Rouge Education Project (REP)  
A year in review

What is the REP?  
A place-based environmental education program centered around water quality monitoring of the Rouge River, whose watershed is the most urbanized in Michigan.

The Rouge Education Project trains teachers in the way of volunteer water quality monitoring and provides resources and equipment, and they, in turn, take the information they’ve learned back to their classrooms. Students see the root cause of environmental issues in their local waterway, and begin to think about bigger picture/Great Lakes issues and implications. They are then encouraged to think about and take action to benefit the river.

Mission: To promote awareness and stewardship of the Rouge River watershed through school-based water quality monitoring, investigation, and problem solving.

2017 marked the 30th year of the REP.

2017 SPRING MONITORING SCHOOLS
Achieve Charter Academy, Canton  
Birmingham Covington School, Bloomfield Hills  
Chandler Park Academy High School, Harper Woods  
Clippert Multicultural Honors Academy, Detroit  
Crescent Academy High School, Oak Park  
Crescent Academy International, Canton  
Crestwood High School, Dearborn Heights  
Detroit Country Day Middle School, Beverly Hills  
Emerson Middle School, Livonia  
Garden City High School, Garden City  
Huron Valley Lutheran High School, Westland  
Inter-City Baptist High School, Allen Park  
Lincoln Senior High School, Warren  
Mary Helen Guest Elementary School, Walled Lake  
Pierce Middle School, Redford  
Plymouth High School, Canton  
Power Middle School, Farmington Hills  
Ronald Brown Academy, Detroit  
Roosevelt High School, Wyandotte  
Salem Elementary School, Salem  
Smith Middle School, Troy  
Steppingstone School, Farmington Hills  
Tawheed Center School, Detroit  
Thompson K-8 International Academy, Southfield  
Tonda Elementary School, Canton  
Troy College & Career High School  
Troy High School, Troy  
Tyrone Elementary School, Harper Woods

Map of the 2017 spring monitoring schools (blue/black points) and sampling sites (black/orange points). Solid black lines outline Rouge River subwatersheds.

Students from Crescent Academy High School and volunteers measure stream width at Lawrence Technological University’s campus in Southfield
**2017 Workshops**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Workshop</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th># teachers</th>
<th># volunteers</th>
<th>Average Workshop Rating</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Returning Teacher Refresher Course</td>
<td>01/25/2017</td>
<td>Dearborn</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>9.8/10</td>
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<tr>
<td>Advanced Chemical Training</td>
<td>03/11/2017</td>
<td>Beverly Hills</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>9.1/10</td>
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<td>Bug Identification &amp; Sampling Techniques</td>
<td>03/25/2017</td>
<td>Troy</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>9.6/10</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bug Identification &amp; Sampling Techniques</td>
<td>04/1/2017</td>
<td>Plymouth Twp</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>8.8/10</td>
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<td>New Teacher Orientation</td>
<td>11/28/17</td>
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2017 workshops were a great success! New and returning teachers and volunteers were given in-depth, hands-on experience learning about and conducting water quality tests.

All workshops were coordinated and facilitated by the REP Program Manager, with the exception of the Plymouth Twp Bug ID class, which was facilitated by Sally Petrella. Thank you to the guest presenters and helpers that made these workshops possible:
- Noah Mehalski
- Sue Thompson
- Dorothy McLeer
- Dave Bydlowski
- Steve Grosinske

The REP began collaborating with the Aerokats & Rover Education Network in partnership with the Wayne Regional Educational Service Agency, NASA, and the international GLOBE program. This introduced new technology to select middle & high schools that added a meaningful layer to their water quality monitoring event.

Above (left): students use water quality monitoring probware to compare their chemical test results (right) a student gets ready to launch an “aerokat” kite equipped with weather sensors and a camera

The REP Program Manager also presented a lesson on bugs to Pierce Middle School in April, and will host the “DO Limbo” at the Rouge River Water Festival at Cranbrook in September.

Left: Rouge Rescue poster contest artwork winner, designed by Raha Zaman from Detroit Country Day Middle School