

Clinton River Rookery Preserve Rochester Hills, Michigan



Oakland Land Conservancy's 24-acre Clinton River Rookery Preserve in Rochester Hills protects both banks along one mile of the Clinton River. The preserve consists of mature floodplain forest and wetlands and features an active Great Blue Heron rookery. The preserve is surrounded by three subdivisions: Rookery Woods, Quail Ridge, and Butler Ridge (under construction). Preservation of a natural area so closely surrounded by residential development

presents special management challenges.

One very important challenge, clear identification of the boundaries of the preserve, was provided by **Spalding DeDecker Associates, Inc. (SDA)**. SDA, led by Survey and Mapping Department Manager and Vice President George Platz, made a donation of their services and surveyed the boundaries of the Clinton River Rookery Preserve, marked the survey points for the Conservancy, and installed preserve signs.

The Conservancy regularly monitors the preserve for disturbances and encroachment. The Conservancy, in partnership with the Clinton River Watershed Council and Trout Unlimited, launched a program to restore native ecosystems where they had been disturbed. According to Executive Director Donna Folland, ***"A clearly marked boundary identifying the location of the protected area is essential to both monitoring and restoration. We need to be able to stop encroachment into the protected area and also know how far to extend our restoration work. Spalding DeDecker's gift is the first step in our success at restoration and we are grateful for their partnership and generosity."***

The mission of the Oakland Land Conservancy is to preserve, protect, and connect the natural areas and open spaces in Oakland County to enhance the quality of life. The Conservancy works in Oakland County and southern Lapeer County to protect water quality, wildlife habitat, and recreational opportunities by owning nature preserves, holding conservation easements, and assisting communities with land protection. In addition to preserving land as a legacy for future generations, the Conservancy holds education programs and stewardship workdays, offering knowledge and skills which participants can take home to their own property and community. For more information about the Oakland Land Conservancy, visit their web site at www.oaklandlandconservancy.org.

OWNER / CLIENT

Oakland Land Conservancy

PROJECT START - END

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