

Centennial Tree Project Committee Report
January 26, 2011

The Dequindre Cut Project

This project was inspired by the upcoming centennial of The Garden Club of America of which The Garden Club of Michigan is a member. The theme of the centennial celebration is "Trees, Our Living Legacy: Preserving the Past, Growing the Future". The purpose of our project was to restore native trees to a post-industrial landscape at the Dequindre Cut, a reclaimed railway bed in downtown Detroit, to educate by botanical signage and to foster an appreciation of natural ecosystems at this gateway to the imagination of a revitalized city.

After more than a year in the planning and development, the Dequindre Cut Project was successfully installed with the planting of 27 trees and shrubs on May 25, 2010 on the east side of the Cut at the Woodbridge entrance. The grove of native plants extends approximately 140' from Woodbridge to the Jefferson overpass on the Vigliotti Building side of the pathway and is planted in an informal design as a representation of a successional forest. The plant material includes the following:

5 <i>Crataegus viridis</i> 'Winter King'	Winter King Hawthorn	GCM Featured Tree
12 <i>Pinus strobus</i>	Eastern White Pine	Michigan State Tree
5 <i>Amelanchier canadensis</i>	Serviceberry	
3 <i>Cercis canadensis</i>	Eastern Redbud	
1 <i>Acer saccharum</i> 'Green Mountain'	Sugar Maple Green Mountain	
1 <i>Quercus rubra borealis</i>	Northern Red Oak	

The project was completed in partnership with the Detroit RiverFront Conservancy which has stewardship of the area and is responsible for its maintenance and security and the Greening of Detroit which provided the horticultural and design aspects of the project. The trees were planted by personnel from The Greening of Detroit, the Greenways Crew and the Open Space Crew volunteers with input from Nancy Nicholson and Anna Warren of The Garden Club of Michigan.

The cost of the project was \$7,500. \$500 is held in reserve for educational and acknowledgement signage pending a policy decision by the Detroit RiverFront Conservancy on unified signage for the area.

Anna Warren
Centennial Tree Project Committee
The Garden Club of Michigan