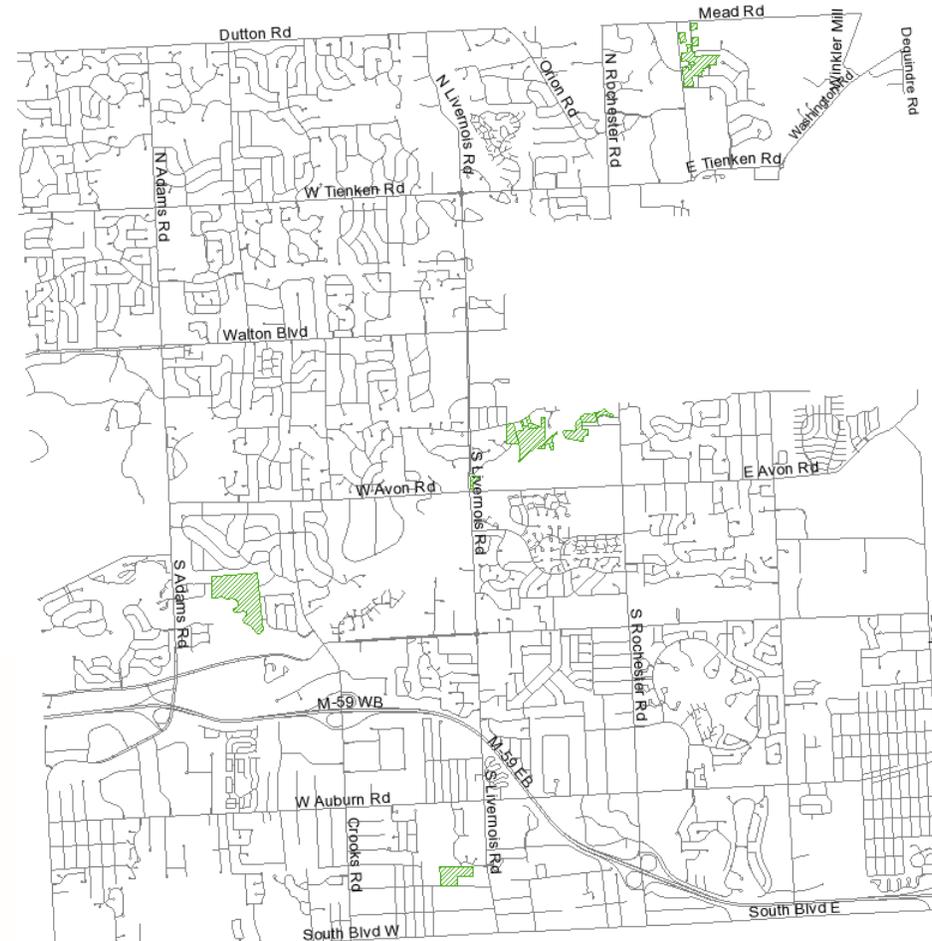
Values of Green Space

- **Studies consistently show:**
 - Green Spaces are associated with better mental health
 - Reduce stress
 - Green Spaces are associated with improved physical health
 - Improved air quality and water quality
 - Green Spaces provide economic benefits
 - Increase property value
 - Green Spaces provide ecological and environmental benefits
 - Quality habitat for diverse wildlife
 - Improve stormwater impacts
 - Green Spaces improve recreation opportunities
 - Connect with nature



Green Space Background

In 2005 the City residents approved a 0.3 mill 10 year open space millage to acquire and preserve natural Green space.



Property Summary



- **2018 Donation - Ruby Extension**
- **Total Number of Green Space Parcels: 7**
- **Total Green Space Acreage: 127 Acres**

Rivercrest– 1.74 acres

Located on the northeast corner of Livernois Road and West Avon Road, 38% woodland and 578 ft. Clinton River frontage.

Childress– 5.3 acres

Located west of Rochester Road, nearly 100% wooded with steep slopes, scenic views, priority 1 wildlife habitat, and Clinton River frontage.

Harding - 26.8 acres

Located adjacent to the Clinton River Trail with river frontage, sensitive wetlands, upland forest.

Cloverport– 7.42 acres

Located between the west end of Cloverport and the Clinton River, over 1000 feet of river frontage, sensitive wetlands.

Clear Creek – 23.68 acres

Located on the southeast corner of Mead Road and Sheldon Road this area is four parcels of environmentally sensitive priority 1 wetlands.

Innovation Hills – 48.38 acres

Adjacent to Innovation Hills Park, its significant natural features and location will offer connectivity to the Clinton River Greenway.

Ruby – 13.92 acres

On Ruby Ave., west of Livernois, selected for its high quality old growth tree canopy and 1.6 acres of quality wetlands.



Green Space Advisory Board



In 2005 City Council Created a 9 Member Green Space Advisory Board (GSAB) to develop strategies and recommendations to Council to:

- Permanently preserve natural green spaces, wildlife & scenic views
- Protect woodlands, wetlands, rivers and streams
- Expand the Clinton River Greenway

2019 Citizen Representatives

Peter Beightol

Jayson Graves, Vice Chair

Heidi Morris

Dianah Foster

Darlene Janulis, Chair

Dahlvin Peterson

Tim Gauthier

Philip Leach

Terry Stephens

Youth Representatives

Maya Iyer

Sofia Tiberio

Dana Williams

Staff Members

Matt Einheuser, Nat Res Mgr

Ken Elwert, Director

Lance DeVoe, Naturalist

City Council Representative

Susan Bowyer, Ph.D.

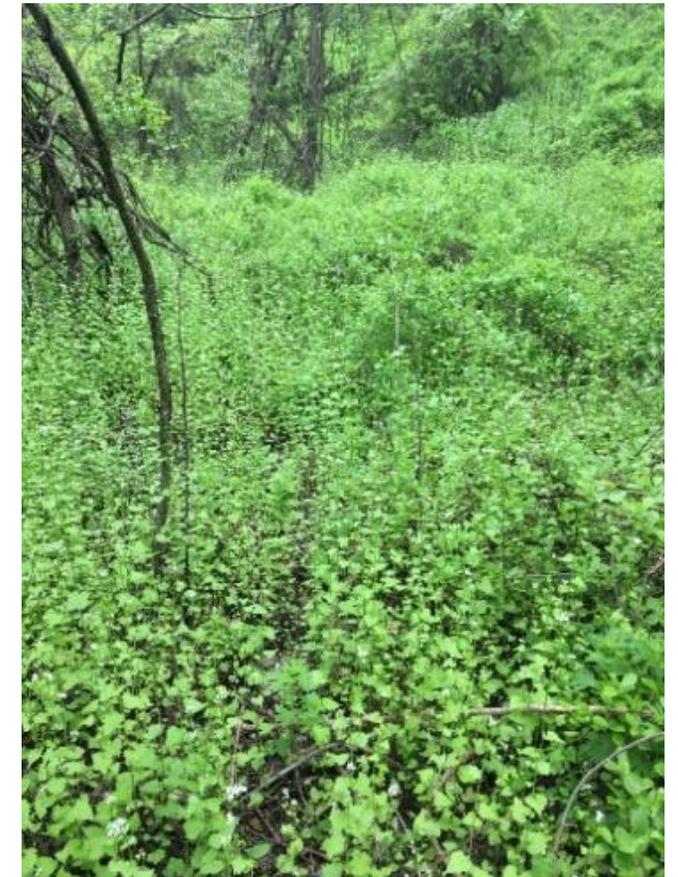


Green Space Millage Modification



The millage purpose was modified in 2013 to allow for:

- Protection
- Care and maintenance
- Improved pedestrian accessibility



2018/2019 Stewardship Projects

- 2016 - 43 projects were performed on 3 properties,
 - 2017 - 33 projects were performed on 3 properties
 - 2018 - 28 projects were performed on 9 properties*
 - 2019 - 29 projects were performed on 9 properties*
 - *7 green spaces, City Parks, River corridor
-
- Beginning Fall 2018 and into 2019, the main focus has been on buckthorn removal through the use of machinery in Innovation Hills Green Space and Harding.



Innovation Hills Green Space Buckthorn Removal



Harding and Ruby Native Prairie Restorations



GSAB Goals and Activities

- Annual fiscal review of stewardship projects
- Review any new acquisition nominations
- Outreach

2018 GOALS

1. Enhance community outreach through additional nature hikes
 - **Second Saturday Hikes**
2. Continue to approve and install signage for 2018
3. Continue outreach through the discovery hike

2019 Goals

1. Consolidation of Green Space property fact sheets
2. Presentation to City Council on Green Space property.
3. Improved engagement and education of Green Spaces
 - **Second Saturday Hikes**
 - **Discovery Hike**
4. Increase volunteer stewardship
5. River trip to view the Green Spaces



Discovery Hike / 2nd Saturday Hikes



- **Discovery Hike – May 4th – Harding**
Activities include guided nature walks and raffle with prizes provided by sponsors
(Dunhams, Emagine Theater, Premier Pet Supplies, Wild Birds Unlimited, Dr. Susan Bowyer)
- **Second Saturday Hikes – 10 a.m.**
June 8: Ruby Green Space
July 13: Cloverport & Childress Green Spaces
Aug 10: Innovation Hills Green Space
Sep 14: Harding Green Space
Oct 12: Location to be determined



Other Green Space Supported Projects



- **Clinton River Restoration – near Yates – provided necessary match to acquire \$287,500 grant to address stream bank vegetation and habitat.**
- **Innovation Hills Park wetland restoration as a continuation of work being completed on Green Space side**
- **Phragmites treatment on several other City owned properties**



Other Green Space Photos



THANK YOU

QUESTIONS???



Thank You for support in protecting our green spaces!

- City Council
- Mayor Barnett
- City Staff

