

December 4, 2015



I would like to share with you news of \$2.25 million in new and continuing grants recently approved by the Fred A. and Barbara M. Erb Family Foundation, as well as some updates on previously approved grants.

The recently approved grants will:

- Leverage the Clinton and Huron Rivers as community assets, transforming the river corridors with green infrastructure, public art, boat launches, paddling guides and more
- Create residential rain gardens and rain catchment systems in Detroit neighborhoods and expand a local native plant industry
- Develop a public education and policy action plan to help reduce toxic algae in Western Lake Erie
- Broaden the membership base of the 200 plus member Healing Our Waters-Great Lakes Coalition, developing new and more diverse advocates for Great Lakes restoration
- Support a collaborative effort to implement a public health action plan in southwest Detroit to raise public knowledge and engagement on the social and health effects of pollution
- Help strengthen Detroit's local food system by streamlining licensing and permitting for food operations and creating other policies to help Detroit capture a larger share of the \$19 billion tri-county metropolitan service area food industry
- Engage youth and families in creating a mosaic mural at the new, LEED certified International Wildlife Refuge Center
- Support leading Alzheimer's research worldwide

Please click [here](#) for our complete grants list.

I am also pleased to share publicity of two previously funded projects that are helping transform vacant land in Detroit for productive purposes: a series of bio-retention gardens on vacant land in Detroit's Cody Rouge neighborhood that are beautifying the neighborhood while managing stormwater (click [here](#) for a Fox2 News story, [here](#) for WDET coverage and [here](#) for the UM video) and a large scale sustainable commercial farming project that will provide fresh food and jobs for Detroiters (click [here](#) for an article in the *Detroit Free Press*).

Thank you for your continuing interest,
John M. Erb, President