As a college mentor, I worked with the Green Team students to help guide and lead them during different projects in the field and in the classroom setting. We were able to share our stories and perspectives about the environment. I learned a lot from their experiences living in Grand Rapids, and was also able to motivate and encourage them in their path to living sustainably.

Working with the Green Team and installing curb-cut rain gardens has been an amazing experience that has helped me set a trajectory in what I hope to direct my life towards: engaging with the local community, sharing lives with the youth, and implementing hands-on rain gardens while getting educated about the effects of native plants. Also, at the end of each monthly Green Team session, PCS hosts a celebration that allows the high schoolers to share their reflections and takeaways from this experience. I was encouraged by their articulate expressions in how much their short-span of work has impacted their perspective on their local watershed and thus their individual/communal actions.

Many thanks to:
- Our headstrong GT mentors, Gary Warners and Georgia Donovan,
- Our lovely PCS leadership team, Deanna Geelhoed, Gail Heffner, Dave Warners, Andrea Lubberts, Julie Wildschut,
- The Calvin University Science Division and EPA,
- And lastly, the Michigan Sea Grant for making this summer possible.