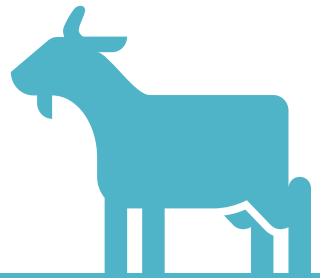
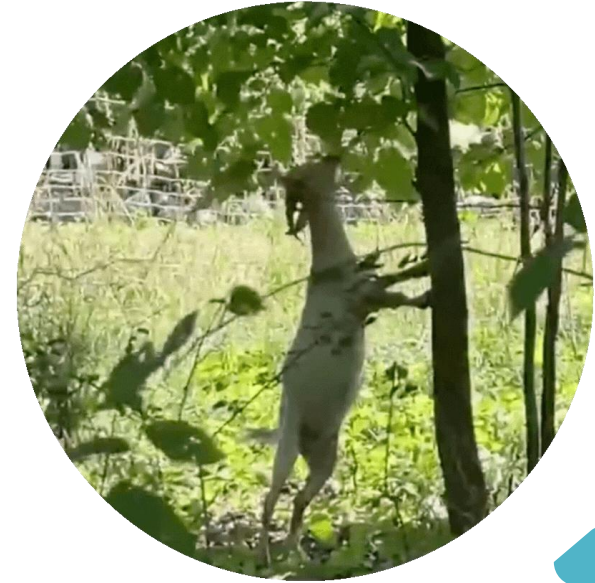


Goats at Work!

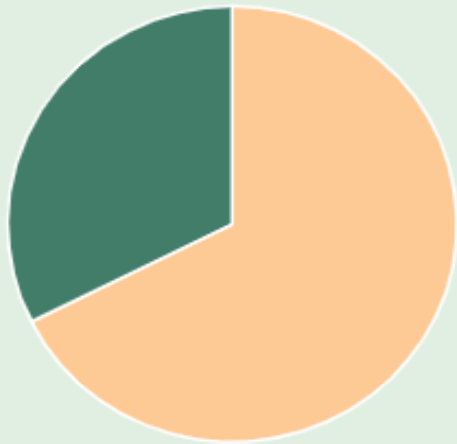
Turning Overgrown Lots into Vibrant Community Spaces



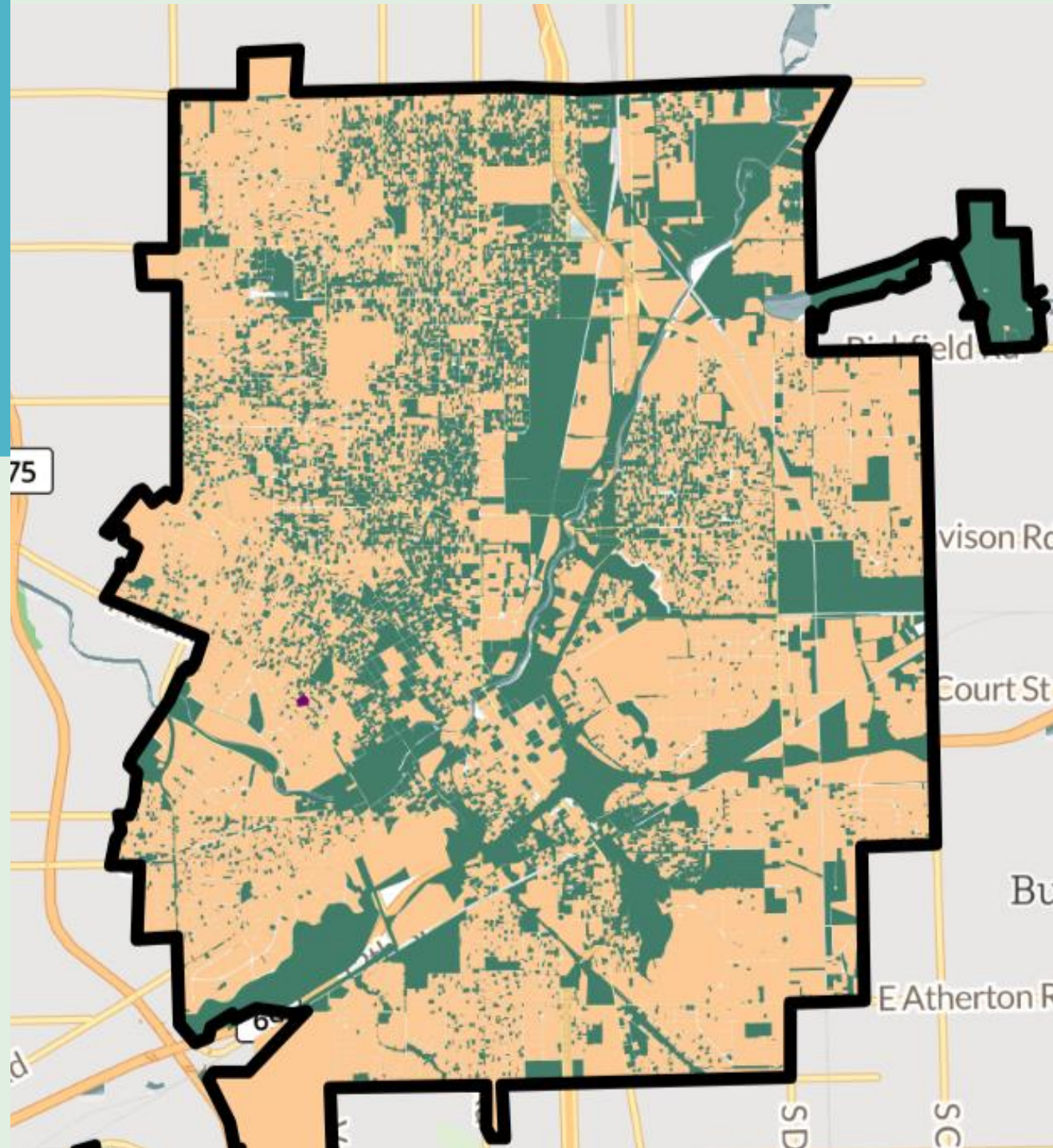
"Revitalizing Vacant Lots Through Bioregenerative Action"



City of Flint Property Types



Buildings: 37,288
Vacant Lots: 17,869





W. Foss St. / Wager Ave. in Flint, MI

**Invasive plant species takeover of
vacant lots around Genesee County**





Invasive Buckthorn!

What's the issue?

Leads to illegal dumping, increased gun violence, lower property values, and a lost sense of community pride.





1029 E. Baltimore St.
Aerial vs. street views of
invasive Buckthorn



Before goats



After goats



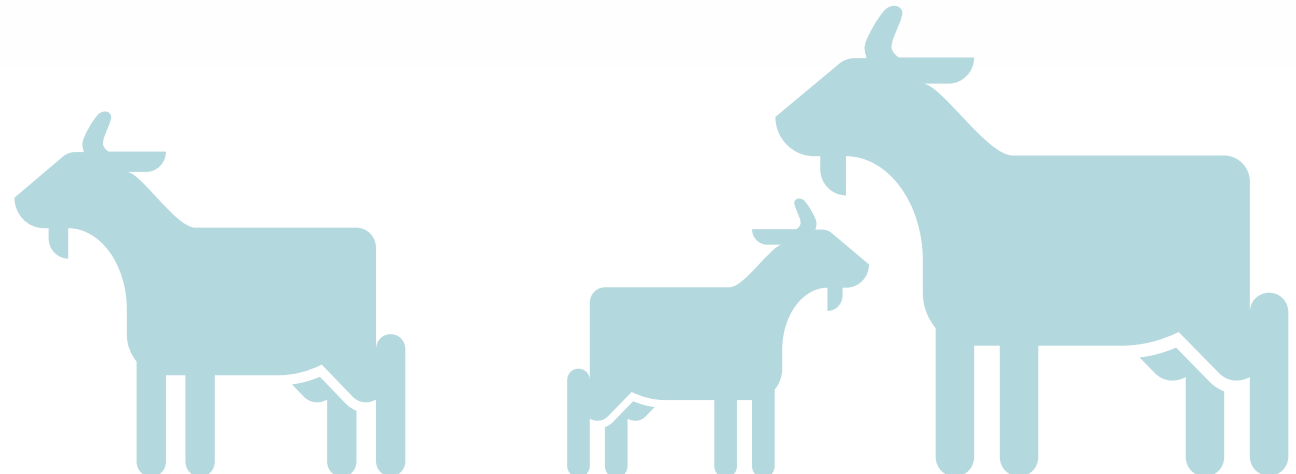
Why is Buckthorn such a problem?

- **Safety Concerns:** Lack of sightlines increases opportunity for criminal activity
- **Economic Impact:** Absence of mature, beneficial trees lowers property values
- **Access Challenges:** Limited mowing access; green spaces are unusable for neighbors
- **Visual Impact:** Unsightly areas that quickly worsen without proper care
- **Regrowth Issues:** Improper treatment leads to stronger, harder-to-control regrowth

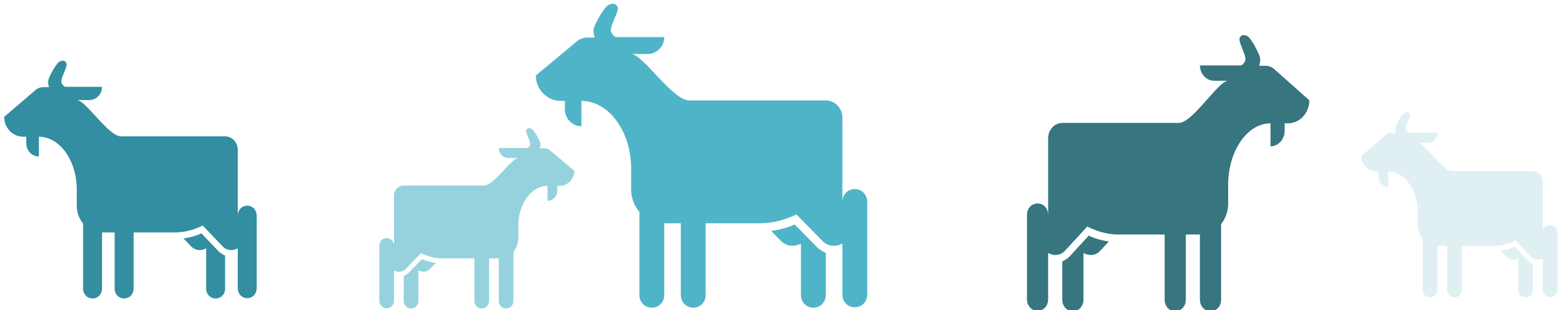
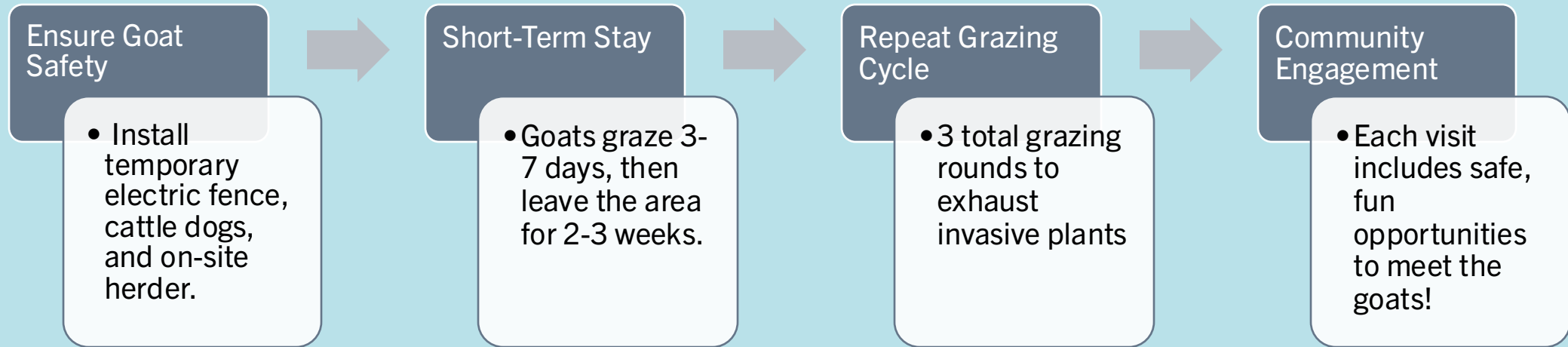


The Solution: Goatscaping

- ✓ **Unique Solution:** Goats are the only animals that can digest buckthorn
- ✓ **Eco-Friendly Benefits:** 80% reduction in fossil fuel use, & zero toxic chemicals used on land protecting the watershed
- ✓ **Cost Efficiency:** Less than half the cost of repeated mechanical clearing and more effective for the long term
- ✓ **Sustainable Impact:** Long-term solution that simplifies maintenance
- ✓ **Community Centric:** Open Workshops and days to Meet the Goats! on the land



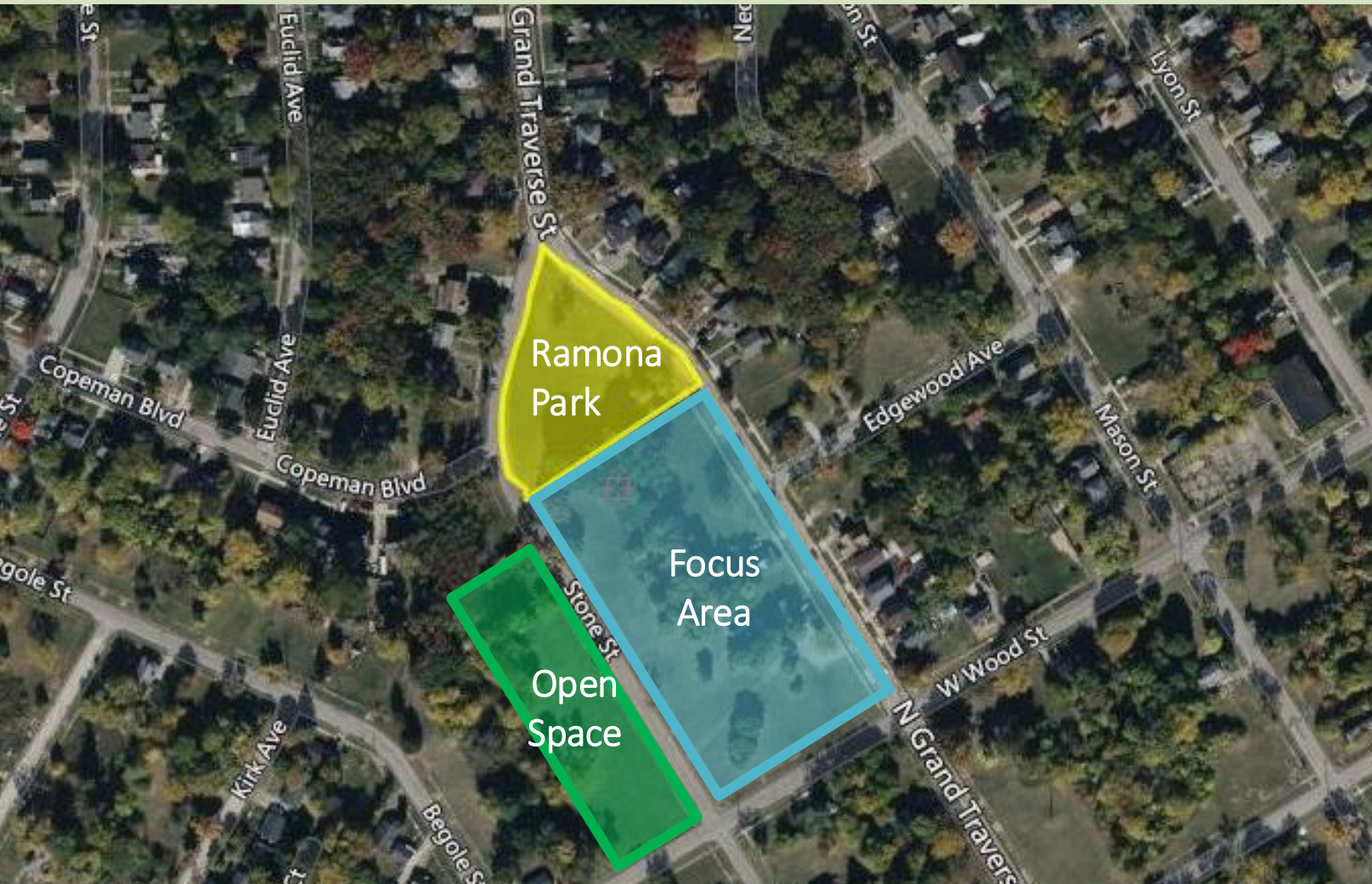
Goatscaping: The Process



Where do we start?



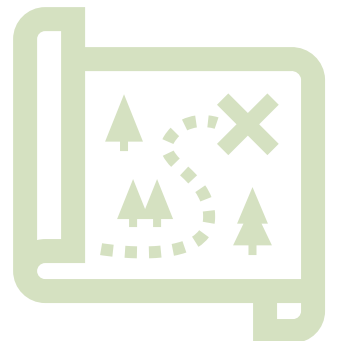
Ramona Park in the Metawanenee Hills Neighborhood of Flint



**Ramona Park
(.83 acres)**

and

**Adjacent Land
Bank Owned
Vacant Lots
(5.62 acres)**



Why Ramona Park?

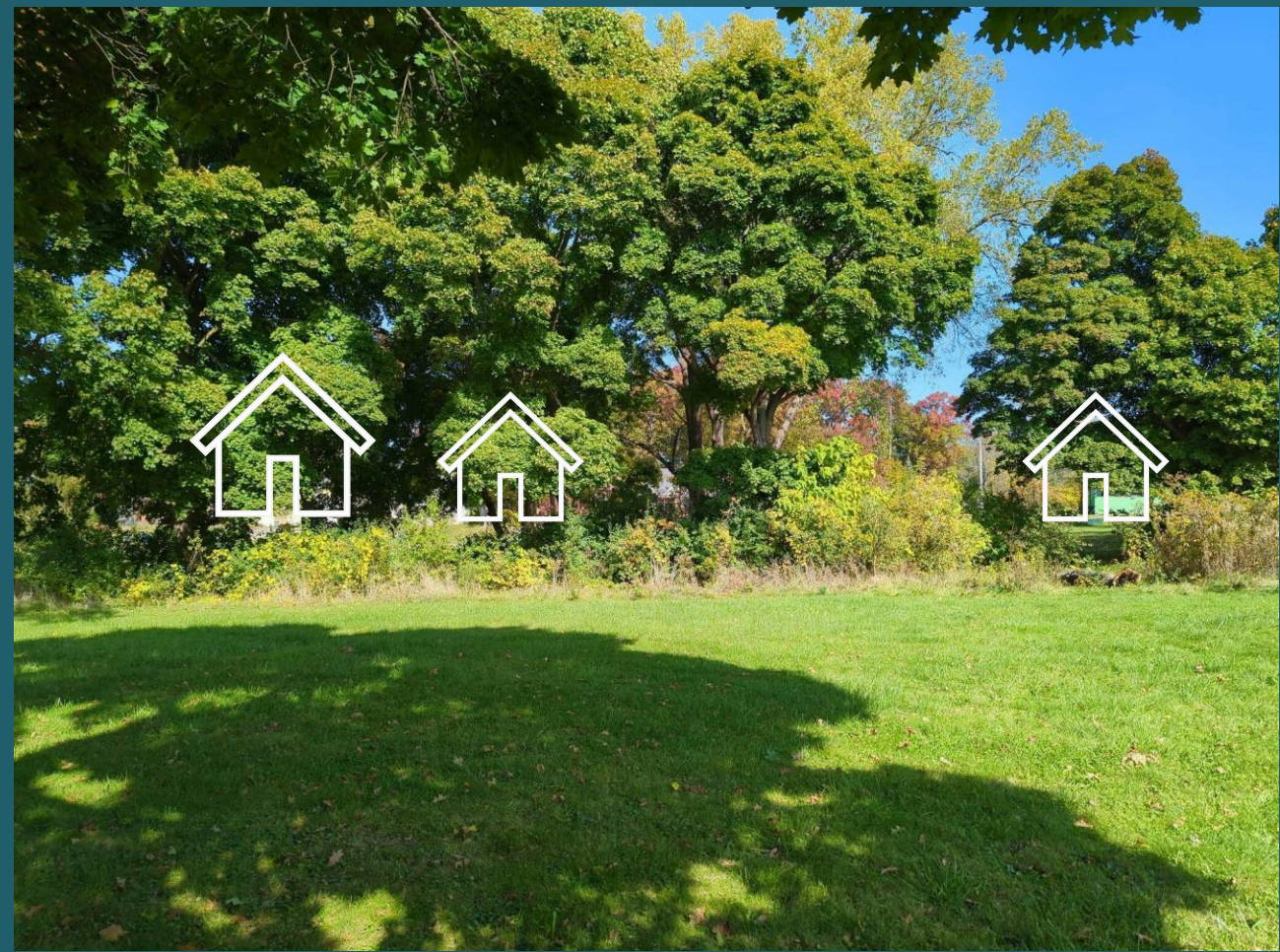
- ✓ Ideal Pilot Project size
- ✓ Environmental Benefits
- ✓ Existing Native Tree Planting Efforts
- ✓ Aligns with Master Plan Goals
- ✓ Long-standing desire to reactivate this space
- ✓ Active community interest and involvement





Visually and Physically divides the neighborhood

- Prevents residents from accessing and enjoying green spaces



Dream with us...



Ramona Park's potential after Goatscaping!



Engagement & Communications

- Community events — meet the goats!
- Creation of a short project video
- Social media outreach
- Community wide and local meetings
- Clean & Green community group feedback
- Outreach to local media outlets
- Local flyer distribution



**KEEP GENESEE
COUNTY BEAUTIFUL**
KEEP AMERICA BEAUTIFUL AFFILIATE



Partners

Genesee County Land Bank, and our partners in collaboration:

- Genesee Conservation District
- City of Flint
- The Conservation Fund
- Keep Genesee County Beautiful





Questions?

Contact the Land Bank's
Urban Conservation Fellow
Kelly Jewett at
kjewett@thelandbank.org

