

CLEAN & GREEN

Clean & Green is a program of the Genesee County Land Bank Authority that supports community-based vacant property maintenance in Flint and Genesee County. The program began in 2004 as the Land Bank sought to partner with community-based organizations in order to advance community-based capacity, neighborhood health, youth engagement, the reuse of vacant land, and the Land Bank's relationships with the community. Clean & Green is at the heart of the Land Bank's community engagement. Block clubs, schools, churches, neighborhood associations, and local non-profits are some of the nearly 90 community-based organizations who have participated in Clean & Green during more than a decade. Through the program, community-based groups seasonally maintain concentrated clusters of vacant properties. Each participating group receives a stipend for its maintenance work, much of which is used to employ local youth in improving their neighborhood conditions.

PURPOSE

The purpose of the Genesee County Land Bank Authority's Clean & Green program is to support innovative community groups and organizations in the cleaning, maintaining, and beautifying of otherwise vacant properties in Genesee County.

GOALS

- Increase the capacity of community-based groups to care for vacant properties.
- Improve the appearance and health of neighborhoods by cleaning and greening.
- Engage youth in the cleaning, greening, and ultimately changing of their neighborhoods.
- Inspire rethinking and reimagining of the opportunities of vacant properties.
- Build lasting relationships between the Land Bank and the community.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Clean & Green groups have completed more than 90,000 vacant property mowings, valued at \$4.5 million.
- The Land Bank has invested nearly \$1.8 million in community-based organizations through Clean & Green.
- 2,400 area residents have participated in Clean & Green, including more than 1,150 total area youth and more than 550 employed area youth.

