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# News

Macomb County Executive  
Mark A. Hackel



## Planning & Economic Development

### *For Immediate Release*

Media Contact: Gerard Santoro (586) 469-6443

Date: May 9, 2016

### Macomb County grows new program to increase tree canopy coverage

The Macomb County Department of Planning & Economic Development (MCPED), through a grant from the U.S. Forestry Service and the Michigan Department of Natural Resources - Forestry Division, is creating a new program named “Green Macomb - Urban Forestry Partnership” to improve tree canopy cover in areas south of the Clinton River within Macomb County.

These communities were chosen because they have the lowest tree canopy coverage, yet highest population density, oldest infrastructure and most highly impacted sub-watersheds in Macomb County.

In order to make this grant possible, ITC Holdings provided 100 percent of the match money. The grant will allow for MCPED to work collaboratively with multiple agencies to create a coordinated green infrastructure strategy to systematically implement and leverage environmental best practices in Macomb County as well as strengthen the economic vitality, quality of life and environmental wellbeing of the region.

Future phases of the Green Macomb Initiative will look at floodplain conservation in the North Branch of the Clinton River and agricultural conservation in all areas of the north part of Macomb County.

The project is being presented to each of the local governments that reside in the targeted area on Monday, May 9 to allow each community to glean value from this program that best suits their particular needs.

Questions can be directed to Gerard Santoro of MCPED at (586) 469-6443 or at [Gerard.Santoro@macombgov.org](mailto:Gerard.Santoro@macombgov.org).

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