



Loving Our Downstream Neighbor

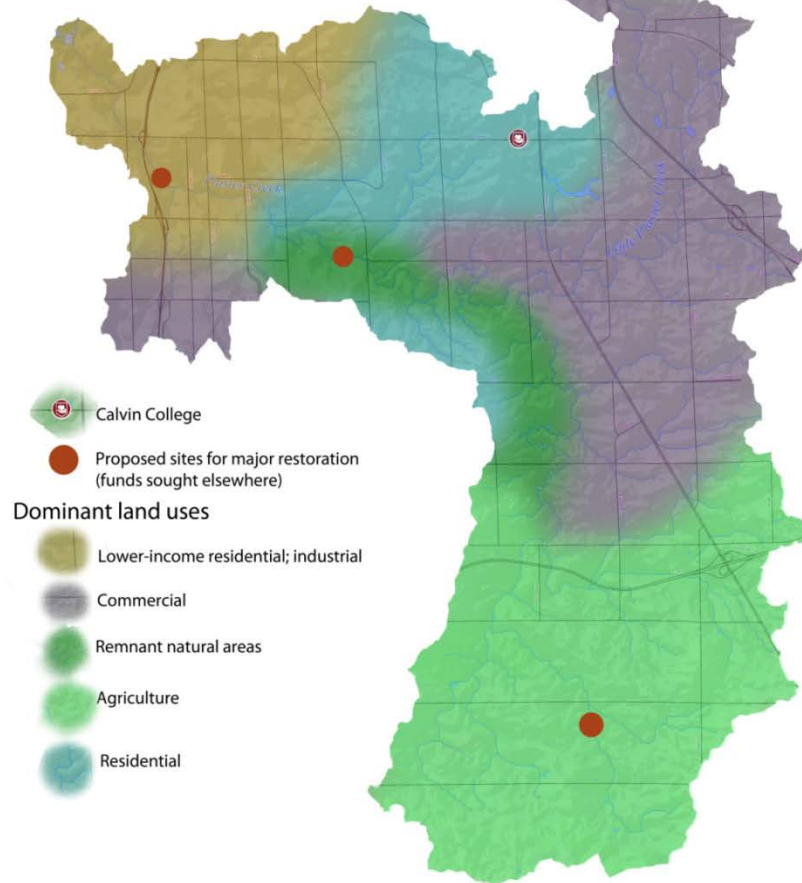
Plaster Creek Stewards

Gail Heffner

Dave Warners

Plaster Creek Watershed

Grand Rapids, Michigan



Background statistics:

- Length: approx. 14 miles
- Watershed area: 58 mi²
- Governmental units: 9 (4 municipalities & 5 townships)





Plaster Creek Stewards





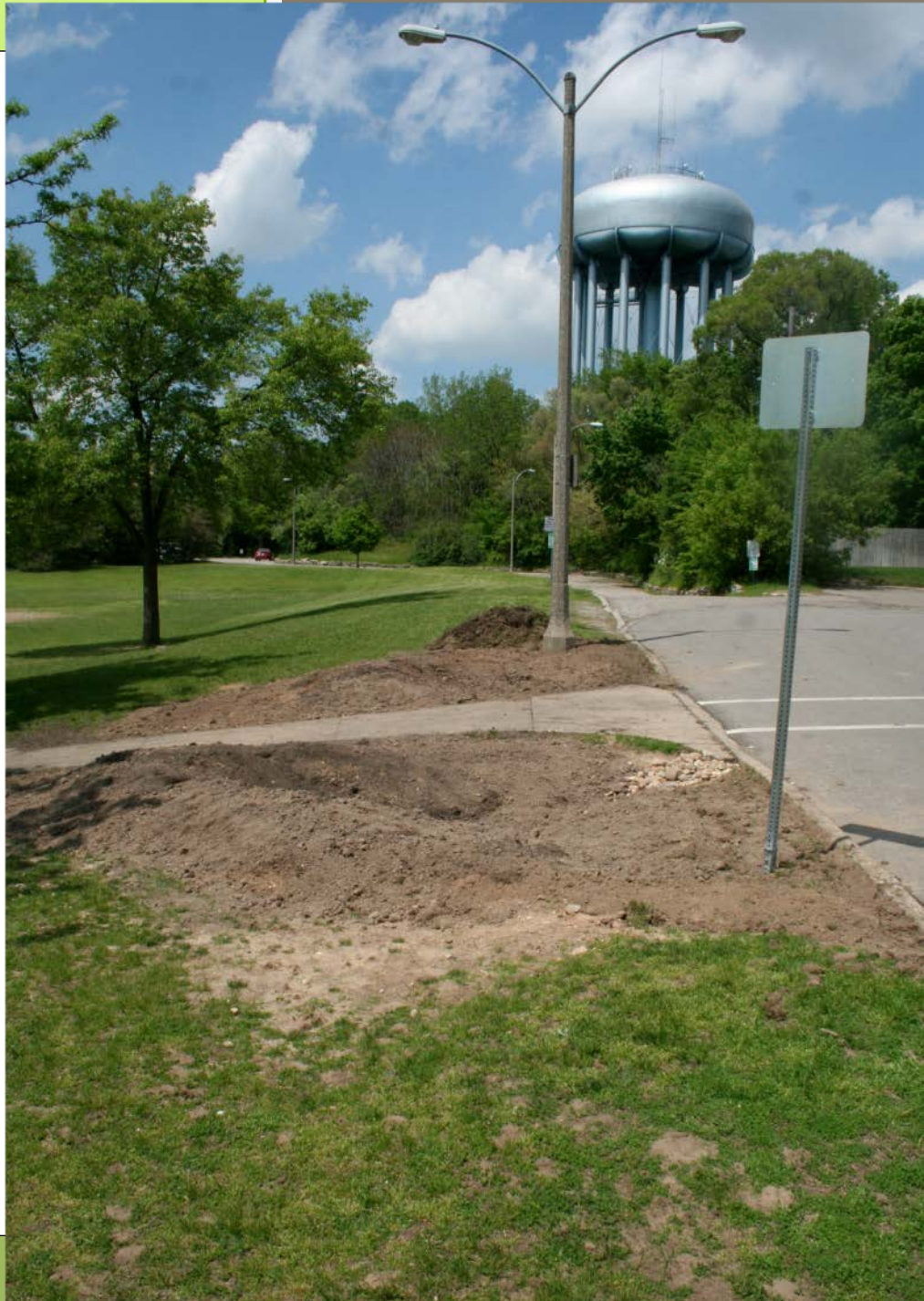
Education and Outreach builds awareness and concern



Research leads to a better understanding of how best to help



*Restoration
implements
healthier
watershed
practices*





BORGMAN'S WORLD













Daylighting the Saw Mill River









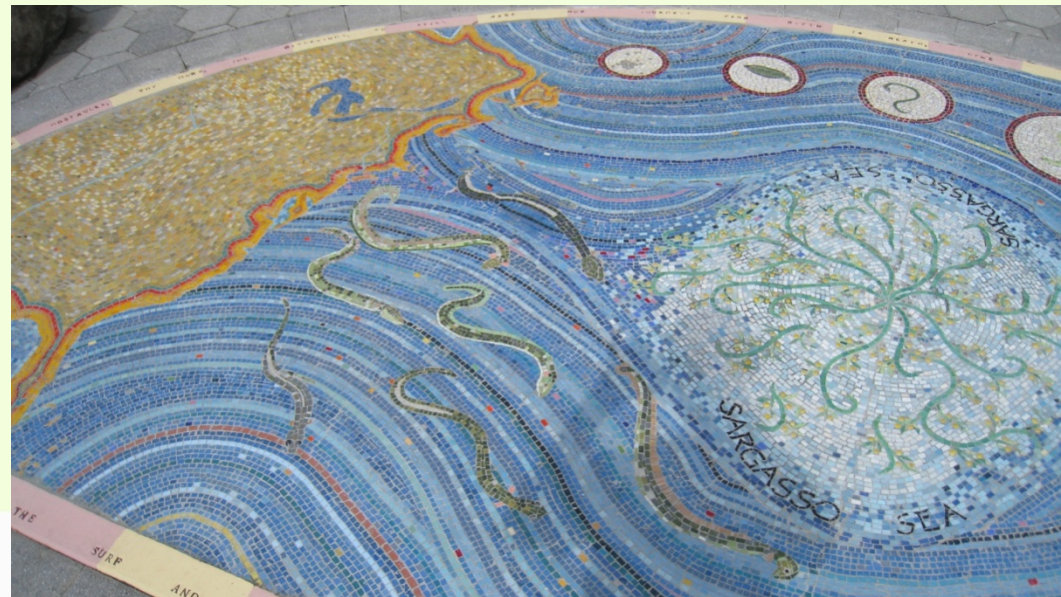
GROUNDWORK
CHANGING PLACES
CHANGING LIVES





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Groundwork Involvement

2001 Saw Mill River Coalition—a New Program of Groundwork
2002-2004 Initial Coalition Meetings on Daylighting at Chicken Island
2002-2010 Water Quality and Fish & Eel Studies
2005-2007 Community Brown Bag lunches on Daylighting “Park”
2008-2009 Saw Mill to Hudson River Trail Charrettes
2008-2010 Daylighting Habitat Plan
2010-2012 Downtown Business-Community Charrettes



What we got:

- Separation of Sewer & Storm Systems
- Sewer Overflow Disconnection from River
- Replacement of Impervious Parking Lot with “Living River”
- Rich Public Space because of Community Involvement
- Environmental Showcase Project in Midst of Historical Yonkers
- Economic Revitalization



