



SEPTEMBER 2023



LANSING RIVERS AND RIVER TRAIL CLEANUP
SEPTEMBER 23, 2023



JOIN US • MAKE A LASTING IMPACT • THIS IS OUR LEGACY



LET'S CONTINUE OUR TRANSFORMATIONAL WORK.
LANSING RIVERS AND RIVER TRAIL CLEANUP
FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, 2023 | 2:30PM - 7:30PM
LANSING ROTARY PARK

THANK YOU FOR MAKING A LASTING IMPACT.

I wish to thank all those who participated in our June Lansing Rivers and River Trail Cleanup. It is thought to have been the largest volunteer effort in Lansing in years, certainly since the onset of COVID 19.

Lansing area rivers are now fully navigable and looking so good it is believed we now present the most scenic, varied, and pleasant urban waterways experience in Michigan. To build off our work and maintain our momentum, we are looking for year-round partners, event sponsors and volunteer organizations for our September 22, 2023 Lansing Rivers and River Trail Cleanup.

To become a Michigan Waterways Stewards year-round partner or Lansing Rivers and River Trail Cleanup event sponsor, [drop us a note](#) or give us a call.

To volunteer to work on either our rivers (blueway) or river trail (greenway), complete the sign-up forms found at:

- Blueway (pg 8): <https://www.miwaterwaysstewards.org/greenway-lansing-river-trail-sign-up-sheet.html>
- Greenway (pg 9): <https://www.miwaterwaysstewards.org/blueway-lansing-rivers-sign-up-sheet.html>

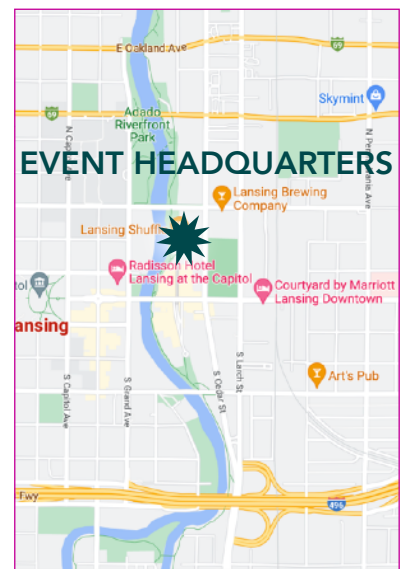
Food, drink, equipment, and other hospitality provided.

If you, your family and friends or organization can't make it to our main event date and time on Friday, September 22, no problem. We have set aside the three days of September 20, 21 and 22. Just let us know the best time for you so we can meet up and provide you with all your equipment needs.

If this window of time is not convenient, no worries. We are glad to customize your small-to-large group stewardship event to make it exciting and worth while. It makes for great team-building and is a great way to give back to the community.

This is a pivotal year as we redefine Lansing area river stewardship. We look forward to having you be a part of this grand event and transformational year. It's all very exciting.

Mike Stout
 President and Founder, Michigan Waterways Stewards
[Protecting and Improving our Treasured Waterways.](#)
mstout@MiWaterwaysStewards.org | (952) 239-3943
www.MiWaterwaysStewards.org | [Follow Us On Facebook](#)



READ WHAT OTHERS ARE SAYING.
 See page 6.



OUR CAPITAL CITY'S RIVERS AND RIVER TRAIL HAVE NEVER LOOKED SO GOOD.

REIMAGINE • REDISCOVER • RECONNECT

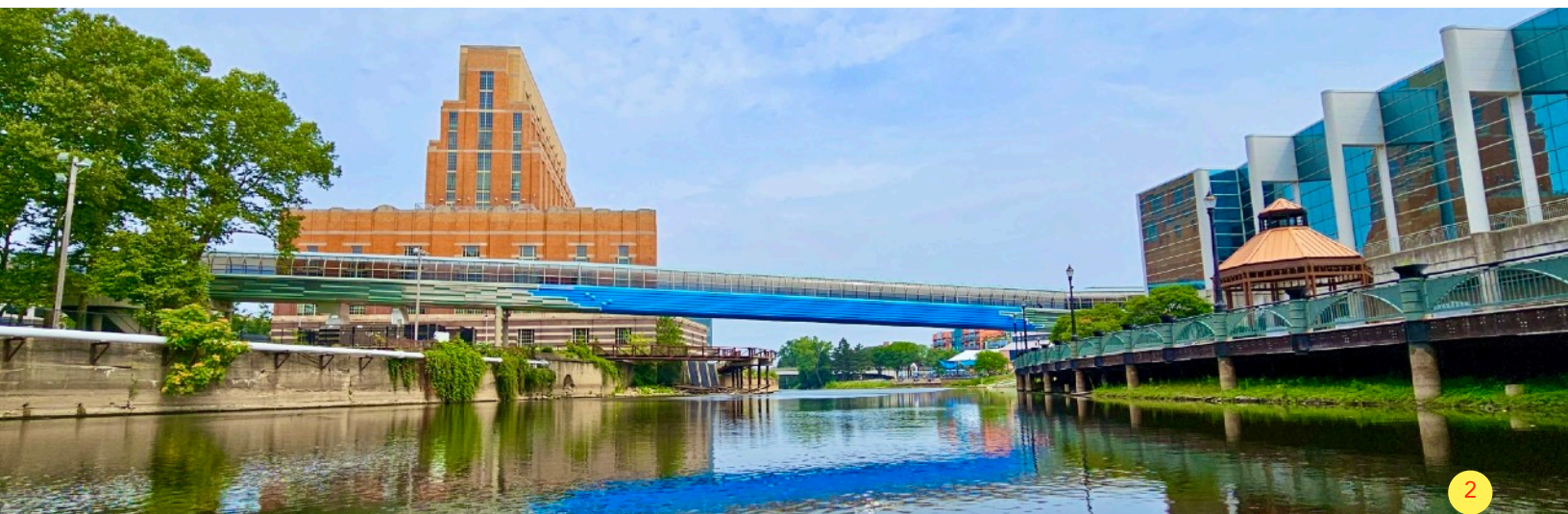
Millions have been spent on upgrading and expanding our river trails and providing greater park amenities for the benefit of the capital city, its residents and guests. It is only fitting that our rivers provide a similar exceptional experience.

With the support of local businesses, schools, churches, clubs, passionate volunteers, and the City of Lansing, Lansing area rivers have been transformed and now present Michigan's most scenic, varied, and pleasant urban waterways experience.

Our inaugural Lansing Rivers and River Trail Cleanup was held in June. It represented the culmination of eight months work. By all accounts it was a huge success. We were blessed with the support of **32 partner organizations** and **270 volunteers**. **Several tons of trash was removed from** our rivers and river trail. Event participation was so great it is reported to be Lansing's largest volunteer effort in years, certainly since the onset of COVID.

Also, for as long as many can remember, it is now possible to navigate our Lansing area rivers without having to portage around sections choked with trees, logs, or other debris. We have to give a special shout-out to our railroad company partners [Adrian and Blissfield Road Company](#) and [Canadian National Railway](#) for their help in making this possible.

The Lansing rivers experience is completely different from just last autumn. It's worthy of a return visit and grand celebration.



JOIN US FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, FOR A COMMUNITY-WIDE CELEBRATION.



MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

MAKE IT AN EVENING AND A COMMUNITY-WIDE CELEBRATION

LANSING AREA RIVERS & RIVER TRAIL CLEANUP - FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 22

STEWARDSHIP IS A YEAR-ROUND COMMITMENT. JOIN US FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 22 - MAKE A LASTING IMPACT.

As we shift our focus toward more predictable and sustainable stewardship, we ask for your help. Join us Friday, September 22, between 2:30PM- 7:30PM for our second Lansing Rivers and River Trail Cleanup of the year.

Event headquarters is at Lansing Rotary Park in front of Lansing Shuffle. You can volunteer to help either on the river or on the river trail. Everything needed will be provided, including food, drink, equipment, and other hospitality.

If Friday is not convenient, no worries. We have reserved September 20 and 21 as well. If these dates don't work, we work with groups year-round. We trust that you too will find this volunteer opportunity a great way to give back to the community.

Upon your committing, we will feature your organization in our marketing materials, including; website, newsletters, social media, posters, and banners. It's a great way to put a spotlight on your organization and mission of giving back.

Many ask how else they can support. There are a number ways, whether it be the offer of professional services, donation of equipment or money.

Experience the joy and ease in which we accomplish great things when working together.



Moosejaw

**A SPECIAL THANKS TO MOOSEJAW
OUR EVENTS PARTNER AND SPONSOR**



Lansing Rivers and River Trail Cleanup

JOIN US. MAKE A LASTING IMPACT. THIS IS OUR LEGACY.



MARK YOUR CALENDAR! FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, 2023

SEP 20, 21, 22*

- 2:30PM - 7:30PM Rotary Park at the Willbro Beach Kayak Landing
- Equipment, food, drink, and other hospitality provided.

*Can't make the main event date? No worries. There is always time to make a difference. Join us during any of our three event days.



PARTNERS AND EVENT SPONSORS



Volunteer Partner Organizations



Let's feature you as a partner, event sponsor or volunteer partner organization.

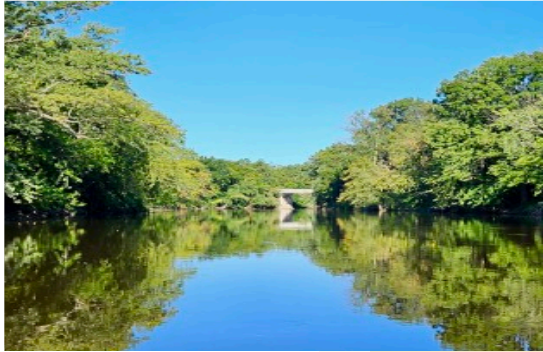


EVAN CARR



ECO Tour

REIMAGINE - REDISCOVER - RECONNECT



TAKE IN CAPITAL CITY VIEWS FROM OUR PRIZED RIVERS

If you too would like to take in views of our capital city from either our Red Cedar River or Grand River, we invite you to take a 1-2 hour Michigan Waterways Stewards EcoTour. Food, drink, and equipment is provided.

Stewardship is encouraged, but not required. We just ask that you enjoy your time on the water and tell your friends about Michigan's top urban waterways experience.

To the right is what Evan Carr, Lansing's own and MWS board member, wrote after he took in a Grand River tour of downtown and north Lansing.

The reflection of ducks skimming the water in flying V formation.
Murals adorn bridge pylons reflecting back the beauty our eyes can barely hold.
Crowds of wildflowers saying "hey good morning" under the majestic willows.
Heron precariously perched on a log stretching it's roots out to feel the cool water rushing by.
The silence broken by chirps and cheers of our curious onlookers over head.
Wind creeps through the canopy the leaves applauding our awe and appreciation casting sun rays like plucked strings on a harp.
Friendly waves to those onshore quickly build a connection hearts joyously joined in appreciation of this place.
All in a quiet morning on the Grand River lazily flowing through the heart of our glorious Capital City.

by Evan Carr



WHAT OTHERS ARE SAYING.

INCREDIBLE TRANSFORMATION

Such an incredible transformation. I am blown away by the grass root efforts, and caretaker responsibility for our shared treasure, our river systems. Thank you Michigan Waterways Stewards for your impressive and continuing efforts.

Andy Fedewa, City of Lansing, Principal Planner

YOUR EFFORTS ARE PHENOMENAL

Michigan Waterways Stewards efforts are just phenomenal. It's a testament to what a committed citizen can do when passionate about an issue. Thank you sincerely for being a steward over our precious water resources for generations to come.

Beth Bowen, Delta Township Trustee

TRULY COMMENDABLE

I want to personally thank you for the tremendous amount of work that you are doing on behalf of the river and our community. Your efforts are truly commendable and appreciated, and we are happy to assist you.

Cathy DeShambo, City of East Lansing, Director of Parks, Recreation, and Arts

THIS IS EXACTLY WHAT WE NEED

Fantastic work on the river clean-up! Your organization is exactly what we need in the State of Michigan to help us tackle the trash build up in our streams.

Barney Boyer, EGLE, Environmental Quality Analyst

YOUR WORK IS TRULY TRANSFORMATIONAL

Outstanding river stewardship longggg overdue. Long time coming - stoked about this. There is no question this work is transformational.

Pete Bosheff, Friends of the Red Cedar River

THIS IS WHAT WE NEED

Michigan Waterways Stewards is the best thing that has ever happened to our local rivers.

Tom Cannon, Friends of the Red Cedar River

YOUR PASSION IS CONTAGIOUS

Thank you, Michigan Waterways Stewards, for your continued enthusiasm and dedication to protecting our waterways! Your passion is contagious.

Thank you for all the wonderful things your organization is accomplishing! It's great to have enthusiastic people like you leading and encouraging our community to be good stewards of our natural resources.

Jayne Higo



IMPROVING AND PROTECTING
OUR TREASURED AND
VULNERABLE WATERWAYS.

JOIN US.
MAKE A DIFFERENCE.
THIS IS OUR LEGACY.



OUR MISSION

To protect and improve Michigan's treasured and vulnerable waterways for the benefit of fish and wildlife, recreation and sport.

Through our work we will inspire current and future generations to protect and care for our prized waterways.

OUR VISION

To become Michigan's #1 waterways stewards organization and make Michigan's waterways the envy of our Great Lakes industrial states.

JOIN US

Experience the joy and ease in which we accomplish great things when working together.

MICHIGAN WATERWAYS STEWARDS MAKING NEWS



Michigan Waterways Stewardship

Projects Summary: October 2022 thru September 2023

Stewardship: 1. Grand River Railroad Bridge Cleanup (N. MLK Highway); 2. Tecumseh Park Cleanup; 3. Red Cedar River Assessment (Kruger's Landing to Grand River); 4. Red Cedar River Railroad Bridge Cleanup (S. Cedar Street); 5. Grand River Assessment (Jackson); 6. Red Cedar River Cleanup (MSU Campus); 7. Cherry Hill Park Cleanup; 8. Grand River (I 496) Cleanup; 9. Abandoned Homeless Encampment Cleanup (N. MLK Highway); 10. Grand River Assessment (Lansing to Grand Ledge, and Jackson); 11. Red Cedar River Assessment (Williamston to Lansing); 12. Red Cedar Assessment (Kruger's Landing to East Lansing); 13. Red Cedar River Metal Impediments Removed (Railroad Bridge); 14. Red Cedar Assessment (Meridian Riverfront Park); Red Cedar River Cleanup (Lansing); 15. Red Cedar River Cleanup (west Okemos and East Lansing); 16. Red Cedar River Assessment (Lansing); 17. Grand River Assessment (Moores Park to North Park Dam); 18. Grand River Cleanup (North Grand Avenue Bridge); 19. Grand River Tecumseh Park Cleanup (PH 1); 20. Grand River Tecumseh Park Cleanup (PH 2); 22. Friends of the Looking Glass River Cleanup; 23. Red Cedar River Cleanup from Potter Park to confluence of the Grand River; 24. Red Cedar River Bridge Cleanup (S. Cedar Street); 25. Red Cedar River Cleanup (North of Kruger's Landing with Mount Hope Church); 26. Kruger's Landing Park Cleanup; 27. MSU Jenison Field House to Kruger's Landing River Cleanup; 28. Kruger's Landing to Tecumseh Park Cleanup; 29. Rotary Park to Tecumseh Park; 30. Jenison Field House to Kruger's Landing; 31. Lansing Rivers and River Trail Cleanup; 32. Red Cedar River and Grand River Assessment; 33. MSGMP Lansing Rivertrail Cleanup - Rotary Park Area; 34. Okemos Road Bridge Construction Cleanup from Wonk Park to CN Railroad Trestle; 35. ADBF Railroad Bridges (2); 36. CN Railway Bridges (2); 37. Hagadorn Street Bridge; 38. Bogue Street Bridge (5); 39. Farm Lane Bridge (2); 40. Grand River Assessment (Rotary Park to ADBF Bridge); 41. Red Cedar River Cleanup - Bogue Street to Kruger's Landing.

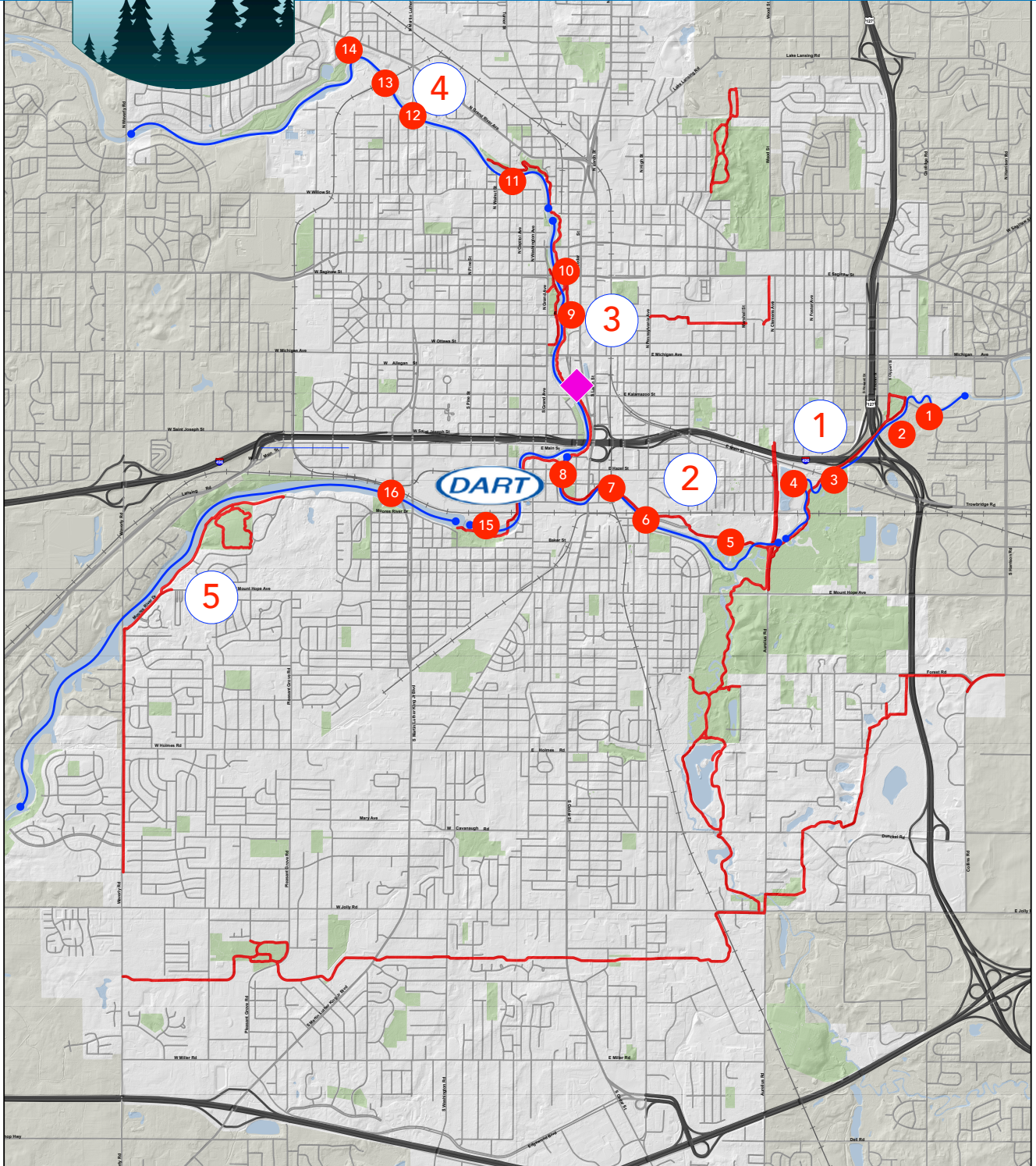
Education - Presentations: 1. Red Cedar Pathway; 2. Meridian Township Board - Townhall; 3. Meridian Township Parks and Recreation director, LuAnn Meisner; 4. Meridian Township Supervisor Patricia Jackson and Dan Opsommer; 5. Deputy Township Manager; 6. Williamstown Township Supervisor; Wanda Bloomquist; 7. Rotary Club of Williamston-Sunrise; 8. Rotary Club of East Lansing; 9. Kiwanis Club of Mason; 10. Impression 5 Adopt A River; 11. MISGMP - Lansing Shuffle.

Education - PSAs: 1. "Keep A Lid On It"; 2. "Come Clean - Leave Clean Stop Aquatic Hitchhikers"; 3. "Stop the Spin, Spin."

Advocacy: 1. City of Lansing Public Works Department - Improved Grounds Care; 2. Michigan Legislative Service Bureau Printing Services - Improved Grounds Care; 3. Meridian Township Okemos Road Bridge Construction - Improved Site Management; 4. Spin Electric Scooters - Improved Stewardship Campaign (ongoing).



Lansing Area Rivers Cleanup Project Map



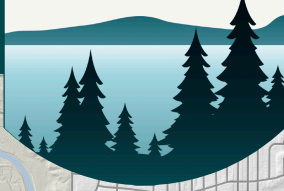
Street

- Freeway
- Freeway Ramp
- Main Road
- Neighborhood Street
- Railroad
- River Trail
- Park
- Lake/River
- Traditional river hotspots

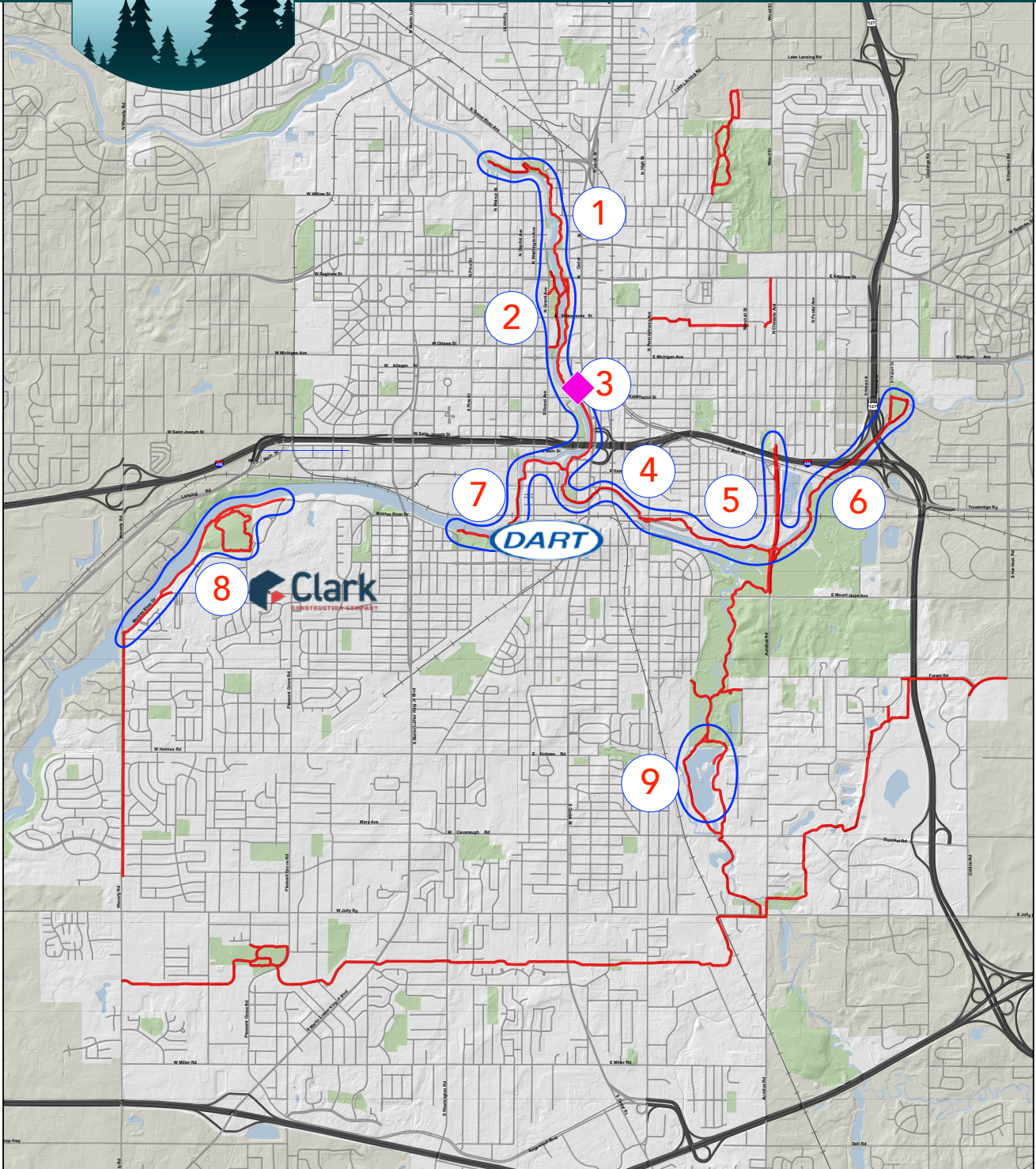
City of Lansing River Trail



Andy Schor, Mayor



Lansing River Trail Cleanup Project Map



Street

- Freeway
- Freeway Ramp
- Main Road
- Neighborhood Street
- Railroad
- River Trail
- Park
- Lake/River

City of Lansing River Trail



Andy Schor, Mayor