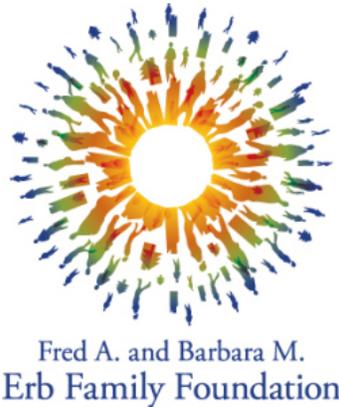


October 6, 2015



I would like to share with you news of \$5.4 million in new and continuing grants recently approved by the Fred A. and Barbara M. Erb Family Foundation, as well as new grant guidelines and staff.

The new grants will:

- Measure the social and ecological impacts of neighborhood-based green infrastructure installed on vacant lots in Detroit, and the proportional impact of the Detroit River system on toxic algae in western Lake Erie, through two translational research projects by the University of Michigan Water Center. Click [here](#) for a press release and video by UM and [here](#) to watch the Great Lakes Now recording of a presentation on the vacant lot project featuring UM partners: Wayne State University, Alliance for the Great Lakes, Detroit Land Bank Authority and The Nature Conservancy at the recent Healing Our Waters conference.
- Help Detroiters transform vacant lots into ecological and social assets with Detroit Future City's new, user-friendly workbook "Field Guide to Working With Lots" and companion website "[A Little About Lots](#)", with implementation grants to follow.
- Include robust resident outreach, led by Greening of Detroit, in the City of Detroit's participatory landscape planning in pilot neighborhoods.

Additional grants will continue our ongoing support for several arts, environmental and special opportunities, including 39 "anchor" arts organizations and the Foundation For Detroit's Future (the "Grand Bargain"). Please click [here](#) for our complete grants list.

As a result of our growing endowment and recently completed strategic planning process, the Foundation also announces [new grant guidelines](#), and welcomes Cris Doby and Melissa Damaschke as program officers and Yolanda Gandy as grants manager. Cris previously was program officer at the C.S. Mott Foundation, Melissa was director of the Sierra Club's Great Lakes Program, and Yolanda was a project manager at Ford Motor Company. Full announcements on our new [staff](#) will follow later next week.

