

Stewardship Network Notes
9 Aug 08
Bruegger's Bagel Bakery

The Stewardship Network meets the second Tuesday of the month at Bruegger's Bagel Bakery on North University, UM--Ann Arbor Campus, from 7:30 to 8:30 AM. The

Topic: Rivers and Streams

Water issues--flooding, pollution, blocked flow, erosion, scarcity

Whom to check with if you have or aware of a water issue:

- DNR or DEQ (Dept of Environmental Quality) at state level
- County Drain Commissioner
- City water engineer

Government (usually local) programs to encourage citizen participation

--state/DNR land owner incentive programs

--City of AA reduces homeowners water bills slightly if they have rain gardens, and substantially if they have detention ponds on their property

Restoration

--urban creeks fluctuate quickly and can erode cleared areas

--rain gardens upstream capture the first inch of erosion, and up to 70% of flood conditions rainfall

--when clearing invasives near a stream, plant immediately with water-tolerating species like elderberry and red-osier dogwood

--certain kinds of restoration may not be the best idea in all cases. Removing Argo dam would wash out native species which perhaps weren't there in the first place.