Collaboration, Collective Efficacy and Reinvention in Detroit
The Greening of Detroit’s mission is cultivating and supporting a healthy urban community with trees, green spaces, food, education and training opportunities.
Detroit’s Challenges and Opportunities

Declining Population
Increasing Vacant Space
Political and Economic Disarray
Continuum of Municipal Inefficiency and Abuse of Power
New Economic Leaders & Diversifying economy
No public transportation system
Decades-old racial tensions
Influx of Artists
The Greening of Detroit has developed a suite of programming designed to create structural change throughout Detroit’s ecosystem:

- Green Infrastructure
- Open Space
- Urban Agriculture
- Workforce Development

Each of these program areas works within the following four strategies.
Strategy 1: Create Physical Change

Expand the design, development, enhancement and maintenance of green and open spaces throughout the City, creating physical change that improves the landscape and environment and transforming our city's overabundance of vacant land through implementation of tree plantings, gardens, and other green infrastructure projects.
Strategy 2: Create Wealth

Improve quality of life for Detroiter by developing programs which expand wealth and opportunity by helping them develop and improve their assets.
Strategy 3: Transfer Knowledge

Develop life-long learning opportunities for youth and adults, supporting healthy urban communities and emphasizing the importance of healthy food and green spaces, as we grow tomorrow’s Detroit.
Strategy 4: Develop Social Capital

Cultivate partnerships and develop social capital by supporting personal relationships throughout the neighborhoods where we work, resulting in increased community cohesion and encouraging collective efficacy.
“Collaboration is hard, and it is messy, and we will do it anyway.”

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