

HOW TO DETERMINE IF YOUR PROGRAM SERVES A DISADVANTAGED COMMUNITY

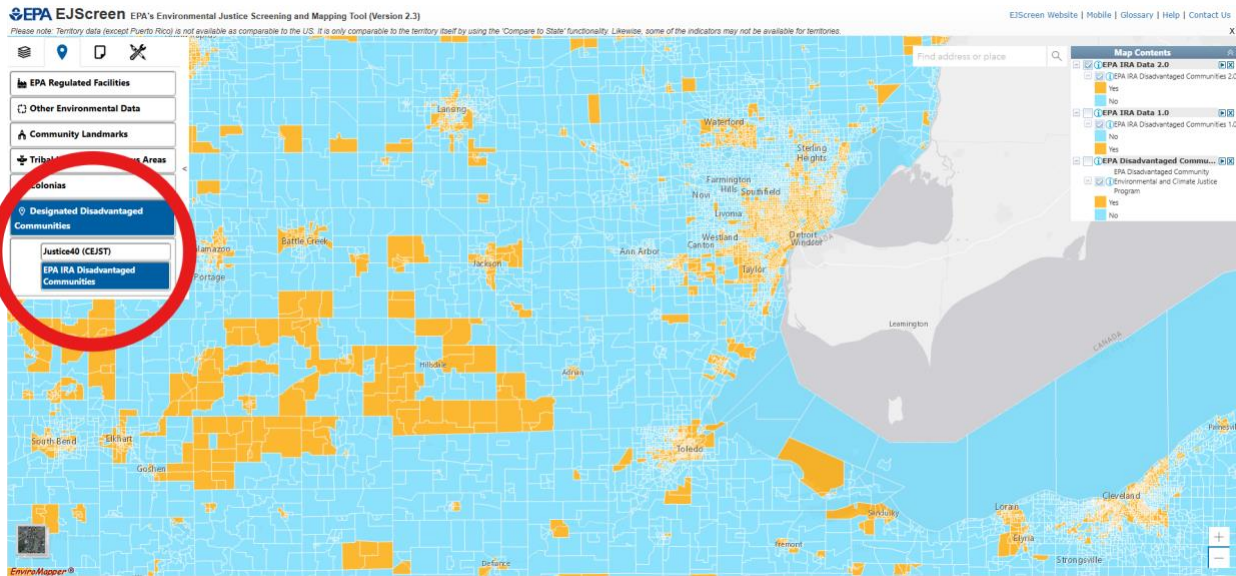
The Great Lakes Environmental Justice Thriving Communities Grantmaking program is designed to serve disadvantaged communities as identified by the federal government on the [EJScreen Mapping Tool](#). **Before submitting a grant application, please follow the steps below to confirm your project is located in one or more eligible disadvantaged communities.** This should take you about 5 minutes.

If the map shows you are eligible for a grant, please save a screenshot of your project location to support your grant application.

1. **Open** EJScreen using this link: <https://ejscreen.epa.gov/mapper/index.html>. Navigate to your project area location. Steps are included below if you are planning to work in multiple project locations.
2. Click on the teardrop-shaped “Places” icon on the toolbar.

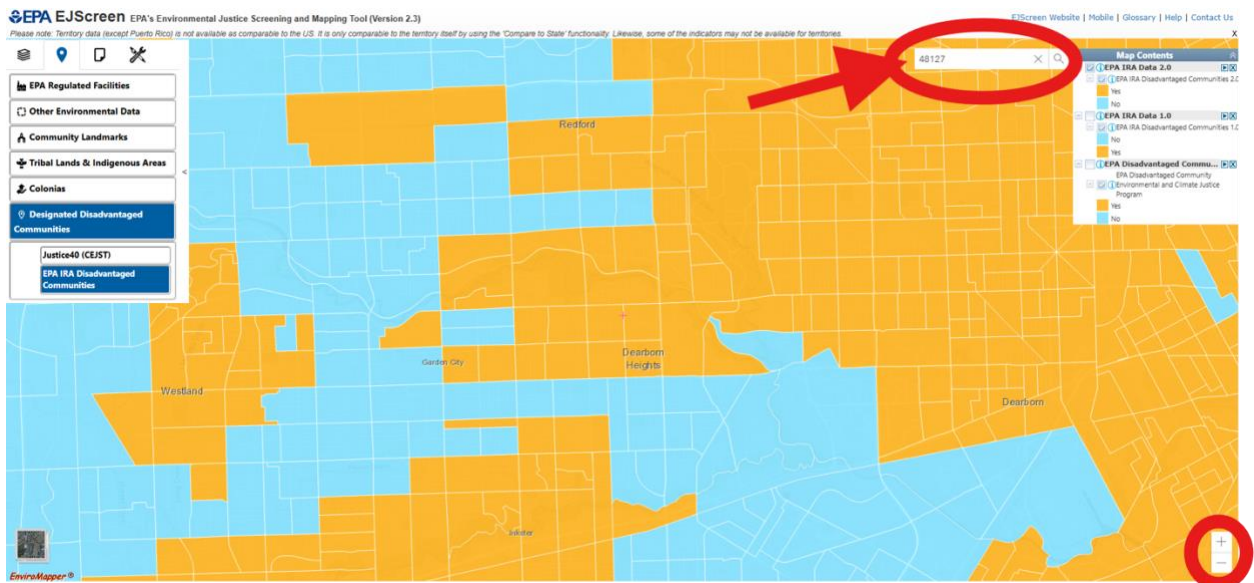


3. In the “Places” menu, click on “Designated Disadvantaged Communities” and select the “EPA IRA Disadvantaged Communities” button. On the map, you will then see disadvantaged communities highlighted in shades of orange.



- Find your project area by entering your census blocks, census tracts, zip code, or address in the search area in the upper righthand corner of the screen. (You can find the census block and tract information for your address here: <https://geocoding.geo.census.gov/geocoder/geographies/address?form.>)

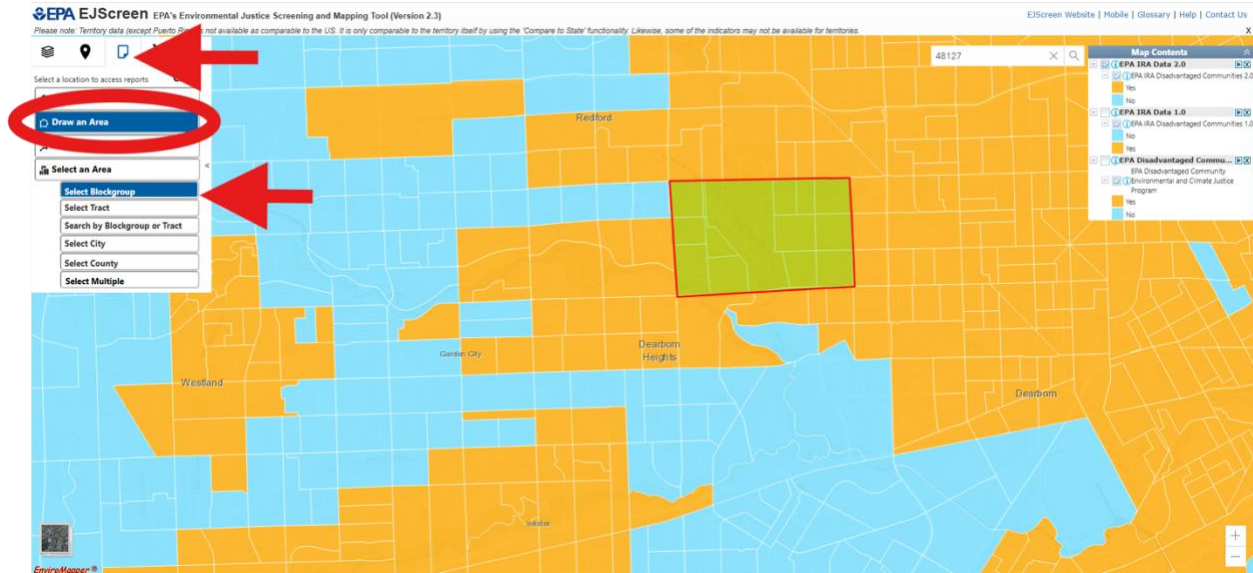
Once you click on the magnifying glass icon, you will see your location on the screen. You can zoom in or out using the + or – buttons in the lower righthand corner of your screen. You can also move around the map by placing the cursor in one location, then holding the left click while you move to the desired spot.



- Your project area **MUST** be identified as a disadvantaged community, highlighted in orange, on this map. Projects that are in blue areas will **NOT** qualify for this grant.

6. Once you have confirmed that your project area is eligible, follow the steps below to take a screenshot of this map. This should take about 5 minutes.

- To draw a border, click on “Draw an Area” in the Reports Tab. Draw dots in each corner of your program area. You may need to zoom in or out to get the most accurate map.



- Once you have your area outlined, [take a screenshot](#) and save it to your computer. You can then submit this map as part of the optional materials in the Great Lakes TCGM application.
- Draw a separate map for every project area that you will be working in, if they are not contiguous.

7. When you complete the Great Lakes TCGM grant application, you will be asked to identify the census blocks of the communities served by your project. You can find the census block and tract information for your address here:

<https://geocoding.geo.census.gov/geocoder/geographies/address?form>.

If you are unable to provide census blocks, you may provide census tracts or zip codes instead.