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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: April 6, 2023

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Controlled Burns To Be Conducted
In Garden Homes and Veterans Park Public Rain Gardens

ANN ARBOR, MI - Controlled burns will be conducted on April 6, 2023, in rain gardens and stormwater features in Garden Homes Park near Franklin Street and Miller Avenue, and two locations in Veterans Park – the Zamboni rain garden near Maple Road and Jackson Avenue, and the rain garden near Dexter Avenue. Controlled burns help reduce invasive species and encourage native plants to thrive. Deep rooted native plants make soils more absorbent. Spongier soils reduce runoff which can cause problems downstream.

Ecologically, it is important to burn these natural areas so that the prairie-like ecosystems continue to flourish. Funding for this work is provided by the City of Ann Arbor Systems Planning Unit and coordinated by the Washtenaw County Water Resources Commissioner's Office (WCWRC).

The burns will be conducted by a professional contractor, PlantWise, LLC. Burn plans have been developed for each site and a burn permit has been obtained from the Fire Department.

For more information on WCWRC controlled burns visit,
<https://www.washtenaw.org/CivicAlerts.aspx?AID=2403>.

Our Mission: We seek to inspire the residents and communities of Washtenaw County to protect surface water and the environment while maintaining necessary drainage. Within the authority granted to our office, we provide resources to reduce flooding, dispose of home toxics, and improve water quality.

Visit [washtenaw.org/drains](https://www.washtenaw.org/drains) for more information.

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Office Open Week Days From 8:30 A.M. to 5:00 P.M.