

FIGURE 15: Surface Water Organizations



**Friends  
of the ROUGE**



### 3.4 Organizations

#### *Leadership, Education & Advocacy*

**Washtenaw County** provides several services to County residents relating to surface water, including: home toxics disposal, provision of information on surface water pollution and its sources, hands-on technical assistance, and educational programs.

Washtenaw County has been considered a leader statewide in watershed protection planning and program implementation. The County manages a number of programs as a part of Phase II compliance with Section 402 of the Clean Water Act.<sup>5</sup> Although the urban portion of Washtenaw County is regulated under the Phase II NPDES storm water permit program, many of the programs below predate permit regulations and have been emulated throughout the state:

- Technical Assistance to Local Governments
- The Washtenaw County Comprehensive Plan
- GIS Mapping and Information
- Community Partners for Clean Streams
- Adopt-a-Stream
- Rules of the Drain Commissioner
- Illicit Discharge Elimination
- Allen's Creek Rain Gardens
- Malletts Creek Restoration Plan
- Waste Knot
- Environmental Excellence Awards
- Signage – Stream Crossing
- Homeowners Handbook
- Pollution Prevention
- Soil Erosion and Sedimentation Control
- Time of Sale Well and Septic Inspection

<sup>5</sup> For description of the Clean Water Act see Section 3.4.

- Home Toxics Reduction Program
- “Issues of the Environment” Radio Program
- “Your World” Newspaper Articles
- Creek Groups

Contact Information:

Washtenaw County Department of Planning and Environment  
 Environmental Services Division  
 705 N. Zeeb Rd.  
 P.O. Box 8645  
 Ann Arbor, MI 48107  
 Phone: (734) 222-3800  
<http://www.ewashtenaw.org>

Washtenaw County Drain Commissioner

705 N. Zeeb Rd.  
 P.O. Box 8645  
 Ann Arbor, MI 48107  
 Phone: (734) 222-6833  
<http://drain.ewashtenaw.org>

*Leadership, Education & Advocacy*

The **River Raisin Watershed Council** (RRWC) is an organization involved in activities to protect and preserve water quality in the River Raisin watershed. Here are some of the activities that the RRWC has sponsored:

- Distributed approximately 3,000 watershed activity books to Washtenaw County students.
- Donated more than 2,000 maps of the River Raisin Watershed.
- Distributes a newsletter.
- Provides information to countless individuals and agencies in Washtenaw County.
- Developing a watershed management plan.

Contact Information:

1042 Sutton Road, Suite 3  
 Adrian, MI 49221  
 Phone: (517) 265-5599

*Advocacy & Leadership*

The **Raisin Valley Land Trust** is an organization located in the River Raisin Watershed dedicated to protecting open space, preserving natural features, and reducing future imperviousness.

Contact Information:

1042 Sutton Road, Suite 3  
 Adrian, MI 49221  
 Phone: (517) 265-5599

*Leadership, Education & Advocacy*

The **Huron River Watershed Council** (HRWC) is a very active local organization that works to protect the Huron River watershed. They are involved in activities that range from watershed planning, to stream and river monitoring, to event planning. In the past, the HRWC has partnered with residents and governmental units, including Washtenaw County, to provide services that promote water quality preservation in the Huron River basin. Here are some examples of programs supported by the HRWC:

- Creek Groups
- Drinking Water Protection
- Land Information Access Association
- Stewardship Network
- Wetland Identification

Contact Information:

1100 N. Main, Suite 210  
 Ann Arbor, MI 48104  
 Phone: (734) 769-5123  
<http://www.hrwc.org>

*Leadership, Education & Advocacy*

**Trout Unlimited** is an organization that supports water quality preservation and works to protect the habitat of local fish and aquatic life. They are a local chapter of a nationwide movement for coldwater fishery protection. They have been involved in a variety of activities from hosting a political luncheon in Lansing to discuss Michigan's water resources, to joining in Huron River Day by providing a fishing experience for children.

Contact Information:  
Mike Moran  
Phone: (734) 414-0865

*Leadership, Education & Advocacy*

**Friends of the Rouge** is an organization that promotes restoration and stewardship of the Rouge River Watershed. Here is a sample of some of the programs they manage:

- Watchfrogs
- The Rouge Education Project
- Rouge Rescue/River Day
- School Yard Habitat

Contact Information:  
4901 Evergreen Road, 220 ASC  
Dearborn, MI 48128  
<http://www.therouge.org>

*Advocacy & Leadership*

**Washtenaw Land Trust** is dedicated to protecting natural areas and working farms in Washtenaw County and its neighboring counties. They work to purchase land and/or development rights for places of natural significance or agricultural viability that are threatened by economic pressures of alternate uses.

Contact Information:  
1100 N. Main Street  
Ann Arbor, MI. 48104  
Phone: (734) 302-5263  
<http://www.washtenawlandtrust.org>