

Neighborhood Environmental Partners 2013 Award Summaries

NEW

ADAC Automotive – Grand Rapids

1. ADAC Automotive partnered with St. John's Home, a center in Grand Rapids for at risk children, to donate and plant trees at its facility. Over 25 trees were planted by representatives from ADAC and St. John's Home. The trees were purchased by ADAC from the Urban Forest Service.
2. ADAC donated \$20,000 to the Grand Valley State University's Robert B. Annis Water Resources Institute Field Station. The goal of the Robert B. Annis Water Resources Institute Field Station is to enhance and preserve freshwater resources by integrating research, education, and outreach.
3. ADAC donated \$500 to the Mona Lake Watershed Council for local watershed projects and improvements.
4. ADAC is a gold level sponsor of the West Michigan Air and Waste Management Association.
5. ADAC donated 300 pair of rubber gloves to the West Michigan Environmental Action Council to use during their annual Grand Rapids clean-up event.
6. ADAC donated 76 used cell phones to Safe Haven Ministries. The phones were given to women struggling through domestic violence.

NEW

AWTEC – Plymouth

1. AWTEC hosted an exhibit at the Plymouth Green Street Fair. The Green Street Fair educates and informs citizens and businesses about the benefits of green, organic, and eco-friendly products and services. AWTEC displayed some of its environmentally friendly remanufacturing products. This was the fourth year that AWTEC has been an exhibitor at the fair.
2. AWTEC held its fourth annual E-waste event during Earth Day this year. All area businesses, employees, and their friends and family were given the opportunity to participate in the E-waste collection event at the AWTEC facility. National Steel Corporation, AT&L Corporation, Statewide Recycling, and Chrysan Industries participated in the event. Proceeds from the event were donated to benefit Children's Center at Beaumont Hospital.
3. AWTEC has been a longtime supporter of the Friends of the Rouge River. Several AWTEC team members participate in clean-up activities and "bug hunts" to gage the health of the river. AWTEC received a Certificate of Appreciation from the Friends of the Rouge River on Earth Day for their contributions.

Consumers Energy – J.R. Whiting Plant

1. Consumers Energy – J.R. Whiting Plant hosted its Spring Lady of the Lake Beach Clean-up on May 19, 2012. Volunteers from Bedford High School National Honor Society, Bedford Robotics Team, BSA Sea Scout Ship 1492, and plant employees and families (32 volunteers' total) collected 3 cubic yards of waste on 1.5 miles of Lady of Lake Beach.
2. Consumers Energy – J.R. Whiting Plant hosted the Green Adventures Camp Beach Clean-up and Exploration. On July 19, 2012, the Ann Arbor based camp

- brought 85 students and staff to the beach adjacent to the J.R. Whiting Plant to clean-up and explore the Lake Erie ecosystem. The Green Adventures Camp was also sponsored by Michigan Sea Grant.
3. Consumers Energy – J.R. Whiting Plant partnered with the Lotus Garden Club of Monroe County to propagate, transplant, and protect the endangered American Lotus; which was discovered on the plant property. The Lotus Garden Club is the only group authorized by the state of Michigan to harvest Lotus seeds. The American Lotus was put on the endangered species list after it was nearly decimated by sewage discharges and industrial pollution. Since being added to the list, the Lotus has made a dramatic comeback. Over 65 people participated in the tour of the Lotus beds in 2012.
 4. The National Audubon Society conducted a Christmas Bird Count in Monroe County. Locations for the Christmas Bird Count included the J.R. Whiting facility grounds. The count took place December 16, 2012, at the plant, where 40 different species of birds were identified and a total of 14,251 birds were counted.
 5. Consumers Energy – J.R. Whiting facility hosted for the first time ever a nesting pair of Peregrine Falcons. The falcons had a clutch of three eggs. The Plant personnel worked with Ms. Christine Becher of MDNR Wildlife Division to locate the nest and identify the parent birds.

Detroit Edison (Monroe Power Plant, Harbor Beach Power Plant)

1. Detroit Edison – Monroe Plant partnered with Monroe County Intermediate School District, Gleaner's Food Bank, Salvation Army, Monroe County Opportunity Program, and Jefferson High School's National Honor Society group, to plant and harvest a garden located at the plant for use at local food banks throughout Monroe County. Employees and community volunteers harvested over 10,000 pounds of produce that was distributed to local food banks in 2012. Garden planning is already underway for spring 2013.
2. Detroit Edison – Monroe Plant partnered with Calvin College and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to establish a seagull nesting site at the plant. The nesting site will allow researchers the opportunity to study some of the historic health issues seagulls from the Lake Erie watershed have exhibited. One of the 2013 activities included Calvin biology students weighing and performing embryonic studies on herring gull eggs.
3. Detroit Edison – Monroe Plant partnered with the city of Monroe, Lotus Garden Club, Monroe County Drain Commissioner, Metropolitan Affairs Coalition, Michigan Department of Environmental Quality, Michigan Sea Grant, United States Fish and Wildlife Services, and the Wildlife Habitat Council to clean-up, plant, and restore native plant species on 500 feet of River Raisin shoreline.
4. Detroit Edison – Monroe Plant partnered with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in 2010 to establish a 20-acre native pollinator garden at its facility complete with beehives.
5. Detroit Edison – Monroe Plant employees participated at the city of Monroe's Earth Day Festival on April 20, 2013 by setting up a booth and providing energy saving ideas and hands-on activities for children.
6. Detroit Edison – Monroe Plant organized a Bald Eagle tour at the plant for guests of the Detroit International Wildlife Refuge Alliance. Wildlife photographers from the Alliance were given access to the site to study and document eagle activities. The tour was hosted January 19, 2013. Detroit Edison – Monroe Plant also partnered with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the International Wildlife

- Refuge Alliance to offer a Bald Eagle tour on January 29, 2013. The tour included a presentation on Bald Eagles by Dorothy McLeer of the University of Michigan with 65 visitors in attendance.
7. Detroit Edison – Monroe Plant wildlife team partnered with the Knabusch Math and Science Center of the Monroe Intermediate School District to host spring and fall, bird and wildlife walks at the plant. The Knabusch Math and Science Center with the Monroe plant biologist walked the plant's prairies, performed bird studies, counts, and discussed prairie and migratory bird activities.
 8. Detroit Edison – Monroe Plant on March 25, 2013, hosted a plant tour for 55 students from Gross Pointe High School. The tour included a presentation on plant operation, environmental equipment, and improvements at the plant. The objective of the tour was to help students better understand the process of generating electricity.
 9. Detroit Edison – Harbor Beach Power Plant partnered with the city of Harbor Beach to help with a "Spring Clean-up Day" event. The plant helped develop a mailer with the goal of getting citizens involved in the spring clean-up event. Roll-off boxes were provided by the plant for different waste items to be recycled or sent to the landfill. The event was a great success. The plant has already agreed to volunteer and help Harbor Beach with their next "Spring Clean-up Day" event in 2013.
 10. Detroit Edison – Harbor Beach Power Plant partnered with Harbor Beach schools to provide recycling bins for paper products. Recycling bins were provided to Zion Elementary, Our Lady of the Lake Huron Elementary, and Harbor Beach Combined Public Schools. The project will teach students the benefits of recycling and reduce the amount of paper being landfilled.
 11. Detroit Edison – Harbor Beach Power Plant partnered with the city of Harbor Beach to distribute pamphlets for Detroit Edison's Appliance Recycling Program. The goal of the program is to encourage the use of energy efficient appliances and proper disposal of old appliances. The pamphlets were mailed out with city water bills.
 12. Detroit Edison – Harbor Beach Power Plant partnered with the city of Harbor Beach to construct a new nature trail along the west end of the plant connecting an existing city bike trail.

Ford Motor Company

(Engine Manufacturing Development Operations and Ford Romeo Engine Van Dyke Transmission Plant)

1. The Ford Romeo Engine Van Dyke Transmission Plant partnered with local Boy Scouts to donate scrap wood from the plant to the Boy Scouts of America D-bar-A Ranch. Plant employees also volunteered at the Ranch helping with various projects. In addition, plant employees also collected bottle and cans at the plant with all the recycling proceeds going to the local Boy Scouts.
2. The Ford Romeo Engine Van Dyke Transmission Plant became Ford's first North American transmission plant to achieve zero waste to landfill status. The goal was reached by achieving aggressive objectives and goals. The Plant reduced its waste sent to the landfill by 111 tons from 2010 to 2012.
3. The Ford Engine Manufacturing Development Operations participated in the Loaves and Fishes program, donating and sorting food for those in need in the community.
4. Both Ford facilities hosted Earth Day activities at their plants in 2012 including an electronics collection event (2,134 pounds collected). Cell phones collected at

the event were donated to military personnel or recycled. Information on battery and paper recycling was also presented at the event. Both plants collect and recycle cardboard, paper, wood, and various other materials.

General Motors LLC

(Detroit Hamtramck Assembly, Flint Metal Center, Flint Assembly, Orion Assembly, Powertrain Romulus Engine Operations, Lansing Delta Township (LDT) and Regional Stamping, Warren Transmission Plant Applied)

1. General Motors (GM) and Global River Environmental Education Network (Project Green) partnered with students across the state to perform water quality testing each spring. The results of the testing are then provided to the watershed groups for evaluation. The purpose for the program is to engage young people in the protection of local water resource and create awareness of GM's commitment to the local environment.
2. Each year GM participates in Earth Day celebrations at different plant locations across the state. GM volunteers perform environmental demonstrations and discuss environmental stewardship with students.
3. Several GM Plants host Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) collection days in conjunction with the local county health department. The collections are open to GM employees and the public. Each year thousands of pounds of HHW is collected.
4. GM has partnered with Boy Scout Troops and school kids to create bat houses and waterfowl\duck boxes. The projects have allowed the GM facilities to mentor area students and non-profit groups to make a positive environmental impact. Many GM plant sites are certified by the Wildlife Habitat Council.
5. GM has partnered with non-profit organizations and community groups to do habitat restoration projects at many of its plant locations.
6. GM participates in the Educational Technology and Conservation Exchange Program where employees collect used printer cartridges for recycling. Points are assigned for each printer cartridge donated to the Educational Technology and Conservation Exchange Program. Some GM plants donated its points to area schools to obtain equipment and educational materials.



Hemlock Semiconductor Corporation – Midland

1. Hemlock Semiconductor distributed more than 3,000 community calendars featuring preparedness measures in case of environmental releases or spills. The calendar showcases local student artwork using the theme "How Chemistry Improves Everyday Life". Student artwork also featured cleaner, safer, household products, and how chemistry plays a role in nature. A celebration was held to recognize the students' artwork with each student receiving a Barnes and Noble gift card. The School with the best overall artwork received a \$1,000 check towards art and science supplies.
2. Hemlock Semiconductor donated solar panels to Hartley Outdoor Education Center. The donation was collaborated with Nexteer Automotive. The nature center hosts students year round in environmental and natural resource educational programs.
3. Hemlock Semiconductor and Dow Corning contributed 1,000 children's solar books to the Saginaw Children's Zoo for a "Go Wild" Earth Day event. Every child who entered the zoo received a free copy of "A Clean Planet: The Solar Power Story".

4. Hemlock Semiconductor partnered with the Saginaw County Road Commission to adopt local roads around the manufacturing site. Over 30 employees participated in picking up trash on the roads and neighborhoods near the manufacturing site to improve and beautify the community.

Herman Miller, Inc. – Zeeland

1. Herman Miller sponsored an Earth Day Coloring and Recycling Collection Contest for children of employees on April 19 and 20, 2013. All of the revenue earned from the collection event was donated to the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation. Herman Miller also encouraged employees to participate in the eighth annual Lakeshore Earth Day Celebration, which included a walk, fair, and clean-up project in Grand Rapids.
2. Herman Miller partnered with Christ Memorial Church and Comprenew to hold an electronic waste collection in Grand Rapids on October 6, 2012.
3. Herman Miller partnered with First Reform Church in Zeeland on March 16, 2013 to collect electronic waste. Over 22,236 pounds of electronic waste were collected during the event.
4. Herman Miller offers a co-mingled recycling collection to all of its Zeeland main site employees. Employees are encouraged to bring recyclables from home to add to the collection.
5. Herman Miller employees have collected over 256 pair of used eyeglasses. The eyeglasses were donated to the Regional Lions Eyeglasses Recycling Center. The eyeglasses will be redistributed to people in developing countries in need.
6. Herman Miller participated in Earth Hour 2013. Employees turned off all nonessential lights for one hour on March 20, 2013. The exercise helps promote energy awareness with employees at each of the Herman Miller facilities.
7. Herman Miller employees participated in the Adopt-A-Highway projects collecting and disposing of roadside litter in West Michigan.
8. Herman Miller is an active member of the West Michigan Sustainable Business Forum, participating in a number of the West Michigan Sustainable Business Forum community events.
9. Herman Miller was able to reduce its environmental footprint by 79 percent, air emissions by 84 percent, and hazardous waste by 90 percent since 1994.
10. Herman Miller allows each employee sixteen hours of paid leave each year to be used for charitable activities of their choosing. Employee's regularly use these hours for a number of environmental activities outside of work. Over 11,500 hours have been used by Herman Miller employees to date, volunteering for charitable causes in West Michigan and globally.

Holland Board of Public Works

1. Holland Board of Public Works partnered with Grand Haven Board of Light and Power, Zeeland Board of Public Works, Consumers Energy, and JACO Environmental to offer a one day collection event for room air conditioners, dehumidifiers, refrigerators, and freezers. Freon gas was removed from each unit and the donor received a \$15.00 incentive check for each unit they brought to the collection. The program served to remove old inefficient refrigerators, freezers, air conditioners, and dehumidifiers from use, and to collect ozone damaging Freon gas.

2. Holland Board of Public Works joined with the American Public Power Association's "Tree Power Program", an on-going sustained tree-planting program for public power customers. Holland Board of Public Works gave away tulip tree and crabapple seedlings at the Tulip Time Festival to promote environmental responsibility, proper planting for utility line safety, and energy efficiency. Residents were given information on how trees help clean the environment and can reduce energy by providing shading and reducing need for air conditioning.
3. Holland Board of Public Works partnered with Ottawa County Health Department and Holland Department of Safety to hold pharmaceutical waste collections. In April 2013, Holland Board of Public Works collected 110 pounds of unwanted or expired drugs. The program is on-going and will continue in 2013.
4. Holland Board of Public Works has participated in The Michigan Adopt-a-Highway program for the last 23 years. Volunteers maintain a two-mile stretch of US 31 each year.



Lansing Board of Water and Light – Lansing

1. Lansing Board of Water and Light organized the first ever Adopt-A-River event in Lansing on the Grand and Red Cedar Rivers in 1994. The program has been a model for numerous other Adopt-A-River programs across the State. Tons of trash has been removed from the two rivers since the program began. The Lansing Board of Water and Light has since partnered with Impression 5 Science Center to host the annual event. The 2012 Adopt-A-River Program has become much more than just a river cleaning project, it has become a community celebration centered on environmental education and river ecology. Lansing Board of Water and Light and Impression 5 Science Center organized the following events at the May 5, 2012, Adopt-A-River event:
 - a. Grand River clean-up project – Community and plant volunteers participated in a river clean-up of the Grand River.
 - b. Beautification of the Impression 5 Science Center – Lansing Board of Water and Light installed LED street lighting and landscaping along the Centers drive median. A plug-in vehicle station was installed next to the Center's parking lot to help incentivize electrical vehicle participation.
 - c. Tree Giveaway and Stewardship – Lansing Board of Power and Light gave away over two-hundred six foot potted ornamental trees (pear, plum, dogwood, and cherry) and 150 Norway spruce seedlings. Lansing Board of Water is Light is a recipient of the National Arbor Day Foundation's Tree Line USA Award. The award recognizes utilities who are committed to environmental stewardship and keeping electrical lines safe from trees, and trees safe from electrical lines.
 - d. Environmental Fair – The Environmental Fair featured exhibits from many Adopt-A-River partners and focused on Grand River ecology and community environmental education. The fair was a community event open to all.



Light Corporation – Grand Haven

1. Light Corporation partnered with White Pine Middle School in Grand Haven this year on an Earth Week celebration picking up trash and removing invasive plant species from neighboring parks (North Beach, Kitchel/Linquist Preserve, Pottawatomie Park, Pigeon Creek Park, and Riverside Park). Invasive species like Garlic Mustard were collected and destroyed. Students were also educated about invasive species, safety, and ecological responsibility. The weeklong event resulted in countless bags of garbage and invasive species collected.
2. Light Corporation partnered with the Ottawa County Conservation District to give out tree sapling to all its employees. The goal of the program was to hand out and plant enough trees to replenish the trees lost to paper use by Light Corporation during the year, and to provide environmental awareness and educate to employees.
3. Light Corporation participates in the “Day of Caring” with the United Way. A group of 17 volunteers from Lighting Corporation helped paint, do maintenance and yard work, and organized food and used clothing for a local food bank. The goal of the outreach effort was to beautify the community and provide help for those in need.
4. Light Corporation volunteers participate in an annual clean-up day. Volunteers pick up trash from local roads and nearby businesses located around its facility. The event was a good will gesture to neighboring businesses and the surrounding community.

Pilgrim Manor Retirement Community-Grand Rapids

1. Pilgrim Manor practices environmental pharmaceutical waste disposal at its facility. All unused pharmaceutical controlled substances are sent to the West Michigan Take-Back Program. Other medications eligible for reimbursement or disposal are sent back to its partnering pharmacy.
2. Pilgrim Manor partnered with Comprenew Environmental during Earth Week to offer a neighborhood electronic waste collection. Over 425 pounds of electronic waste was collected. Though these efforts, Pilgrim Manor hopes to increase awareness and encourage responsible sustainable living at its facility and in its neighborhood.
3. Pilgrim Manor partnered with West Michigan Environmental Action Council during Earth Week to organize rain barrel painting activities with its residents, staff, and families. Pilgrim Manor installed five, 55-gallon rain barrels at its facility. The Michigan Environmental Action Council donated the barrels. Storm water and water conservation information was distributed at the event.
4. Pilgrim Manor participated in the 9th annual Grand River Clean-up on September 15, 2012. Pilgrim Manor’s Sustainability Manager was a designated “site leader” for the event to guide and help with clean-up activities. Over 350 volunteers removed a record 24,000 pounds of tires car parts, furniture, cans, etc., from a 12-mile stretch of the Grand River in Grand Rapids, Wyoming, Grandville, and Walker.
5. Pilgrim Manors Green Team participated in Habitat for Humanity. The facility hopes to build teamwork and community relationships.
6. Pilgrim Manor participated in the Walk to End Alzheimer’s. The facility made a conscious choice to forgo the use of bottled water, and used compostable and

reusable water containers. Pilgrim Manor estimated that 500 fewer plastic bottles were used during the event. The goal of the project was also to increase public awareness of the environmental impact of bottled water and disposable containers.

7. Pilgrim Manor partnered with Blandfords' On the Road program to offer a hand on Wildlife presentation\experience to its residents, staff, and families during the week of Earth Day. The program provided an alternative activity to engage the audience senses (with real animals brought into the facility) and to raise awareness of nature and Earth Day.
8. Pilgrim Manor participated in Make A Difference Day with Grand Valley State University Students. The students were provided a brief presentation from Pilgrim Manor on sustainability, stewardship, and service. The students cleaned and preformed various odd jobs around the facility to improve the aesthetics indoors and out.
9. In 2011, Pilgrim Manor recycled over 150 pounds of batteries, cell phones, and 240 ink toner cartridges.

United States Army Garrison - Detroit Arsenal – Environmental and Sustainability Division

1. The United States Army Garrison – Detroit Arsenal created a Child Development Center Garden at their facility inspired by Michelle Obama's "Lets Move" initiative. The garden project encompasses nutrition, gardening, recycling, reclamation, and conservation. The project involves youth at every age group encouraging healthy eating habits while educating them on the benefits of going green. The garden will benefit many of the families that live and work at the facility.
2. The United States Army Garrison – Detroit Arsenal sponsored an Earth Day event at the arsenal LEED Gold Certified Administrative Building. Outside vendors were invited to participate in the event. Numerous businesses and local and state agencies participated in the daylong event. The Earth Day event has built community awareness of the Amy Arsenal and its environmental activities and programs.
3. The Detroit Arsenal also instituted a personal computer collection program. The arsenal collected 2 tons of electronic waste alone in 2012.
4. The Detroit Arsenal instituted an eyeglass and hearing aid collection program with the Lions Club. The program started in 2005. To date, 2,350 pairs of glasses and 21 hearing aids have been collected and donated.
5. The Detroit Arsenal collects personal cell phones. The money generated from this program is donated to the Army Morale Welfare Recreation and Civilian Welfare Fund. The program was started in 2005. To date 2550 cellular telephones and 52 beepers have been collected and recycled.
6. The Detroit Arsenal donated binders, phones, and office equipment to area non-profit organizations.