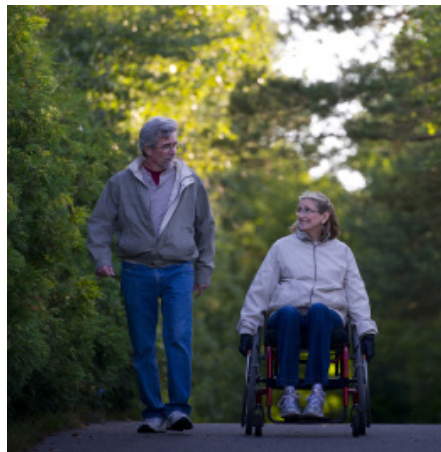


THE GREAT LAKES WAY



Community Foundation

FOR SOUTHEAST MICHIGAN

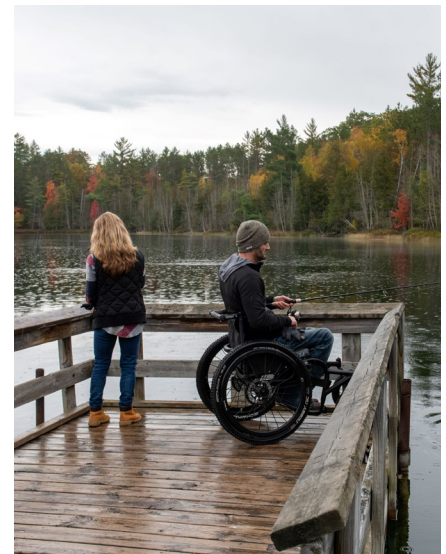
Metropolitan Detroit is situated in the heart of the Laurentian Great Lakes, which make up one-fifth of the standing freshwater on the earth's surface. The international waters along the southeast Michigan coastline stretch from southern Lake Huron through the St. Clair River, Lake St. Clair, and the Detroit River, and empty into western Lake Erie.

The Metropolitan Detroit region first attracted Native Americans because of its water and other abundant natural resources. Those resources contributed greatly to the economic vitality of the region, helping establish Detroit as a major Great Lakes port city and a participant in 19th century shipbuilding and shipping industries. They also helped create a global center for manufacturing with the advent of the auto industry in the 20th century.

Today, the water and other natural resources of the Huron-Erie corridor provide residents and visitors with unique opportunities for close-to-home outdoor recreation and education. Twenty years ago, the Community Foundation for Southeast Michigan's GreenWays Initiative created a network of more than 100 miles of connected greenway trails. Building on that success, the Community Foundation is now helping ensure more people enjoy the incredible water resources. The goal is to ensure each of us — people of all ages, abilities, backgrounds, ethnicities, and interests — feels welcome, has easy access to and can share in the water's benefits.

Together with regional partners, the Community Foundation is creating a national greenway and blueway system called the Great Lakes Way. Its 160 miles of greenways and 156 miles of blueways will link residents and visitors to a collection of world-class freshwater, wildlife, and recreation activities, including fisheries, bird migration paths, parks, working waterways, preserved woodlands, and restored wetlands.

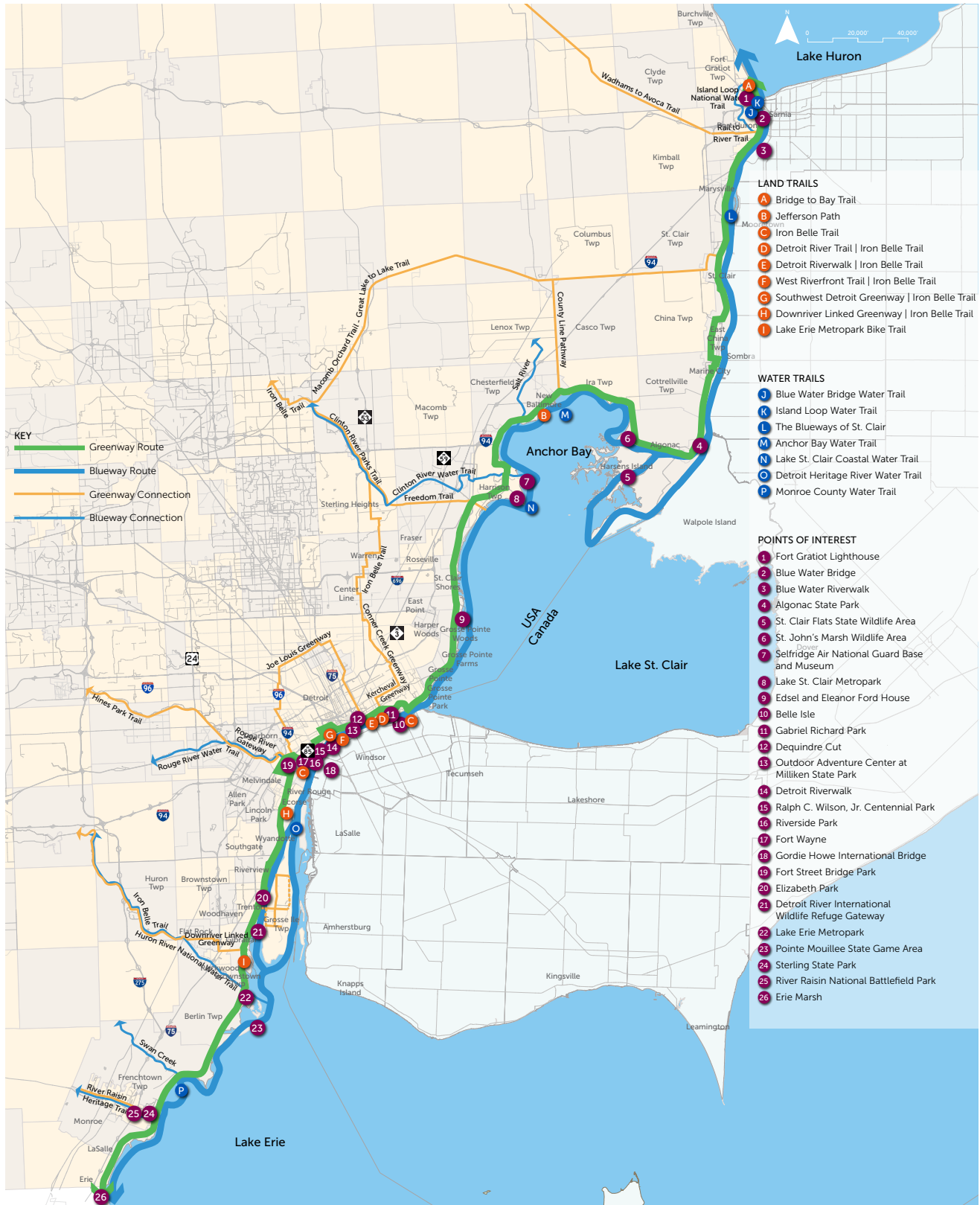
The Great Lakes Way can also help catalyze economic development, increase property values, support healthy living, promote conservation, and celebrate historical and cultural assets -- making southeast Michigan the number one freshwater recreation destination in the United States.



THE GREAT LAKES WAY



Vision: All residents and visitors of southeast Michigan are connected to and benefit from world-class fresh water, wildlife, recreation, and heritage right in our backyard through a Great Lakes Way – an interconnected set of 160 miles of greenways and 156 miles of blueways stretching from southern Lake Huron through western Lake Erie that provides access for all ages and abilities.



Community Foundation
FOR SOUTHEAST MICHIGAN

For more information, visit
greatlakesway.org

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

Great Lakes Way Website

greatlakesway.org

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