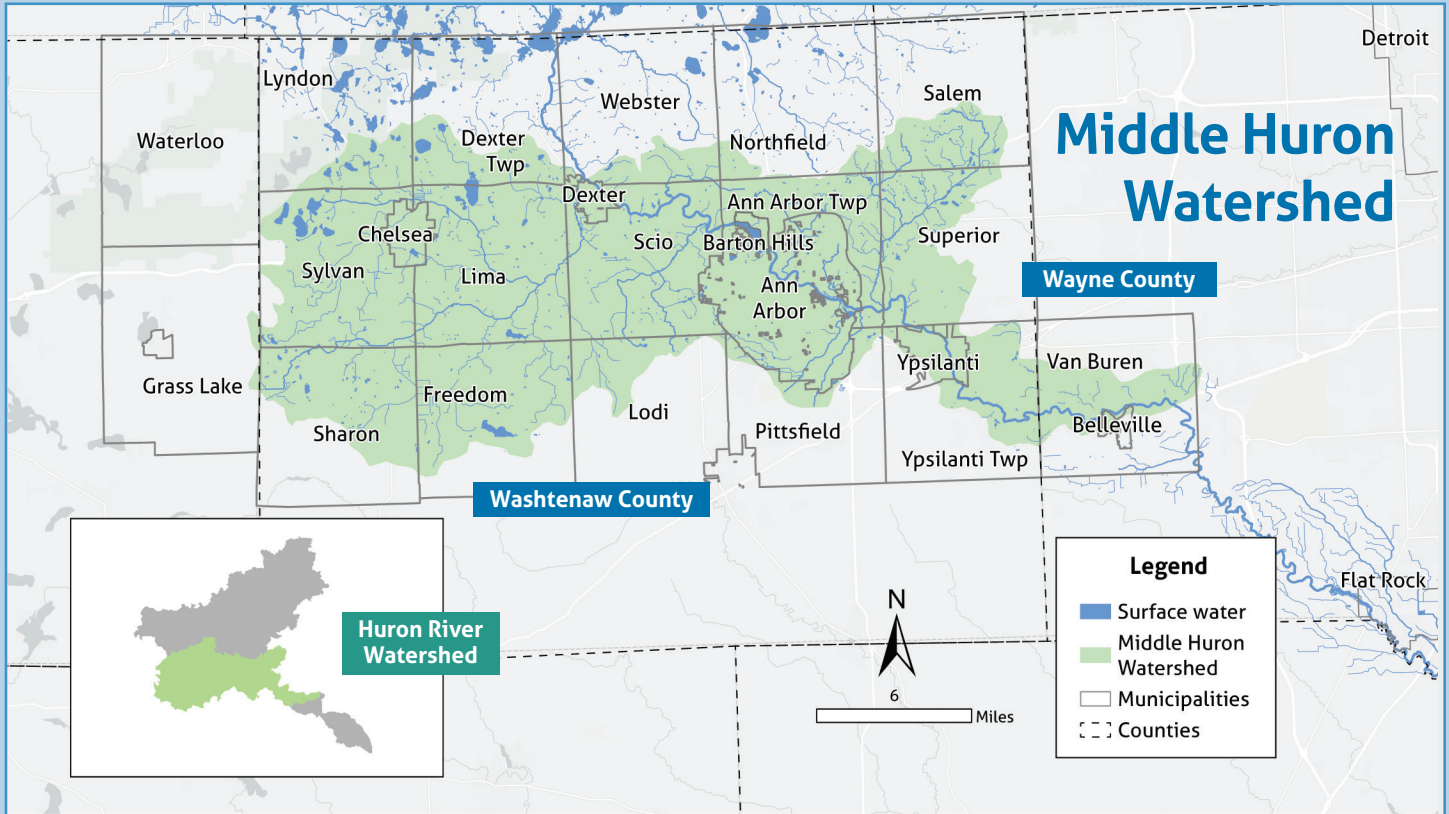


About the Middle Huron Partners



The Middle Huron Partners are local governments and agencies cooperatively working together to reduce pollution and improve stormwater management in the middle section of the Huron River watershed from the Dexter area to Belleville Lake.

Partner communities work together to:

- Research and monitor the river's water quality, with a focus on nutrient sources
- Educate residents on how to protect local water at home and in their communities
- Assist landowners, businesses, and local governments in curbing the amount of phosphorus and other pollutants entering the river
- Advocate for stronger policies that reduce phosphorus
- Pilot innovative technology and stormwater management strategies

Participating Partners

City of Ann Arbor
Ann Arbor Public Schools
Ann Arbor Charter Township
Barton Hills Village
City of Belleville
City of Chelsea
City of Dexter
Eastern Michigan University
Pittsfield Charter Township
Scio Township
Superior Charter Township
University of Michigan
VA Ann Arbor Healthcare System
Washtenaw County Road Commission
Washtenaw County Water Resources
Commissioner's Office
City of Ypsilanti
Charter Township of Ypsilanti

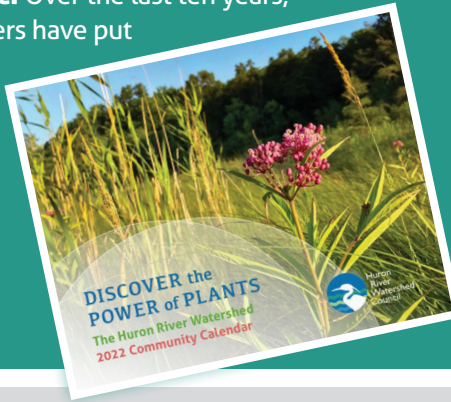


The Huron River Watershed Council coordinates the Middle Huron Partner. For additional information contact Andrea Paine, apaine@hrwc.org; or go to www.HRWC.org/MiddleHuronPartners.

Middle Huron Partners Accomplishments



Educating the Public: Over the last ten years, the Middle Huron Partners have put 330,000 stormwater pollution prevention calendars in the hands of watershed residents. Calendars feature photography and tips that inspire people to protect water quality.



Partnering with Farmers to Reduce Phosphorus: From 2017 to 2022, the Huron River Watershed Council (HRWC) in collaboration with the Washtenaw County Conservation District, and the Washtenaw County Water Resources Commissioner's Office worked with farmers in the Middle Huron watershed to reduce phosphorus runoff and soil erosion from agricultural lands. The project enabled farmers to reduce fertilization rates and increase fertilizer cost savings while preventing nearly a ton of phosphorus from entering the Huron River annually.



Catching Stormwater: A 2018 project funded by the Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency installed large-scale green stormwater infrastructure (GSI) features on public and community properties and small-scale GSI to capture and filter stormwater runoff near Swift Run. The GSI features annually capture and treat over 1.65 million gallons, resulting in an annual load reduction of 2.5 pounds of phosphorus, 10 pounds of nitrogen, and a half-ton of sediment.

Assessing Watershed Health and Planning for Restoration: Partners worked collaboratively to develop three new watershed management plans for the Middle Huron River watershed. The plans characterize watershed health, prescribe recommendations for future watershed protection and restoration, and provide the basis for securing state and federal project funding.



Reducing Bacteria in Honey Creek: To address bacterial contamination within Honey Creek and reduce inputs from this tributary to the Huron River downstream, Partners conducted bacteria source tracking, local education, a pet waste reduction campaign, and homeowner outreach to identify and remedy failing septic systems. Certified sewage detection canines helped investigate pollution sources.



Middle Huron by the Numbers



The Middle Huron Partners have invested significant resources to reduce pollution entering the Huron River. Since 1995 they have worked together to develop stronger soil erosion controls for construction projects, enact ordinances that protect shoreline plant buffers and that restrict the use of phosphorus fertilizer on lawns, restore eroding streambanks, protect wetlands and natural areas, and build stormwater systems using green stormwater infrastructure (GSI) techniques to catch and infiltrate polluted runoff.

500 =

Residents who volunteered with HRWC's Chemistry and Flow Monitoring Program to sample the Middle Huron since the program's launch in 2003



99%

= Number of residents in the Middle Huron who took at least one action individually to protect water or the environment in the last 12 months, with 78% avoiding the use of fertilizers and chemicals on their lawn and garden.

29%

= Reduction in phosphorus

loading into the Middle Huron River since monitoring began in 2003



9% =

Reduction in E. coli bacteria in the Huron River since 2018. E. coli counts in the Middle Huron River through Ann Arbor are now meeting state water quality standards



The size and duration of algae blooms are declining in Ford and Belleville Lakes due to two factors: phosphorus levels in the Huron River at Ford Lake have been substantially reduced, and Ypsilanti Township has regulated bottom chemistry with their dam operation

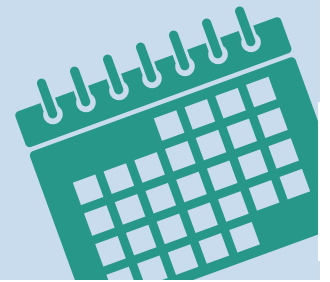
20 =

Municipalities and agencies participating in the Middle Huron Partners



28 =

Years of intermunicipal, multiagency collaboration on stormwater and pollution reduction via the Middle Huron Partners



OVER 7,000 =

Water samples collected in the Middle Huron watershed since monitoring began in 2003



850+

= Rain gardens constructed in the Middle Huron River watershed, filtering over 10 million gallons of runoff water a year

