

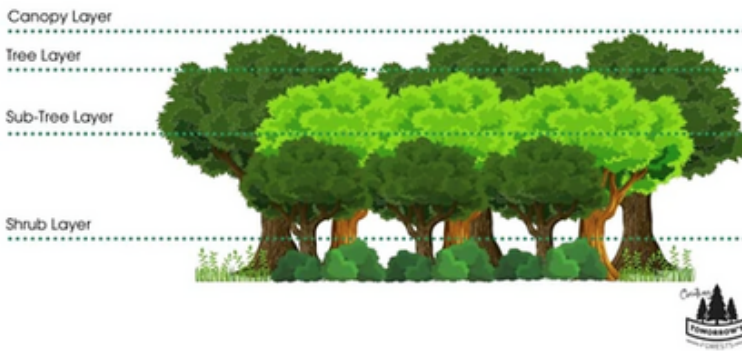
Marquette Microforest

A high-performance Microforest for Environment and Education

The City of Muskegon, Muskegon Rotary Club, United Way of the Lakeshore, and the West Michigan Regional Development Planning Commission are pleased to develop this Muskegon natural treasure: a native, multi-species forest designed and planted to grow quickly and provide exceptional environmental benefits to the Marquette neighborhood and for our planet.

A small but ecologically powerful forest habitat

Miyawaki Forest Layers



The Marquette Microforest is designed using the Miyawaki planting method. First, we create a simulated forest floor using sheet cardboard and recycled woodchips. Then we incubate the forest floor for several weeks to cultivate soil fungi and all the creatures that eat it. Finally, we plant more than 50 native species that include sentinel canopy trees, subtrees, shrubs, and understory species, including grasses and wild-flowers. This microforest will have nearly 3,000 plants! The Miyawaki secret is to install these plants very densely – up to three per meter – which creates shade competition to spur rapid growth. The fast-growing system delivers extraordinary ecological benefits: shade and cooling, stormwater uptake and purification, flood abatement, wildlife habitat, and carbon sequestration against climate change.



The Marquette Microforest is generously funded by the following partners: Marquette Neighborhood Association, Muskegon Rotary Club, and Community Foundation for Muskegon County

Additional Partners: Muskegon Lake Watershed Partnership, Muskegon Conservation District, Subaru of Muskegon, Reeths Puffer Central Elementary Local Greenhouses and Nurseries, and all our volunteers!

Special Thank you to the Environmental Sustainability Rotary Action Group (ESRAG), Eastern NA Regional Chapter), and Dr. Charles Reith of the Rotary Club of Sarasota Bay for all the support.