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# The Mackinac

QUARTERLY PUBLICATION OF MICHIGAN'S SIERRA CLUB • MAY - JULY 2002



*Citizens from Ionia and Newaygo Counties rallied in front of the Capitol on Earth Day, April 23, and were joined by farmers and families from around the State in support of a moratorium on animal factories. See story on page 14.*

PHOTO BY RITA JACK

*What we have in common is a passion to protect Michigan's environment, both urban and wild. We believe that we can make a difference by getting involved.*

## **PASSION AND PURPOSE CHANGE OUR COMMUNITY**

by Sue Kelly, Mackinac Chapter Co-Chair

**F**irst meeting: A roomful of strangers....

*My first meeting! I traveled here alone. I don't know a soul in the place. How am I going to measure up? Will I be able to express myself articulately? What qualifies me to be up here, in front of this crowd? Do I belong?*

I look at the room of strangers and wonder what it was that brought them here.

*Who are they? What motivates them to come here? Could it be that, like me, they're not experts, but instead strive always to learn more about their world? Could it be that their learning is motivated not by fear but by love – love of the Earth? I wonder: What sacrifices do they make to be here, to do the work necessary to protect the environment?*

These were my thoughts as I began my adventure as Mackinac Chapter co-chair. Last March I attended a four-day training for new chapter chairs, and in many ways it was similar to the first Sierra Club Crossroads Group meeting I attended in 1991. Then, as now, the character and commitment of Sierra Club people inspires me. Passion and purpose bring us together, make us a community.

Sometimes our purpose requires learning about an environmental threat we have never encountered in order to address it quickly and accurately. Our purpose may require that we drive snowy roads and attend important meetings when we'd rather stay home and watch TV. It may require time as we develop the skills to become more effective volunteers. And it can even mean realizing when we need to slow down and have fun with all of these other activists who care so much.

Our Chapter is full of people who were once strangers and, I'm pretty sure, felt less than expert on the tasks at hand. What it took to come together was a willingness to take chances and work on causes we cared about. We've gained skills and insight, we've grown in friendship, and our confidence in ourselves and in others has increased in stride with our commitment to the Earth.

I want to introduce you to some of our statewide leaders. You'll find their contact numbers on the inside back cover directory. If you want to volunteer, let us know. We could sure use your help!

**Bob Duda**, Chair of the Conservation Committee, works with the following activists. I've also included

the activists' areas of priority:

- **Dan Farough** – CAFOs (confined animal feeding operations)
- **Anna Holden** – Chair of the Health Care Without Harm Committee
- **Marvin Roberson** – Forestry/Biodiversity
- **Mark Janeczko** – Great Lakes
- **Rita Jack** – Pine River contamination
- **Bob Duda** – Sprawl

**Helen LeBlanc** is our Chapter Treasurer, and soon **Julie Murphy** will help out as our new Finance Committee Chair.

**Tim Killeen** and **Dan Farough** lead the Political Committee, which is gearing up to be fully engaged in this year's election.

**Lisa Wickman** and **Joyce McIntosh** address membership and group needs.

**Barbara Yarrow** chairs the committee that puts together this excellent publication you're reading.

**Ralph Powell** leads the Outings Committee, and has for many years.

These are just a few of the places that your fellow Sierra Club members serve in our organization. If a topic interests you, give the leader a call to find out how to volunteer. Each one of them would welcome you and whatever expertise, talent and passion you can bring to our mission. We make no promises that you'll agree with everyone you meet in our organization. Some eat meat; some are vegetarians; some are hunters. You'll find that some members drive foreign cars, others commute to work. Many members have never camped, nor do they desire to; many of them camp quite often.

What we have in common is a passion to protect Michigan's environment, both urban and wild. We believe that we can make a difference by getting involved.

We all begin as strangers. It is our environmental work and dedication to something much larger than ourselves that brings us together as friends.

*Sue Kelly of Brighton is the newly elected co-chair of the Mackinac Chapter of the Sierra Club. She serves with Mike Keeler of Flint. Together they serve in the highest volunteer position of the statewide Sierra Club.*



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### CORRECTION:

*Bob Duda should have been acknowledged as a Defender of the Peninsula's in the February Mackinac. We appreciate his support of the Chapter.*



PHOTO BY BARBARA YARROW

The annual monarch migration is considered a "threatened phenomena" by the International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources. Increased logging and deforestation, and the decrease in milkweed plants—their only food source—all add up as a serious threat to this beautiful species.

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*The Mackinac* © Copyright 2002, The Mackinac Chapter Sierra Club (USPS 396610) (ISBN 0744-5288). *The Mackinac* is published quarterly (February, May, August, November) by the Sierra Club's Mackinac Chapter, 109 East Grand River Ave., Lansing, MI 48906. Periodical postage is paid at Lansing, MI.

**POSTMASTER:** Send address changes to *The Mackinac*, Sierra Club, 109 East Grand River Ave., Lansing, MI 48906.

Annual dues for the Sierra Club are \$35, of which \$1 is for a subscription to *The Mackinac*. Non-member subscriptions are available for \$10 per year from the Mackinac Chapter office. • *The Mackinac* reaches more than 20,000 members and friends of the Sierra Club in Michigan. Both display and classified advertising is accepted. For a current ad rate card, contact: Julie Murphy, Business Manager, 6420 N Rodgers Ave, Harrison, MI 48625; phone: 989-539-1676; [soaringbuteos@msn.com](mailto:soaringbuteos@msn.com).

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## SIERRA CLUB TAKES ON SPECIAL INTERESTS IN ENERGY FIGHT

EVIDENCE SHOWS PUBLIC RELATIONS WIN FOR SIERRA CLUB

by Dan Farough, Political Director, Michigan Sierra Club

*The last several weeks have witnessed a major battle in the US Senate over our nation's energy future. At the time of printing, a series of amendments stripped the progressive provisions from a promising bill, thereby eliminating an opportunity for the nation to (1) address its dependence on foreign oil; (2) seize a major market in renewable technology by redirecting government subsidies away from coal, oil and nuclear energies; and (3) address important environmental problems. Indeed, the estimates of the price of a business-as-usual approach to energy indicate that the nation will import more oil—64 percent by 2020, up from 54 percent today—and spew more global warming CO2 into the atmosphere.*

The list of opponents in the Senate Energy Plan to improved Corporate Average Fuel Economy standards (CAFE) and renewable technology, such as wind and solar power, reads like a who's who of the nation's largest corporate campaign donors: U.S. Oil and Gas Association, the Nuclear Energy Institute, the Big Three auto makers, the American Petroleum Institute, Firestone, CSX, 3M and about 50 other special interest groups. "What we have is the protecting of private fiefdoms at the expense of the public good," said Chapter Political Director Dan Farough at a March press conference, referring to those groups that led the charge to kill the Senate plan. "Industries with a financial stake in the nation's energy policy turned out en masse to protect the flow of direct and indirect taxpayer subsidies to their interests."

Despite the gutting of the Senate Energy Plan, the Sierra Club is winning a major public relations war on the subject. The stage is set for revisiting the issue. A Sierra Club poll, conducted in February by renowned pollster Celinda Lake of Michigan Voters and UAW Households in the State, is one indication of a victory. When asked about their support of CAFE standards, a whopping 84 percent of UAW households said they supported increasing standards to 40 miles per gallon over 10 years. 77 percent of Michigan voters concurred. Support cut across party lines, with 83 percent Democrats, 81 percent Independents and 69 percent Republicans supporting the measure. "UAW households and Michigan voters remember better than others the dangers of falling behind our overseas competitors in auto technology and fuel efficiency," said Lana Pollack, President of the Michigan Environmental Council. "Inaction on technology and CAFE makes us vulnerable to the same forces that

shocked the industry and led to layoffs in the 70s and 80s." According to the Mellman Group, overall support for a business-as-usual approach to energy favoring oil, coal and nuclear companies hovers around an abysmal 25-30 percent, while support for renewables and energy efficiency is at a stellar 71 percent.

The realities of dependence on oil and the environmental damage associated with business-as-usual energy policies can no longer be ignored. Public opinion is clearly on the side of public interest groups like the Sierra Club, and it is only a matter of time before the nation takes concrete steps against corporate interests. In the short term, the Sierra Club will pull out all stops to kill regressive energy legislation in Congress. "The Senate energy plan looks more and more like its evil Enron-inspired twin," continued Farough. Readers will remember the behind closed doors Enron-inspired energy plan that was first presented to the country by Vice President Dick Cheney and later passed the House. "This Senate plan, like its House counterpart, will do nothing to break our dependence on foreign oil," said Farough. "It doesn't address global warming, clean the air or create jobs in cutting-edge renewable technologies. It must be rejected."

### UPDATE: ARCTIC VICTORY!

**On Thursday, April 18, environmentalists won a huge victory. The legislature sustained a filibuster to protect the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge from oil drilling. Drilling proponents fell far short of the 60 votes needed to override the filibuster, delivering a major setback to the President's energy policy.**



# SYMPOSIUM TACKLES MICHIGAN'S SUBURBAN SPRAWL DILEMMA

by Bob Duda, Conservation Chair, Mackinac Chapter

PHOTO BY ANGELA ESSENMACHER, SMART GROWTH ALLIANCE OF METRO DETROIT



**Sierra Club Conservation Chair Bob Duda talks about water quality at the 2nd Annual Suburban Sprawl Symposium.**

Every year, Southeast Michigan loses about 13 square miles of land to development. Farms, fields, wetlands and woods are included in this loss. Extremely poor land use patterns and a woefully inadequate mass transit system in Metro Detroit contribute heavily to water pollution, air pollution, higher food prices, forest destruction and deterioration of citizen health and the urban quality of life.

On March 16, 2002, the second annual Sprawl Symposium was held in Detroit at the beautiful University of Detroit Mercy campus. The event served three purposes: (1) to educate the public about the evils of suburban sprawl; (2) as a protest to tell our legislators that we are fed up with sprawl; and (3) to propose a strategy that begins to solve the problem.

In addition to increasing the number of speakers and groups sponsoring the event, the gubernatorial candidates were invited to attend and address this year's assembly. U.S. Representative David Bonior and State Senator Alma Wheeler Smith accepted our invitations and shared ways that the state could help solve the problem of suburban sprawl.

Everyone can help solve suburban sprawl by following these Symposium tips:

- **Shop in older areas.** Just because somebody builds a megamall on a cornfield doesn't mean you have to shop there. Take your business downtown!
- **Use and support mass transit.** Demand better mass transit from your city, county and state governments.

- **Buy an existing home** in an established neighborhood (which helps save our forests). Building new houses increases demands on our state and national forests.
- **Demand that your city fix up your neighborhood.** And volunteer to get rid of any blight by planting trees and making your neighborhood more attractive to homebuyers.
- **Demand that your governor stop state-sponsored sprawl incentives** like tax breaks for malls, unnecessary highways and new suburban developments.
- **Write your state senator, state representative, county commissioner, county executive, mayor, city council, etc.** and complain about suburban sprawl.
- **Protect our water supply.** Demand that our wetlands be protected. Wetlands purify water, prevent floods, provide recreational areas and provide habitat for endangered and threatened species. Fifty percent of Michigan's wetlands have already been lost—we shouldn't allow more to be paved over for parking lots or unneeded office plazas.
- **Get involved in the political process.** Run for local offices, attend council and commission meetings.
- **Join us.** We are actively fighting to stop sprawl, improve public transportation and make our cities better, healthier places to live, work and shop. Join your group's conservation committee and become an advocate.

**It takes a tremendous amount of work to put on one of these events, so we'd like to thank the hard-working, wonderful committee (Smart Growth Alliance of Metro Detroit) that organized our Sprawl Symposium. Lansing's Pete Peterson Band provided the entertainment. Special thanks to the University of Detroit Mercy for their assistance and use of their facilities.**

#### SPONSORS OF THE 2<sup>ND</sup> ANNUAL SPRAWL SYMPOSIUM INCLUDED:

- Archdiocese of Detroit
- EMEAC (East Michigan Environmental Action Council)
- Michigan Catholic Rural Life Coalition
- M.O.S.E.S. (Metropolitan Organizing Strategy Enabling Strength)
- Southeast Michigan Land Conservancy
- Sierra Club
- TRU (Transportation Riders United)
- University of Detroit Mercy Institute for Building Sustainable Communities

#### OUR 2002 SYMPOSIUM SPEAKERS:

- Bob Duda – Conservation Chair, Mackinac Chapter Sierra Club
- Professor George Galster and Professor Gary Sands – Wayne State University's College of Urban, Labor, and Metropolitan Affairs
- John Lydick – Director of TRU (Transportation Riders United)

- Janis Bobrin – Washtenaw County Drain Commissioner
- Tim Killeen – Sierra Club Mackinac Chapter Political Chair
- Professor Mike Whitty – College of Business Administration, University of Detroit Mercy
- Paul Stankewitz – Director, Michigan Catholic Rural Life Coalition
- Mr. Jim Ridgeway – Environmental Consulting & Technology
- Mary Price – Co-Chair of the MOSES Transportation Core Leaders team

#### SPECIAL THANKS TO THESE SMART GROWTH MEMBERS WHO HELPED WITH THE SYMPOSIUM:

- Bob Barnes
- Kevin Bolon
- Bob Duda
- Angela Essenmacher
- Victoria Essenmacher
- John Lydick
- Heather Northway
- Bryan O'Donnell S.J., Ph.D.
- Mary Price
- Keith Roberson
- Jack Smiley
- Paul Stankewitz

# YOUR HELP NEEDED TO ELECT GREEN CANDIDATES IN MICHIGAN

by Tim Killeen, Chair, Mackinac Chapter Political Committee

*From Iron Mountain to Monroe, from Niles to DeTour, the political year in Michigan is off and running. We elect all of our U. S. Congressional Representatives, a U.S. Senator, all of our state-wide officials, as well as the Michigan Senate, the Michigan House and the county and local offices this year. We will also see a number of statewide referendums on the ballot. Thus, amidst competing voices staking out their positions regarding the longest ballot in recent history, the environmental voice cannot be left out.*

Sierra Club has the most publicly recognizable name when it comes to putting the green seal of approval on candidates, and deft use of this perception can strongly influence voters at election time. The Political Committee has been working since last fall to identify candidates and resources that allow us to elect a government more responsive to environmental concerns. From the Governor and the management of the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality, on down to the township boards making their zoning decisions, our environmental future rests in the hands of our elected officials and in the influence that we as concerned citizens can exert upon them.

This influence is not centered in Lansing, but in each local district and community. Our strength is our grassroots, democratic structure. We cannot compete with big money lobbyists and advertising campaigns, and if we try to play the political game at that level we'll always be outgunned.

What we have at our disposal is a much more powerful weapon—people who vote.

In the final analysis, votes are what count. Through our statewide network of 20,000 members, we can help the candidates reach voters. Sierra Club may endorse more than 50 individuals as they bid for office this year, and if we can provide a State House or State Senate candidate 100 volunteer hours on their campaigns, it could be an enormous benefit for them. People-power wins elections. We are those people.

Sierra Club may sponsor a "Meet the Candidate" fundraiser at a member's home in your area. We'll be sending out mailings on their behalf, sponsor Club volunteer days on their campaigns and set up phone banks and/or canvass door-to-door. Your response and turnout is crucial in the election of a greener government. We must, as members of a grassroots group, follow the "many hands" dictum and find a few hours and/or a few dollars to support Club efforts. Short of this, we will not have the voice we want in shaping environmental policy for our state.

Elected officials do not necessarily do the right thing by the environment out of good will; many need to feel that it is in their best interests for them to vote green—just witness the sudden rallying around the "no drilling in the Lakes" campaign. We cannot stand idly by during our elections and then expect good results to follow.

Could we find 500 Club members in Michigan willing to part with \$20 in support of the Sierra Political Action Committee? Our PAC provides the funds to reach beyond the membership to get our message to the public at large. Election rules prevent us from using regular Club funds for this purpose, so spend some money. The funding enables us to do what we do best—get the word out on who's green and who's not. Thank you in advance for your help during this important election year! Your help can have a big impact in these key races. (See the coupon below. Send it in!)

Every election year is chock full of opportunities to elect good folks to office. More than two-thirds of the Michigan Senate turns over this year due to term limits. The environmental voting bloc is key in many races, and again, our voice can and will make the difference. Ask your Group political chair to contact you when help is needed. The Political Committee at the Chapter level is busy finding the candidates and identifying the key races. With a little help from many, our voice can be heard among the din and help secure a better environmental future for Michigan.

## MAKE 'EM ALL GREEN: GIVE TO THE SIERRA CLUB MACKINAC CHAPTER POLITICAL COMMITTEE

**2002 promises to be an extremely interesting and active year for environmentalists! The Governor's race is wide open, the State House and Senate are ripe for a "greening" and there are great opportunities to weigh in on our congressional races. In all cases the environment promises to figure like never before. Help us make 2002 the "Year of the Environment" with a generous donation to the Mackinac Chapter Political Committee!**

**YES! I WOULD LIKE TO HELP ENSURE THAT WE ELECT ENVIRONMENTAL CANDIDATES!**

Please accept my generous donation of:

\$25  \$35  \$50  \$100  \$200  Other

Federal Law requires the following information:

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Occupation \_\_\_\_\_

Employer \_\_\_\_\_

**PLEASE MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO:** Sierra Club Mackinac Chapter Political Committee. **SEND TO:** Sierra Club, Mackinac Chapter, Attention: Dan Farough, Political Director, 109 East Grand River, Lansing, MI 48906

### **VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES ABOUND!**

Please contact either Dan Farough (information above) or Tim Killeen to find out ways to get involved!

Tim Killeen  
Political Chair  
16260 Lappin  
Detroit, MI 48205  
313-526-4052



**SIERRA CLUB**  
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## SIERRA CLUB ANNOUNCES NEW DETROIT OFFICE

ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE, CONSERVATION, MEDIA PROGRAMS HEADQUARTERED IN CASS CORRIDOR  
by David Holtz, Mackinac Chapter Media Coordinator

Sierra Club's strong commitment to the environment of Detroit and southeast Michigan has given birth to a new base of operations in the heart of the city. The Club has opened a Detroit office at 2727 Second Avenue in the Metropolitan Center for High Technology, in the historic former headquarters of the S.S. Kresge Company. The building is now owned and operated by Wayne State University.

Sierra Club's veteran Detroit organizer, Rhonda Anderson, now leads the Club's pioneering Detroit environmental justice program from the new office. Detroit is one of the pilot locations for the environmental justice project, which was launched two years ago by the Sierra Club and now works in six sites across the country. The program supports local communities that fight for a clean environment in neighborhoods targeted by polluting industries.

"It's exciting that our environmental justice project is opening up its doors in a new Cass Corridor location. The Sierra Club can now welcome community members from all across the city as we continue to work for cleaner, safer, healthier neighborhoods," said Alison Horton, Midwest Regional staff director for Sierra Club. "The Detroit office is a great partnership between the Michigan chapter and a national Sierra Club program."

David Holtz, Sierra Club's southeast Michigan media coordinator, is assisting local environmental groups in their efforts to communicate with the public through the local news media. Holtz is now based out of the Detroit office.

"Sierra Club's Detroit office adds an important new  
*see New Office, page 11*



**Bob Duda, Anna Holden, Lydia Fischer and Mary LaFrance listen to Ed McArdle at the new Club headquarters located in the historic former headquarters of the S.S. Kresge Company.**

## CHAPTER OFFICE KEEPS THE HEAT

by Joyce McIntosh, Office Manager



**Aileen Gow points out one of the places where the office is losing heat.**

Sierra Club is excited to learn that our space isn't losing vast amounts of energy. On March 29, Aileen Gow, Program Manager for the Great Lakes Renewable Energy Association and Owner of Good Energy Home Inspections, donated her time to conduct an energy audit at our Chapter office. The visit opened our eyes to how easily energy escapes our homes and offices.

Although we received a good rating, we discovered there are plenty of things we can do to improve the chapter office's energy efficiency. In light of this, the Mackinac Chapter seeks volunteers to contribute time and/or supplies for a project to improve the chapter office's energy efficiency.

Here's a partial list of the projects we'd like to complete before fall:

- **Lighting:** purchase and install compact fluorescents.
- **Caulking:** there are many places throughout the office that need additional caulking.
- **Front office heating (and cooling!):** improved weather-stripping and v-seal around the door; plastic for a window above the door; a ceiling fan.
- **Thermostat:** we'd like to add a clock-thermostat to better manage the temperature.
- **Basement items:** replace the furnace filters monthly; insulate water heater pipes (also, drain a couple of gallons out of the water heater two times each year); and, duct tape ductwork joints where heat is escaping.

Contact Joyce McIntosh at 517-484-2372 or [joyce.mcintosh@sierraclub.org](mailto:joyce.mcintosh@sierraclub.org) if you'd like to volunteer. If you'd prefer to lead a workday with several volunteers, let us know!

*Although we received a good rating, we discovered there are plenty of things we can do to improve the chapter office's energy efficiency.*

### AILEEN GOW LEFT US WITH THE TOP FOUR THINGS YOU CAN DO AT HOME TO SAVE ENERGY:

- Get and set a clock thermostat (they only cost \$50 and are easy to install).
- Use weatherstripping around exterior doors.
- Insulate the pipes in your basement.
- Caulk anywhere two materials meet (when they're next to an outside wall).

If you'd like an energy audit for your home, Urban Options in East Lansing has a residential energy audit program. Contact Joyce McIntosh if you'd like more information.

## PERMIT HEARING SPARKS RENEWED INTEREST IN DETROIT INCINERATOR

Ed McArdle, SEMG Conservation Committee



PHOTO BY ED MCARDLE

**Jackie Victor, co-owner of Avalon Bakery in Detroit, holds her daughter as she speaks against the incinerator at the February 18th meeting.**

During the winter's worst snowstorm on January 30, 2002, the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ) held a public hearing concerning the Renewable Operating Permit for the nation's largest trash incinerator near the junction of I-94 and I-75 in Detroit. The hearing was held in a storefront located eight miles from the incinerator neighborhood, in the Delray section of the city. Over 50 people attended and many spoke passionately in opposition of the permit renewal. Most who spoke were involved in the early days of protest—they described the demonstrations, occupying the plant and other acts of civil disobedience.

The incinerator burns all of Detroit's trash (over 400,000 tons per year) plus commercial waste, for a total of approximately 750,000 tons per year. While the furnaces provide steam and electricity for Detroit Edison, they also create over 200,000 tons of toxic ash, which has to be sent to a more expensive ash monofill. Although the pollution controls are effective, the sheer size of the facility (3,600 tons per day) means that it is still a major source of pollution. The permit restricts the facility to burn only two out of three furnaces at a time, and although operating far under capacity, it still emits over 1,800 tons per year of toxic metals such as lead and cadmium, acid gasses, particulates and hazardous chemical pollutants such as mercury and dioxins. These pollutants impact human health in some of the poorest Detroit neighborhoods, which already have high rates of asthma and lead blood levels in children.

A Freedom of Information Act request and three trips to MDEQ offices revealed missing documents, such as stack tests and reports that would indicate whether the facility was in compliance with Title V of the Clean Air Act. Southeast Michigan Group (SEMG), working through the Michigan Environmental Justice Coalition—which consists of Detroiters Working for Environmental Justice, Ecology Center, National Wildlife Federation, The Arab Community Center for Economic and Social Services (ACCESS), The Sugar Law Center and others—fired off letters to MDEQ and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) objecting to the lack of notice, missing files and the location of the hearing. The EPA convinced MDEQ to extend the comment period deadline to April 11. However, MDEQ still refuses to hold a hearing in the incinerator neighborhood, which violates all environmental justice guidelines and is an insult to the community.

This is not just a Detroit problem. Mercury and

dioxins travel far and wide, and build up in the food chain—every inland lake in Michigan has a mercury advisory. The EPA dioxin assessment details how the major pathway of dioxin into the human body is through diet (namely beef, dairy and fish). Incinerators are major sources of dioxin pollution because of their combustion of chlorinated chemicals, such as those contained in PVC (Poly-Vinyl-Chloride).

After the January hearing, SEMG sent a letter to local politicians describing MDEQ's lack of consideration for the impacted neighborhoods. In response, State Representative Mary Waters and Wayne County Commissioner Jewel Ware held their own unofficial public meeting February 18 at a church near the incinerator. They invited MDEQ to attend. Once again, approximately 50 people showed up and gave compelling testimony to MDEQ staff in attendance.

In the meantime, most of the missing files have been retrieved. These files show that the incinerator has passed the stack tests for Nitrogen Oxides, although just barely. Nitrogen Oxides (NOX) not only directly damage human health, but are also precursors to ground level ozone, which can trigger ozone action days. In 2000, the stack test flunked twice for dioxins and barely passed on the third try in 2001.

We realize MDEQ will not shut down the incinerator—that decision lies with the City of Detroit. Nevertheless, SEMG is asking for more pollution controls, such as carbon injection, to reduce mercury, particulates and NOX. We also seek more hydrochloric acid (HCL) monitoring, like what is in place at the Central Wayne incinerator in Dearborn Heights, and ask that the Detroit incinerator be required to pull items out of the waste stream that, when burned, can bioaccumulate in humans and wildlife.

The Ecology Center in Ann Arbor is currently studying the awful economics of the incinerator, presently owned by Phillip Morris and operated by Covanta Energy. Initial figures show that Detroiters may be paying as much as \$120 per ton to burn their garbage, while their suburban neighbors (and even Canadians) are paying only \$14 to \$20 per ton for landfills.

After more than a decade, little attention has been paid to the Detroit incinerator. At long last, we see a renewed media interest, and community groups are forming to convince new Mayor Kwame Kilpatrick and the new City Council to close the incinerator. Stop the burn and start recycling.

*For more information please contact Ed McArdle at 313-388-6645, or email [ecoed@netzero.net](mailto:ecoed@netzero.net).*

*Although the facility operates far under capacity, it still emits over 1,800 tons per year of toxic metals such as lead and cadmium, acid gasses, particulates and hazardous chemical pollutants such as mercury and dioxins.*



## FOREST ISSUES UPDATE

by Marvin Roberson, Forest Policy Specialist & Anne Woiwode, Mackinac Chapter Director

### NATIONAL FOREST PLANNING

As required by law, all three National Forests in Michigan will soon begin the process of updating their Forest Plans—the documents that guide the management of the forests for 10 to 15 years. This fall, all three forests will begin the “Need For Change”—the initial process in redrawing the documents. Formal planning is scheduled to begin next summer.

The updating of the Forest Plans means great opportunities for citizens to participate in management decisions on over three million acres of land in Michigan. It also means some confusion, since all three forest plans are being updated simultaneously. The regulations guiding forest planning have changed, and it appears that under the new rules Michigan will be doing its plan updates before any other forests in the nation have completed theirs. We'll be witnessing an untested process.

Sierra Club will hold training sessions for citizens interested in participating in Forest Plan updates. Watch this space for details.

### SENEY FIRE PLAN

The Seney National Wildlife Refuge in the Upper Peninsula recently released a draft plan for dealing with fires on the refuge. While acknowledging that fire is an important and integral part of the ecosystem, the draft intends to suppress wildfires and replace them only with prescribed burns.

The Refuge draft also calls for suppression of all wildfires in the Federally Designated Wilderness Area by the use of mechanized equipment. This provision is in direct violation of the Wilderness Act. Sierra Club Mackinac Chapter recently submitted comments on this plan, opposing the use of mechanized equipment in the Wilderness Area unless a direct need could be demonstrated on a case-by-case basis. Sierra Club also opposed the blanket fire suppression strategy.

### STATE FOREST OLD-GROWTH

In April, a Public Advisory Team for the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) was expected to finalize their recommen-

dations for criteria to be used in the development of a state lands Old Growth and Biodiversity Stewardship system. Sierra Club has advocated for the old growth designation process for more than a decade; it continues to press DNR officials to set aside potential old growth areas as they plan logging activities on 10 percent of the State Forest lands each year.

Tim Flynn, Sierra Club volunteer, has played a major role in the development of the draft criteria. An internal DNR committee will review these criteria prior to their going for public comment and consideration by the Natural Resources Commission. The completion of the process, slated to occur in 2003, will lead to designation of the first old growth areas on Michigan state lands.

*Sierra Club members who wish to help with identification and protection of old growth on Michigan state lands are encouraged to contact Marvin Roberson or Anne Woiwode at the Lansing office for more details.*



## MEDICAL WASTE BILL APPROVED BY SENATE COMMITTEE

Anna Holden, SEMG Conservation Committee

**A** modified version of Senator Gary Peters' (D-Bloomfield Township) proposed bill to upgrade and update regulation of medical waste incinerators in Michigan passed its first hurdle on March 7. An amended version of Senate Bill 11 was approved by the Senate Natural Resources and Environmental Affairs Committee and referred favorably to the Committee of the Whole. It is now up to the Senate Majority leadership to schedule it for a vote on the floor. Stay tuned for action alerts!

The amended Senate Bill 11 contains at least two provisions that should help set the stage for safer, more responsible medical waste treatment. The proposed bill requires the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ) to review and rank available medical waste disposal methods by their impact on the environment. Their analysis will be submitted to the appropriate legislative standing committees within 18 months after the bill becomes law. SB 11 also prevents the MDEQ from issuing permits for new construction and renewal of existing medical waste permits for 180 days after the report is completed and sent to the Legislature. This moratorium will prohibit building and expanding existing medical waste incinera-

tors for at least two years—longer, if MDEQ does not complete the study on schedule.

It is difficult to assess the potential of a third provision of SB 11. Citing the Clean Air Act, the bill requires MDEQ to issue new rules that would limit the emissions of regulated air pollutants. Under this new provision, emissions would be confined to the average discharge levels of the best performing 12 percent of all medical waste incinerators in the United States. Interpretation of this language in the Clean Air Act is currently the focus of a lawsuit filed by the Earthjustice Legal Defense Fund, representing Sierra Club and the National Resources Defense Council. The national litigation—still in process—challenges EPA's interpretation of this provision of the Clean Air Act, claiming EPA failed to use the 12 percent data as specified. A 1999 District Court ruling asked EPA to justify its medical waste emissions standards.

Sierra Club, the Michigan Environmental Council, and State Senator Martha Scott (D-Detroit) testified in favor of the modified bill on March 7. To keep posted, contact Senator Gary Peters, toll-free, at 888-2PETERS; or e-mail: [SenGPeters@senate.state.mi.us](mailto:SenGPeters@senate.state.mi.us).

## DUMPING IN DETROIT: THE CANFLOW STORY

Rhonda Anderson, Detroit SC Environmental Justice Program Organizer

The plight of the community in the vicinity of Canflow Environmental Services was first brought to my attention in July of last year, when State Representative Hansen Clarke called to talk about the noxious odors, sewage backups in basements, and unexplained illnesses among Canflow's neighbors. He requested help in organizing people around this issue.

Canflow is in the business of transporting non-toxic industrial waste water from Canada to its location in Detroit's near-Northeast side, and then dumping it directly through the city's sewer system. The waste water—as much as 30,000 gallons each day, according to a story in the *Metro Times*—comes from auto plants, car washes, warehousing companies, and tool-and-die factories throughout Ontario.

Resident Vicki Burton asked Roshani Deraniyagale of Detroiters for Environmental Justice to join me in paying a visit to the neighborhood, centered south of 7 Mile Road on Greendale, between the John R and Grand Trunk Railroad tracks. We smelled the problem immediately, and I soon developed a headache. The residents complained of stench, illness and oily sewage backing up in their basements. One senior resident invited me to smell the odor coming from within her home, but I didn't have to go inside—the smell was so bad that it met me before I made it through her front door.

Canflow is not guilty of illegal dumping. The Detroit Water and Sewage Department, in conjunction with the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ), permits Canflow's dirty business, in spite of the fact that the company's been cited at least 15 times since December of 1996 for exceeding allowable limits of pollutants, including mercury, silver, nickel and phosphates.

In August 2001, the MDEQ fined Canflow \$23,000 for mischaracterization of the material being disposed of, and—for the first time—ordered that it provide evidence of its waste contents in the future. At that time, the City of Detroit suspended Canflow's discharge permit, thus requiring that it cease operations.

A couple of months after our first visit, Roshani and I helped the newly founded Greendale Community Council organize a successful demonstration and press conference with the assistance of State Representative Clarke. The immediate purpose was to document the noxious effects Canflow has on the health and living conditions of the residents, as well as to draw attention to the fact that Ms. Burton had videotape of a tanker going into Canflow and discharging into the sewer, despite the lack of a permit. Other demonstrations, press conferences and community meetings have followed. So, too, have further sightings of trucks discharging at the Canflow site—all while the permit remains suspended.

*The Detroit Water and Sewage Department, in conjunction with the Michigan DEQ, permits Canflow's dirty business, in spite of the fact that the company's been cited at least 15 times since December of 1996 for exceeding allowable limits of pollutants, including mercury, silver, nickel and phosphates.*



**Neighbors demonstrate to stop Canflow operations in Detroit.**

PHOTOS BY RHONDA ANDERSON

A class action lawsuit involving residents has been launched against Canflow. After a presentation to the City Council by the Greendale Community Council, a city planner, acting on a Councilperson's request, put together a report on Canflow operations and previous violations. This induced the city to hold up the permit. As this story went to press, Canflow had just launched a suit against the city.

In keeping with the Sierra Club Environmental Justice Organizing Program guidelines, my goal is to stop the pollution resulting from the Canflow facility. It's clear to everyone in that community that shooting large volumes of wastewater through 81-year old sewer pipes in the middle of a residential area is unworkable, and it must be stopped. To accomplish that goal, we'll work towards creating and supporting more powerful community organizations in low-income, minority locations throughout Southeast Michigan—mostly in Detroit.

When I've told the Canflow story to Sierra Club groups and others, people ask how this company could have inflicted so much pollution on a neighborhood for so long without any action from the city or the state. I can only respond with, "Because these residents are poor and black and nobody seems to care about them." Environmental Justice means changing the political culture, and we have our work cut out for us.

**F**uel cells have been touted as the key to unlimited energy. Proponents of this alternative fuel claim zero pollution is produced as water is turned into hydrogen, then into energy. The only byproducts of this miracle fuel, proponents claim, are heat and drinkable water.

This is what many of us have heard, but how much of it is true?

Like the term “engine,” the term “fuel cell” defines a family of devices, any of which can convert fuel into electricity without combustion. This results in more electricity per gallon and less pollution.

At the heart of every fuel cell is a chemical reaction involving hydrogen. Hydrogen is all around us; water, gasoline, diesel fuel, and natural gas all contain hydrogen. However, at the heart of every fuel cell is a reaction that involves PURE hydrogen, which means the element unconnected to anything else. And on this planet, pure hydrogen is rare.

Fuel cells for non-vehicle use are already on the market. However, they are not cheap and are typically used only when less expensive sources will not work. Prices will most likely come down as the technology develops and volumes increase, but fuel cells for vehicles are still in the development and testing stages. At this point, two approaches are being considered:

- One approach advocates the hydrogen gas station. Hydrogen would be “manufactured” at factories and transported to our local gas stations. These stations would have pumps designed specifically for hydrogen, and our cars would have special gas tanks designed to store the hydrogen.
- The second approach would not change our current gas stations. Instead, it would put small hydrogen factories in each vehicle. The only change we’d see at the pump would be a new “fuel cell” blend of gas.

Unfortunately, neither approach is easy. The hydrogen gas station has the benefit of a simpler fuel cell design, which means greater reliability and lower vehicle cost, but there are numerous safety issues. Hydrogen is highly combustible, and there is no existing hydrogen delivery infrastructure. The hydrogen would have to be transported hundreds of miles, just as our gasoline is today, and then pumped into our cars. One spark could result in disaster—just think of the Hindenberg.

With the alternative approach of small hydrogen factories in vehicles, we find a design that will cost more and may not be as reliable. An obvious benefit of this choice, however, is that the fuel delivery system already exists and may be more accepted by car owners. At



## **FUEL CELLS: UPDATE ON AN ALTERNATIVE**

by Craig Ressler, West Michigan Group

the pump, we’d fill up with gasoline or natural gas—not water.

One of the myths about fuel cells is that our cars would be fueled by water. Not so. Although water contains hydrogen, it is not a good candidate for powering fuel cells. Because a fuel cell wants only hydrogen, the oxygen in water must be separated out, and unfortunately this separating process consumes more energy than what remains in the resulting hydrogen.

Fuel cells are available commercially as stationary power plants. A police station in New York City’s Central Park uses a fuel cell power supply. The cells have also been used to power a submarine on a journey beneath the North Pole, and the Army is considering a miniature fuel cell to power a night vision system. In addition, research is underway on how to use this alternative fuel source as a replacement for our cell phone and laptop computer batteries. So, even though it may be some time before fuel cells arrive in our cars, they may pop up soon in other places.

To put things in perspective, let’s talk about my 1994 Saturn SC2. Several months ago I traveled to Chicago. I got 35 miles per gallon and was quite happy with this, until I computed the thermal efficiency and discovered that my car utilized only 16 percent. The other 84 percent was wasted energy that can never be retrieved. Fuel cells being developed for vehicles have around a 40 percent thermal efficiency, while fuel cells for stationary use get about 60 percent. If a fuel cell were used simultaneously with a system that utilizes waste heat (for instance, to heat water), that system would get around an 80 percent thermal efficiency. Obviously, the potential is huge—and hopefully, the portable fuel cell will be worth the wait.

### ***NEW OFFICE, continued from page 7***

dimension to our longstanding commitment to conserving the air, water and land—the natural heritage—of Detroit and southeastern Michigan,” said Anne Woiwode, director of the Sierra Club Mackinac Chapter. “This was a major commitment by our volunteer leadership and reflects the importance of this region to the environmental health of Michigan.”

The Midwest Regional Office of Sierra Club and the organization’s Mackinac

Chapter, which represents more than 20,000 Sierra Club members in the state, will jointly operate the Detroit office of Sierra Club. More than 6,000 Sierra Club members reside in southeastern Michigan and are represented by the Southeastern Michigan Group of Sierra Club.

The Sierra Club Environmental Justice Program can be reached at 313-965-0052. The Mackinac Chapter Detroit Office can be reached at 313-965-0055.

**SIERRA CLUB ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE PROGRAM:**  
[www.sierraclub.org/environmental\\_justice](http://www.sierraclub.org/environmental_justice)

**SIERRA CLUB MACKINAC CHAPTER:**  
[michigan.sierraclub.org](http://michigan.sierraclub.org)

**SIERRA CLUB SOUTHEAST MICHIGAN GROUP:**  
[michigan.sierraclub.org/semg](http://michigan.sierraclub.org/semg)

# Litigation Update

by Anne Woiwode, Mackinac Chapter Director

## PITTMAN-ROBERTSON DECISION DISAPPOINTING

A seven-year Sierra Club effort to bring wildlife and habitat management agencies into compliance with federal environmental laws ended in a disappointing federal court decision. The ruling against the Sierra Club, in its lawsuit against the Michigan Department of Natural Resources and the US Fish and Wildlife Service, has left key questions unanswered regarding the environmental review of federally funded habitat management on Michigan state lands.

According to Chapter Director Anne Woiwode, the federal court decision failed to consider key facts in the case and has thus rewarded the agencies for evading compliance. Sierra Club tried to work with the agencies, allowing them to rewrite and drop controversial grants rather than address the legal deficiencies. The key mistake in the litigation process, Sierra Club believes, was their delay in filing suit.

The decision, however, does contain an important confirmation. It states that wildlife management grants funded under the Pittman-Robertson Act must comply with both the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) guidelines for consideration of environmental effects, and with the federal Endangered Species Act (ESA).

Unfortunately, timing constraints prohibit an appeal to the decision. "While the outcome of this lawsuit was disturbing," Woiwode said, "our efforts nonetheless have resulted in notable improvements in how the DNR and Fish and Wildlife Service conduct their business." She emphasized that the Sierra Club will continue to expand its efforts to bring meticulous scientific standards and public input into the management of Michigan's wildlife and forest lands.

## SUIT FILED TO BLOCK HARTMAN-HAMMOND BRIDGE

Five local, state and national groups opposed to a \$30-million highway proposal have filed a lawsuit that seeks to block the Hartman-Hammond road and bridge project near Traverse City. The groups claim that the project does nothing to ease congestion, promotes haphazard growth and pushes pavement into the waters of a prized trout stream. They filed suit March 15 in Grand Traverse County Circuit Court against the Grand Traverse County Road Commission, which is proposing the massive transportation project.

The complaint was filed on behalf of the Coalition for Sensible Growth, the Sierra Club, Northern Michigan Environmental Action Council, All the Way to the Bay, and the Michigan Land Use Institute. The firm of Olson & Bzdok, a widely respected environmental law firm located in Traverse City, is representing the groups with assistance from the Environmental Law and Policy Center, a public interest law firm located in Chicago.

Sustained local opposition to the bridge proposal stretches back to 1987, when voters and the Traverse City Commission turned down a multimillion-dollar project that included both the bridge and road. However, the Grand Traverse County Road Commission continued to press for this project with other funds.

In addition to destroying a significant wetland and bisecting a pristine stretch of the Boardman River, development plans for the surrounding area guarantee a massive sprawl-fest if the bridge is constructed. Opposing groups argue that alternatives to building the bridge, including a Smart Roads option utilizing existing corridors, have not been seriously considered and that the environmental impacts of the bridge project would be severe and unacceptable.

"The fight to protect the Boardman River from this bridge and the sprawl that it will cause is a priority for the thousands of Sierra Club members in Michigan," said Monica Evans, chair of the Traverse Group of the Sierra Club. "Our members understand not only how rare and precious the Boardman River valley is, but how important it is that we draw the line right now by stopping this bridge. Generations of Michigan citizens will thank us for taking on this fight."

## NATIONAL WILDLIFE FEDERATION TEAMS UP WITH SIERRA CLUB ON CAFO ISSUES

The National Wildlife Federation (NWF) has filed notices of intent to sue on behalf of Sierra Club, local citizens and themselves against two grossly polluting concentrated animal feeding operations (CAFOs) near Hudson, MI. The notices, under the Clean Water Act, were sent in February to Hartland Farms and Mericam (Jelsma) Farms, both dairy CAFOs and both with well-documented water quality violations. Lawsuits can be filed if the facilities do not fix their pollution problems within 60 days.

Over the past two years, Hartland Farms has been cited for eight separate manure or milking house discharges into the surrounding waterways. A November 2001 discharge from Hartland Farms into a tributary of Bean Creek caused E. Coli contamination at more than 1,000 times the state's maximum level.

Jelsma Farms has been cited for four separate discharges during the past year. In each case, efforts by state officials to bring these polluters into compliance have been woefully unsuccessful. NWF attorney Neil Kagan, whose office is in Ann Arbor, is the lead attorney on these cases.



## HARDING THREATENS MICHIGAN'S WATER QUALITY

by Anne Woiwode,  
Mackinac Chapter Director

Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ) Director Russell Harding has appointed a working group to draft the proposed general water permit for CAFOs (concentrated animal feeding operations). However, he has expressly excluded the Sierra Club, the Michigan Environmental Council (MEC), and the Michigan Land Use Institute (MLUI) from participating in the process.

The petition, submitted by the Sierra Club, MEC and MLUI to the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA), in conjunction with Sierra Club's litigation strategy, ultimately forced the state to comply with the federal law last January. But the state's pledge is now being jeopardized by Harding's disdain for the environmental groups who initially brought about Michigan's compliance. Harding appointed the West Michigan Environmental Action Council (WMEAC), the only organization sharing the view of the petitioners, to the working group; yet, WMEAC is outnumbered eight to one by livestock industry representatives and agricultural interests.

The USEPA has the last say on whether a Michigan general permit for CAFOs is acceptable. They have expressed dismay at

Harding's actions and currently seek alternative means to assure that the petitioners' views are adequately considered. The USEPA has also postponed issuing its final report on the environmental groups' petition to withdraw the State of Michigan's authority under the Clean Water Act until the state has completed action.

A schedule for the completion of the working group process has not been made publicly available. A public notice and comment period is legally required prior to the state's adoption of the permit. Meanwhile, a second commitment from the state to embark on inspections of all CAFOs has not yet begun.

### QUICK NOTES:

- The Environmentally Concerned Citizens of South Central Michigan (ECCSCM) closely monitors the nine dairy CAFOs that have sprung up around Hudson in the last few years. Through access to agency files, ECCSCM verified that during the last two years, 14 water quality violations have been found by MDEQ at eight of the nine facilities.

Not one of those violations has led to a state imposed fine or penalty.

- Citizens in both Ionia County and Newaygo County are rallying against proposed CAFOs in their communities. The Village of Orleans, in Ionia County, is threatened with a 2.5 million chicken egg-laying and processing facility. In Newaygo County, a hog farm under construction in an area with a high water table is drawing organized opposition from hundreds of county residents.
- Michigan officials have often been quoted as saying our state has about 250 CAFOs in existence. However, little or no information exists about the new or expanding facilities, much less about the location and size of the present CAFOs.

## ATTEND THE MACKINAC CHAPTER AUTUMN RETREAT: BEST PARTY OF THE YEAR! SEPTEMBER 13-15, 2002

Back to Camp Miniwanca! Rolling hills, woods and Lake Michigan are once again the setting for members, friends and families to relax, enjoy the outdoors and learn about environmental issues.

### REGISTER EARLY!

Get your registration form in now! Sign-in at camp begins Friday, September 13. Registration fee covers three meals on Saturday and two on Sunday. The Camp is located north of Muskegon, just off the M-20 exit.

### INNER CITY OUTINGS

Help fund a scholarship for kids who are active in the Sierra Club's Inner City Outings (ICO)! Your donation can help a kid who otherwise wouldn't get to enjoy the wonderful experiences our Autumn Retreat has to offer. Please add your tax-deductible gift to this year's early registration (see adjoining form.)

### QUESTIONS?

Contact Julie Murphy at 989-539-1676 or [soaringbuteos@msn.com](mailto:soaringbuteos@msn.com).

## 2002 Autumn Retreat Registration Form

NAME(S): _____	AGE/CATEGORY	FEE	TOTAL
_____	0-4	free	free
_____	5-11	\$45	\$ _____
_____	12-17	\$55	\$ _____
<i>Please include all names in your group, including ages for children.</i>			
ADDRESS: _____	Adult Rustic/Tent	\$75	\$ _____
_____	Regular Dorm	\$95	\$ _____
_____	Lakeside	\$120	\$ _____
PHONE: (    ) _____	<b>TOTAL ENCLOSED</b> .....	\$ _____	
<b>E-MAIL FOR CONFIRMATION:</b> _____	<b>DONATION TO ICO</b> .....	\$ _____	

VEGETARIAN MEALS?    Yes    No

Send registration form with payment  
by August 25 and get a \$5 discount per person!



SIERRA  
CLUB  
FOUNDED 1892

SEND TO:  
Sierra Club Autumn Retreat  
c/o Julie Murphy  
6420 N Rodgers Ave  
Harrison, MI 48625  
Make checks payable to: Sierra Club

## STOP THE CRAP!

### RALLY AT CAPITOL CALLS FOR MORATORIUM ON ANIMAL FACTORIES

by Anne Woiwode, Mackinac Chapter Director

Family farmers, Sierra Club members and faith groups rallied at the State Capitol April 23 to demand a moratorium on any new or expanding animal factories in Michigan until adequate safeguards are in place to protect the public health and the environment.

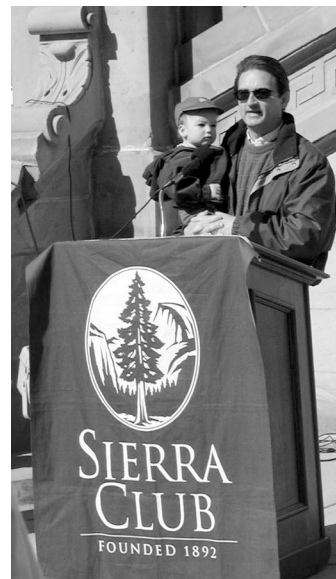
Members of community groups from Lenawee, Ionia and Newaygo Counties gave testimonials on the devastating impact that existing factories have on their communities. They also spoke about the failure of state agencies to address citizen concerns. Michigan had agreed in January to follow federal law and implement a water permit, but that permit is still months from completion, yet new and expanded animal factories are being built without regulatory oversight.

The group of over 60 demonstrators began a march from the capitol to the new headquarters for the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ) and the Michigan Department of Agriculture. Chants rang throughout downtown Lansing as the demonstrators arrived and demanded MDEQ "Do Your Job!"

The Sierra Club also launched radio ads statewide calling for no new or expanded animal factories until adequate regulations are in place and local control is restored. Sierra Club would like to encourage you to do your part. Take action! Fill out and mail in the "postcard" you see below.



**Bringing the message to Department of Environmental Quality Director Harding: MORATORIUM NOW!**



**Paul Stankewitz of Catholic Rural Life spoke of future generations, including his own children.**



A concentrated animal feeding operation in Michigan.



**DIRECTOR HARDING:**

## Protect Our Waters: Stop the Invasion of Animal Factories

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY/STATE/ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

DEAR DIRECTOR HARDING:

**Michigan needs strong protection permits** against pollution from animal factories. Improper handling of animal waste at animal factories is causing fish kills, making surface water unsafe for human contact and poisoning the air in Michigan's communities.

As director, it is your responsibility to ensure that communities are protected from the environmental and public health threats caused by animal factories. Please impose an immediate moratorium on new or expanding animal factories until adequate regulations are in place to protect our communities.

21-CENT STAMP HERE

DIRECTOR RUSS HARDING  
MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF  
ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY  
PO BOX 30473  
LANSING MI 48909-7973



## GIVING TO THE SIERRA CLUB FOUNDATION THROUGH PAYROLL DEDUCTION EARTH SAVING WITH EARTH SHARE OF MICHIGAN

**Earth Share**  
OF MICHIGAN

Many thanks to those of you who gave to the Sierra Club Foundation through Earth Share of Michigan during last year's workplace giving campaigns. Earth Share of Michigan is a non-profit federation comprised of Michigan's leading environmental and conservation charities working collaboratively with national and international organizations.

Earth Share of Michigan is active in the charitable giving drives of over 350 Michigan workplaces. It is an easy and efficient way to offer environmental choice by payroll deduction. Employees have the ability to make a single donation at work that will reach the full spectrum of conservation causes, from the Red Cedar River to the Amazon River, from the rainforests of Borneo to Sleeping Bear Dunes. Michiganders should take advantage of this simple way to do their "Earth Share" and give to the cause of their choice.

To learn how your company can host an Earth Share of Michigan payroll deduction campaign, or for more information about the organizations involved, please call 1-800-386-3326, or visit [www.earthsharemichigan.org](http://www.earthsharemichigan.org).

### EARTH SAVING TIPS FROM EARTH SHARE OF MICHIGAN

Make Every Trip This Summer an "EcoTour." Whether you backpack the high country, car-camp, or hang out at a local park, here are a few tips to ensure your visit will be as good for the earth as it is for your well-being:

- **Call ahead.** Find out about any special environmental concerns, regulations or permits.
- **Carefully plan meals.** Reduce food waste and the amount of trash by planning then packing food in reusable containers.
- **Avoid disposable supplies.** Use rechargeable batteries for flashlights and radios.
- **Stay on existing trails.** Help mitigate trampling and erosion problems. Walk in single file in the middle of the path.

- **If there are no trails,** stay on the most durable surfaces—rock, gravel, dry grasses or snow. Avoid soft grasses or plants.
- **Camp in a designated site.** Don't alter the campsite by nailing into a tree or moving large logs.
- **Look for scenic, less-congested routes.** Plan for walking, hiking or cycling trips once you reach your destination. Avoid the car if possible.
- **Dispose of all trash properly,** or take it with you until you can dispose of it properly.
- **Bear in mind the traveler's Golden Rule:** "Leave nothing but footprints. Take nothing but photographs and memories."
- **Remember:** If you want all of the conveniences of home, why travel?

### WWW.SAVE-ENERGY.NOW

The internet is fast becoming a homeowner's best friend for learning about—and reducing—energy use. A variety of websites offer products, resources and cool tools to help you switch to greener energy sources and get the most from every watt you purchase. Want a sampling? Look below:

- **ENERGYguide.com** ([www.energyguide.com](http://www.energyguide.com)) offers a range of free services, including personalized energy calculators to help you compare your home's energy use to similar homes, as well as information on the efficiency of the latest energy-saving products.
- **Home Energy Checkup Calculator** ([www.ase.org/checkup/home/main.html](http://www.ase.org/checkup/home/main.html)) provides a quick analysis of potential energy-efficiency retrofits in a single-family home.
- **Fuel Economy Calculator** ([www.fueleconomy.gov](http://www.fueleconomy.gov)) provides everything you've ever wanted to know about cars and energy, from mile-per-gallon ratings of cars dating back to 1985, to tips on how to get the most mileage out of every drop of gas, to a peek at the newest emerging technologies.
- **Watts On Your Mind** ([www.wattsnew.com](http://www.wattsnew.com)) is an entertaining part of an engaging and comprehensive program to help elementary school-age children understand the importance of not wasting energy. The program is sponsored by the USEPA, Earth Share, and the Ad Council.

## MACKINAC CHAPTER TRAINS LEADERS

by Joyce McIntosh, Volunteer Coordinator / Office Manager

Tucked out of the way at the MacMullen Center on Higgins Lake, the Mackinac Chapter's "Great Activist Training," from March 15 through the 17, has been labeled a success. The weekend was geared to help people who want to become more involved on the local group level. Trainers covered topics such as fundraising, how to be a group treasurer, conservation chair, political chair and more.

We discovered one of the more popular sessions turned out to be an overview

of the Sierra Club Campaign Planning Matrix. Led by Chapter co-chair Mike Keeler and Sherry Hayden, the training's success prompted many attendees to suggest we make this an annual event, continuing to focus—and indeed, place even more emphasis on—the campaign planning matrix.

The Great Activist Training wasn't all work, however. Plenty of time was set aside for rest, hiking and getting to know one another. Chapter Outings Chair Ralph

Powell led a hike through the state forest Saturday afternoon, and Chapter Development Officer Sarah Baker organized a Saturday night party dubbed, "It's a Green Event...Celebrate St. Patrick's Day with the Sierra Club."

Turnout for the weekend was wonderful. Those of us in the Mackinac Chapter look forward to working with the new activists for years to come!

## ACTIVIST INTERVIEW: MARY LA FRANCE

by Joyce McIntosh, Volunteer Coordinator / Office Manager



*Often when a person “stumbles across” an organization, the experience changes the individual’s life. But one could say that when Mary LaFrance joined the Sierra Club, she changed the organization’s life. Mary’s specific interests in protecting the environment haven’t changed, but the Club’s Southeast Michigan Group added new conservation issues when Mary got involved.*

**QUESTION:** When and how did you become interested in protecting the environment?

**MARY:** I’ve always been an organic gardener, interested in nature and ecology. I was concerned about the issues related to organic gardening—such as harm from pesticides and chemicals—and genetically modified food.

**QUESTION:** What drew you to the Sierra Club and how did you first become involved?

**MARY:** My husband found a Sierra Magazine on an airplane. It looked interesting. Then Backpacker Magazine mentioned the Sierra Club. I finally decided to become involved after reading an article in the fall 1999 Sierra Magazine titled “Cancer, Inc.” I was intrigued by how environmental factors contribute to cancer and what people can do about it. I became a Sierra Club member in 1998 or 1999.

*Mary approached the Southeast Michigan Group in 1999 and asked to do a presentation on genetic engineering. Since then she has been actively involved, and became the group’s Conservation Chair this year. Mary is also a corresponding member of the Sierra Club’s national Genetic Engineering Committee.*

**QUESTION:** What do you feel individuals can do to have the greatest impact in protecting the environment?

**MARY:** People need to be conscious of how their purchases and decisions in the marketplace impact the environment. What you think, say and do *does* matter. One individual can make a difference!

*Mary also noted the importance of getting involved. When she spoke to the Southeast Michigan Group, over 60 people were in the audience—far and away the largest crowd she’d been in front of at that time. Soon after, she wrote an article for the group’s newsletter that reached 6,000 people.*

**QUESTION:** What are your interests outside of the Sierra Club?

**MARY:** I work at a garden center as a master gardener. There, I have the opportunity to work with the public and I can advocate backyard ecology. I enjoy having a career in which I can be a communicator.

*People need to be conscious of how their purchases and decisions in the marketplace impact the environment. What you think, say and do does matter.*

## MICHIGAN STATE STUDENTS JOIN SIERRA CLUB

by Amanda Hightree, Lead Facilitator, Michigan State University’s Sierra Student Coalition

The Sierra Student Coalition (SSC), the student run section of the Sierra Club, stretches across the country and consists of college and high school students working together on environmental issues. In January, a branch of the SSC took root on the campus of Michigan State University.

One of SSC’s major focuses has been working to protect the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge from destructive oil drilling. The coalition sponsored an Arctic Awareness seminar, where we educated Michigan State students on the importance of the Arctic Refuge. Dan Farough, political director of the Michigan Sierra Club, attended as our guest speaker. He emphasized why saving the refuge is so vitally important.

On Valentine’s Day we sent Valentines to our senators and representatives to show them we care about the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge. Recently, we hosted a lobby training seminar, instructed by James Clift, political director of the Michigan Environmental Council. An upcoming “dorm storm” is in the works, and an Earth Day event dealing with the bottle bill is on the drawing board.

For more information or to get involved, contact Amanda Hightree, [AmandaHightree@aol.com](mailto:AmandaHightree@aol.com) or (517) 719-9764, or call the Mackinac Chapter Office.



**Members of the Sierra Student Coalition at MSU created Valentine’s Day cards for their representatives asking them to protect the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge.**



## PARADISE FOUND: THE UP'S TRAP HILLS

by Eric Hansen

Imagine a ridgetop hike with some of the finest views in the Upper Midwest, sweeping vistas stretching 40 miles and more. Now, imagine taking in such grandeur from one of dozens of mossy balconies so quiet the lichen doesn't even show scuffmarks from boots.

Welcome to the Trap Hills, one of the Upper Peninsula's hidden gems. This craggy ridgeline is so little known that you won't find descriptions in guidebooks and postcards don't trumpet its charms. Scan the internet, though, and clues emerge: rare plant surveys, a wilderness group championing the Trap Hills, and cliff top photos taken by members of the local North Country Trail Association.

Picture a ridge and vistas that might remind you of the Escarpment Trail in Michigan's Porcupine Mountains or Minnesota's Oberg Mountain on the Superior Hiking Trail. Thing is, to equal the Trap Hills, you would have to make those other ridges a humongous 20 miles long, scatter viewpoints all along their length, and make the large parking lots at the trailheads disappear. You'd also have to remove all the hikers, because I walked for four days in the Traps without seeing another's footprint, let alone another hiker.

Halfway through a 28-mile traverse of this remote ridgeline, I paused on a high ledge, looked west and spotted a massive rockface in the distance—one I'd watched the sunrise from the day before. By this point in the hike, I was used to broad views from a parade of high overlooks, but this view seemed to transcend the visual, gathering the best moments of the trip into one glorious panorama. Lake Superior, a full eighth of Earth's fresh water, glistened a perfect blue to the north beside the broad shoulders of the Porkies. Long sightlines stretched southwest, past Lake Gogebic to Wolf Mountain, while golden aspen lined the streams on the valley floor below. To the south, the endless forests of the UP, amber and bronze in the hardwoods, green in the pines, swept the horizon.

Most of all, I saw a place of magnetic quietness that would draw me

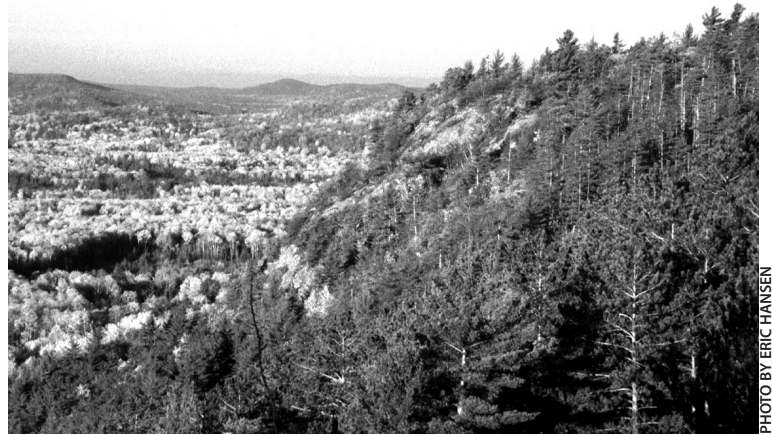


PHOTO BY ERIC HANSEN

back for more. I passed a dozen overlooks I'd gladly spend the night on, each a private veranda with perfect sunrise and sunset views. As my trip wound down, I couldn't help wondering if the route I had just hiked, and the views, would still be so enchanting in ten years.

### THE TRAP HILLS: BIG, BEAUTIFUL AND THREATENED

Despite the Trap Hills' stunning panoramas and the presence of rare and endangered flora and fauna, its future is far from assured. Most of this area is part of the Ottawa National Forest, and, in the recent past, the forest service has proposed timber sales (logging) in the Trap Hills. The Trap Hills deserve a heightened protective status, one that would end the discussion of logging in any form.

*Outdoors writer Eric Hansen ([hansene@execpc.com](mailto:hansene@execpc.com)) highlighted the Trap Hills in the May 2002 issue of Backpacker Magazine.*

#### WHAT YOU CAN DO

**Join fellow forest lovers and activists for a Labor Day weekend!** Car camping in a nearby campground will leave us plenty of time for spectacular day hikes in the Trap Hills. Round the campfire strategizing, focusing on how to protect this unique area, and socializing will fill the evenings. Mark your calendars and check this website, <http://dougwelker.tripod.com/traphills.htm>, for more information.

**Get a sneak preview.** Check out Trap Hills photos at [www.northcountrytrail.org/pwf/photos.htm](http://www.northcountrytrail.org/pwf/photos.htm).

**Come and visit on your own.** Walk the trail. Take in the views and ramble through the open, older forest. Find your own personal vision quest ledge. Become a passionate defender of this inspiring landscape. The North Country Trail in the Trap Hills offers both short and long hikes, memorable whether you have an hour or a week. The website of the local trail chapter, [www.northcountrytrail.org/pwf](http://www.northcountrytrail.org/pwf), has all the information you'll need including maps, recommended hikes and phenology.

**Support ongoing efforts to protect the Trap Hills ecosystem.** Northwoods Wilderness Recovery has championed the Trap Hills cause for years. Click on their website, [www.northwoodswild.org](http://www.northwoodswild.org), for a complete history as well as information on rare species present in the Traps.

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*FINANCIAL ADVISOR AD*

As ice-out occurs on our favorite rivers, so does our desire to get out and run a few rapids. To make sure you have a safe and memorable trip, don't just grab your canoe and head for the river. Dedicate an afternoon and make sure your canoe is as ready as you are.

### BOW & STERN GRAB LOOPS

To make your canoe easier to lift, drag, or rescue, install grab loops in both the bow and stern. About 3 inches down from the deck plate, and 3 inches in from the bow/stern, drill a hole through both sides of the hull. Next, thread a loop of 3/8-inch rope through both holes and tie it off. To improve your grip, thread 5-inch long pieces of plastic PVC tubing onto the rope.

### BOW & STERN LINES

Whether you're "lining" your canoe downstream, "tracking" it upstream, or tying it off while scouting a rapids, you'll need 15- to 30-foot long pieces of 3/8-inch rope attached to both the bow and stern grab loops. To minimize the chance of entanglement during an upset, or while portaging, secure the coiled lines under loops of shock cord on each deck plate.

### PORTAGE YOKE

To portage your canoe, install a padded yoke. You can either purchase one or make your own. Piragis Northwoods Company sells heavily padded yoke pads that attach to flat yokes with easy-to-use wing nuts. They also sell hard-to-find yoke mounting hardware that solo canoeists require for quickly removing and installing their portage yokes.

### SEAT POSITIONING

One of the safest and most stable positions for paddling in whitewater is the kneeling position. Seats can be configured for both kneeling and sitting by mounting them at a point where your boots fit under the seat without any chance of entrapment if the canoe overturns. To prevent the front edge of the seat from cutting into the back of the leg when kneeling, angle the seat forward slightly. Beveling the leading edge of wooden seats helps, too.

### KNEELING PADS

To protect your knees, glue 10-inch wide by 12-inch long pieces of 1/2-inch

## RIGGING A CANOE FOR SWIFT-WATER PADDLING AND PORTAGING

© Michael A. Neiger,  
Central Upper Peninsula Group



PHOTO BY MICHAEL RIZZIO

**Gary De Kock slides off an ice shelf, launching himself into the Pigeon River for an early season paddle in Otsego County.**

thick closed-cell, "minicell" foam to the bottom of the canoe with waterproof, marine contact cement.

### SAFETY EQUIPMENT

A throw rope consisting of 75 feet of floating line stuffed inside a nylon bag for snag-free throwing is essential for rescuing someone who ends up "scouting for trout." A bailer and a large sponge attached with lanyards are handy for removing water that accumulates from standing waves—an empty milk jug with the bottom cut off works well as a bailer. Secure a spare paddle in case one breaks or is lost.

### EMERGENCY GEAR

A dry bag or waterproof backpack with survival gear should be secured in the canoe for emergencies. Pack a first aid kit, saw, hatchet, waterproof fire starters and matches, a cooking pot, hot drinks, high-energy foods, canoe repair kit, extra clothing, shelter tarp, etc.

In addition to wearing a life vest and a wet (or dry) suit, or at least multiple non-cotton layers, each paddler should carry a personal survival kit in case he or she gets permanently separated from the canoe and its emergency pack. Each paddler should have waterproof matches and fire starters, a sturdy knife, a whistle, a compass and a map of the area securely stowed on their person.

### FLOATATION

To reduce the chance of swamping or capsizing, tie floatation devices into your canoe. Some paddlers opt for commercially made floatation bags, while others rely on large inner tubes or chunks of Styrofoam.

If you plan on paddling many shallow or rocky rivers, you may want to consider adding protective Kevlar skid plates to stem and stern.

With a little preparation and forethought, you can improve the safety, handling and durability of your canoe before your next paddling trip.

See you on the river!

*Michael Neiger of Marquette is a Central Upper Peninsula Group wilderness trip leader. His website is The RuckSack (<http://therucksack.tripod.com>) and he welcomes your comments and opinions via e-mail at [mneiger@hotmail.com](mailto:mneiger@hotmail.com).*

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### OUTFITTING RESOURCES

To learn more about how to properly rig your canoe for a swift-water river trip, including how to build a first-rate portage yoke, read Cliff Jacobson's comprehensive and authoritative *Expedition Canoeing: A Guide to Canoeing Wild Rivers in North America*, 3<sup>rd</sup> edition (Glove Pequot Press, 2000).

For yokes, hardware, minicell foam, floatation, contact cement, rope, rescue gear, etc., contact Piragis Northwoods Company, Nantahala Outdoor Center, or Northwest River Supplies, Inc.

# Group Meetings & Programs

## **AG: Algonquin Group**

If interested in helping to build an active Group or for information about the Sierra Club in this area, please contact Dan Farough at the Mackinac Chapter office, 517-484-2372.

## **CMG: Central Michigan Group**

General meetings are held the 3rd Monday each month at the Harris Nature Center, off Van Atta Road in Meridian Township. Come at 5:30pm for supper (a small donation is requested) or at 6:15 for the meeting. Call Pete Pasterz, 517-676-3339.

The Conservation Committee usually meets the 2nd Monday of each month. Contact Maria Lapinski-LaFaive, [mlapinsk@wmich.edu](mailto:mlapinsk@wmich.edu), 517-374-4444.

The Executive Committee meets the 1st Monday of the month. Call Jerry Schuur, 517-351-7796.

## **CUP: Central Upper Peninsula Group**

Sierra Club members in central & western counties in the Upper Peninsula are invited to participate in the CUP group activities. General membership & executive committee meetings are held 7pm in West Science, Room 270 on the Northern Michigan University campus in Marquette. Call John Rebers, 906-228-3617.

To receive news about outings or other Club activities in the Central UP, send \$5 for a subscription to the CUP newsletter to: Sierra Club, 338 West Crescent, Marquette, MI 49855.

## **CG: Crossroads Group**

The Sierra Club members of Livingston, southern Genesee, & western Oakland Counties meet 7pm monthly at the Brighton District Library, 200 Orndorff Dr, Brighton, for informative & entertaining programs. Meetings are open to the public.

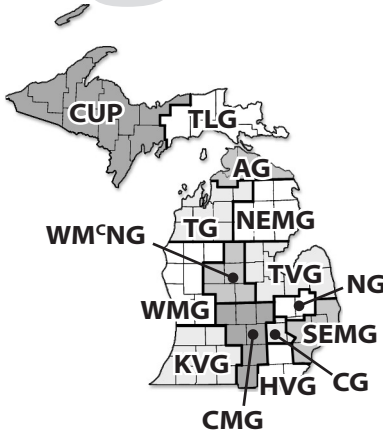
The Conservation Committee meets monthly to discuss & address local issues. Call Emily Gobright, 517-548-0595, or David Wright, 810-229-1685.

The Executive Committee meets the last Wednesday of the month. Call Rick Pearsall, 810-227-6298.

## **HVG: Huron Valley Group**

The General Meetings of the Huron Valley Group of the Sierra Club are held 7:30pm the 3rd Tuesday of the month at the UM Matthaei Botanical Gardens, 1800 N Dixboro Rd, Ann Arbor. Non-members welcome. Call 734-480-7751 or visit [www.mirror.org/groups/mi-enviro](http://www.mirror.org/groups/mi-enviro).

The HVG Sierra Club Book Club meets 7:30pm every 2nd Tuesday at Nicola's Books in the Westgate Shopping Center, Ann Arbor. Read a selected book about nature or the environment



## **Group boundaries of the Mackinac Chapter Sierra Club**

on your own and then discuss it in a small group. Call 734-332-0207 for information.

## **KVG: Kalamazoo Valley Group**

General membership meetings are usually held 7:30pm the 3rd Thursday of each month at Kalamazoo Valley Community College, Texas Twp Campus, Room 4370. Call Mike Johnson, 616-948-8840.

The Executive Committee meets 7:30pm the 2nd Wednesday of each month. All members are welcome. Contact Verne & Cindy Mills, 616-344-4279.

**5/16** Bill Moyers video, "Trading Democracy." 7:30pm. Learn how trade agreements remove control over our environmental laws & regulations in this eye-opening PBS televised program. Discussion will follow. Mike, 616-948-8840.

## **NG: Nepessing Group**

Meetings are held 7pm the 2nd Wednesday each month at Mott Community College in the "New Students" Prah Building, Genesee Room, 1401 E Court St in Flint. Meetings & parking are free, refreshments are available, & non-members are welcome. Learn about local conservation issues, local watershed monitoring & great outings. Call Ann Crane, 248-634-8641. Check our web page, with a weekly hiking schedule, at [www.gfn.org/sierrang](http://www.gfn.org/sierrang).

## **NEMG: Northeast Michigan Group**

If interested in helping to build an active Group or for information about the Sierra Club in this area, please contact Dan Farough at the Mackinac Chapter office, 517-484-2372.

## **SEMG: Southeast Michigan Group**

General meetings are held 7pm the 1st Thursday of each month, Sept-June, at Northwest Unitarian

Universalist Church, 23925 Northwestern Hwy (southbound M-10 service drive) between Southfield & Evergreen roads and Nine & Ten Mile roads in Southfield. Social time: 7-7:30pm; Business meeting: 7:30-8pm; Program: 8-9pm. Contact Carol Izant, 248-352-6137, [cogknot@yahoo.com](mailto:cogknot@yahoo.com). Visit our website at [www.michigan.sierraclub.org/semg](http://www.michigan.sierraclub.org/semg) for the latest group activities.

The Executive Committee meets 7:30pm the 2nd Thursday of each month at 2727 Second Avenue in Detroit. Contact Tim Killeen, 313-526-4052, [timk@bikerider.com](mailto:timk@bikerider.com).

Conservation Committee meetings meets at 2727 Second Avenue in Detroit. Contact Mary LaFrance, 734-282-6935.

Outings Committee holds quarterly planning meetings. If you're interested in planning or leading outings, contact Outings Chair Philip Crookshank, [wanderphil3@netzero.net](mailto:wanderphil3@netzero.net), 313-562-1873, or Outings Coordinator Joanne Cantoni, 248-932-5370.

Political Committee meetings are held 6:30pm the last Thursday of each month at Jimi's Restaurant on Washington, one block north of Lincoln (10-1/2 Mile) in Royal Oak. All are welcome! Contact Tim Killeen, Political Chair, 313-526-4052.

**5/2** Backyard Ecology. Conservation Co-Chair Mary LaFrance & MSU Wayne Co Extension staff Kristine Hahn will be discussing how to make your back & front yards more ecologically sound while enhancing their beauty.

**6/6** Greenways Initiative. Tom Woiwode, Greenways Director, will present plans to link communities in southeast Michigan through the construction of greenways, build the capacity of organizations responsible for greenways development & acquaint people with the benefits of greenways to their communities.

## **TG: Traverse Group**

General Meetings of the revitalized Traverse Group are held at the Traverse City Public Library. Call for dates & topics. Monica, 231-325-6812 or Pam, 231-275-3322. [www.michigan.sierraclub.org/traverse](http://www.michigan.sierraclub.org/traverse).

Executive Committee meetings are held at Horizon Books, downstairs café, Traverse City. For details call Monica, 231-325-6812 or Pam, 231-275-3322.

The Conservation Committee meets at Horizon Books, downstairs café, downtown Traverse City. Call Monica, 231-325-6812.



For information on Political Committee meetings call Monica, 231-325-6812.

The Outings Committee has several outings planned. Call Andrea Dean, 231-947-9344, for information & dates.

**TLG: Three Lakes Group**

Sierra Club members in the Upper Peninsula counties of Chippewa, Luce, Mackinac & Schoolcraft are welcome to attend Three Lakes Group meetings. Business meetings are held monthly at various locations in Sault Ste Marie. Programs are held the 1st Wednesday each month from Sept-May at the Walker Cisler Center on the Lake Superior State University campus. Floyd Byerly, 906-632-0218.

**TVG: Thumb Valley Group**

No group meetings planned at this time. Call group chairs Craig & Janis Kendziorski, 517-631-5170, for updated information or if interested in participating on the leadership team or leading an outing.

**WMcNG: Wakelin McNeel Group**

If you are interested in helping to build an active Group or for information about the Sierra Club in this area, please contact Julie Murphy, 517-539-1676.

**WMG: West Michigan Group**

General meetings are held 7pm the 2nd Thursday each month at the Grand Valley Blood Center on Fuller NE near Leonard St in Grand Rapids. Everyone welcome! Call Marty Lore, 517-682-1316.

**5/4** Caring for your Gardens, 7-8:30pm at Blandford Nature Center, 1715 Hillburn NW just off Leonard NW. Three guest speakers will present a 20-minute program with time for questions from the audience. Topics include organic gardening, native species & organic pesticides. Handouts available & organic & natural gardening products will be sold after the program. \$3 donation at the door to offset the rent of the building is appreciated. Call Sarah Houwerzyl, 893-1732 (leave message) for information.

**5/14 & 6/11**

Executive Committee meetings, 7pm in the President's Room at the Downtown Branch YMCA, 33 Library NE (across from the Civic Theater). Members & public are welcome.

**MACKINAC PHOTO CONTEST**

GET OUT THE CAMERA & START SHOOTING!

The Mackinac Chapter office is accepting entries through June 15 for the following categories:

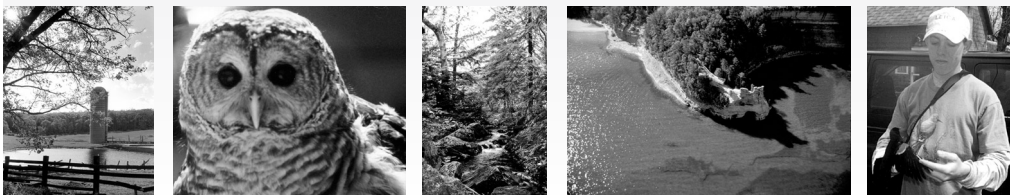
Michigan Landscapes • Sierra Club Activists in Action  
Sierra Club Outings • Black & White • Miscellaneous

WINNERS IN EACH CATEGORY WILL RECEIVE A SIERRA CLUB T-SHIRT AND PUBLICATION IN A FUTURE ISSUE OF *THE MACKINAC!*

Send your photo, a description of the shot, your name, phone, address or e-mail to:

Sierra Club Mackinac Chapter: Photo Contest  
109 East Grand River Ave  
Lansing, MI 48906

Please let us know if you'd like your photo returned.



LAST YEAR'S WINNERS, FROM LEFT TO RIGHT: JILL L. LOVE, ROBERT A. WHITE, CHERI WALLACE, GARY DE KOCK, AND CARLA DUNLAP

"Every good thing, great and small, needs defense." —John Muir



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CONTRIBUTING	<input type="checkbox"/> \$150	<input type="checkbox"/> \$175
LIFE	<input type="checkbox"/> \$1000	<input type="checkbox"/> \$1250
SENIOR	<input type="checkbox"/> \$24	<input type="checkbox"/> \$32
STUDENT	<input type="checkbox"/> \$24	<input type="checkbox"/> \$32
LIMITED INCOME	<input type="checkbox"/> \$24	<input type="checkbox"/> \$32

Contributions, gifts and dues to the Sierra Club are not tax deductible; they support our effective, citizen-based advocacy and lobbying efforts. Your dues include \$7.50 for a subscription to *Sierra* magazine and \$1.00 for your Chapter newsletter.

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# Mackinac Chapter Outings

**Abbreviations in capital letters signify the group that is planning the outing. Refer to the Group Meetings map on page 20 to determine a group's location. Trips begin at the trailhead. Outings are open to everyone.**

## MAY

**5/11 WMG Joint outing with North Country Trails Group.** Hike along Flat River with Tom Learmont & Elaine Goodspeed. Start at Greenville City Park, follow Flat River for 3/4 mile through wetland & pine forest. Lunch in park before driving to Heritage Village for a tour of buildings from the 1800s with period furnishings. \$3 donation for village maintenance fund. Elaine, 616-784-1754, [goodspeed001@msn.com](mailto:goodspeed001@msn.com).

**5/11 SEMG Lower Huron Metropark Bike.** 10am. Cruise 22-27 miles on paved bike trail through 3 Metroparks along Lower Huron River. Bring trail lunch & water. Meet at Tulip Tree picnic area in Lower Huron Metropark. Take I-94 to Haggerty Rd, south into park to 2nd parking area. Call before 8:45 if weather is questionable. Mary Stoolmiller, 248-879-6004.

**5/12 SEMG Mothers Day Wildflower Walk.** 9am. 3-hour stroll in Holliday Nature Preserve (Cowan Rd. entrance) to ID 2 dozen flower species. Flower lists provided; bring flower field guides, magnifiers, cameras, etc. We'll return to trailhead in time for your Mother's Day dinner. Meet in Westland at north end of Service Merchandise parking lot (facing the preserve), 1/4 mile west of Wayne Rd, 1/4 mile north of Warren Ave. Philip Crookshank, 313-562-1873.

**5/18 WMG Butterfly Outing/Program.** 1-3pm. Grand River Park in Ottawa County in Georgetown Township near GVSU on 28<sup>th</sup> Ave. Meet at park 'n' ride near Duba's Restaurant (off I-96 at the East Beltline exit) at noon. We'll walk through the park with special guest Linda Koning from the National American Butterfly Association. Meet at picnic building in Grand River Park at 1pm for slide show followed by outdoor trail walk (weather permitting). \$5/adults; \$3/children. Audrey, 616-459-5517.

**5/18 SEMG Matthei Gardens Hike & Wildflower Perusal.** 10:30am. Hike about 5 moderate, level miles with stops to ID wildflowers. Meet in Livonia between Wal Mart & Jiffy Lube (near Jeffries) on SW corner of Middlebelt & I-96. Optional lunch stop. Joanne Cantoni, 248-932-5370.

**5/18 TG Joint hike with Leelanau Conservancy Whaleback Natural Area & Houdek Dunes Natural Area.** 10am. Meet at Whaleback. From junction of M22 & M204 south of Leland, take M22 approx 1 mile north.

Follow sign on left to Whaleback parking. Spectacular view of Lake Michigan from platform. Meet 12:30 at Houdek, 5 miles north of Leland on M22. Area includes wetlands, 4500 feet of Houdek Creek & unique habitat. Optional lunch after hikes. John Lewis, 231-947-9104, [johnbetty@bignetnorth.net](mailto:johnbetty@bignetnorth.net).

**5/18 SEMG Raisin River Wilderness Canoe.** 8:30am. The Raisin headwaters are described as the most wild & "crookedest" river in MI. A tricky, twisty but gentle 4-5 hour float through wild forests, an old millpond, to downtown Manchester. Some canoe experience necessary. Bring river lunch. Meet behind Dearborn Centennial Library, south of Michigan Ave, east of Southfield Fwy, west end of lot. \$18 fee must be received by 5/1. Philip Crookshank, 17916 Colgate, Dearborn Heights, MI 48125. 313-562-1873.

**5/18-19 SEMG Hoist Lakes Footpath Backpack.** Good spring trip for beginner & experienced backpacker. Soft trails, sink holes, beaver, bald eagles & other wildlife. Must have all your equipment. Leave 6am Sat for 2 days hiking, one night backcountry camping. Limit 8. Contact John Herrgott, 810-735-9313, [johnherrgott@msn.com](mailto:johnherrgott@msn.com), by 5/11.

**5/19 SEMG Proud Lake Hike.** Noon. 5-mile, moderate hike to observe birds & wildlife. Bring proper hiking boots, water, trail snacks. Meet in Southfield behind Marathon station at Tel-Twelve Mall, SE corner of Telegraph & Twelve Mile Rd. Restaurant stop. Mike Scanlon, 313-884-2214.

**5/22 WMG Spring Beauties.** Hike Aman Park with Joan Conway & Paula Ballast. 6pm. View incredible wildflowers. Meet at park & for dinner after at nearby restaurant. Joan, 616-669-1131, [jmconway@cmsenergy.com](mailto:jmconway@cmsenergy.com).

**5/25 - 6-2 CUP Remote Advanced-Level Backpacking: Agawa Canyon (Ontario, Canada).** 9 days among moose & wolves exploring Agawa Canyon, 90' Agawa Falls, Lady Evelyn Falls on Sand River, Kawagma Mountain, plane wreck, old growth. Extremely strenuous & isolated, non-basecamp, deep-water river fords, no hiking trails, 100% bushwhack, jeep trails, RR grade. Must be 18, non-smoker, experienced backpacker (5 trips in last 3 years), very physically fit (able to run 3 miles), swimmer, adventurous & fully equipped, including stove & rations. 8am Sat to mid-day Sun. \$15 plus permits. More at <http://therucksack.tripod.com>. Michael Neiger, [mneiger@hotmail.com](mailto:mneiger@hotmail.com), 906-226-9620H, 906-228-2683W.

**5/25 KVG Roseland Organic Farms & Farm Market Tour.** Time TBD. 1,800 acre organic farm in Cassopolis owned & operated for 24 years by John & Merrill Clark produces beef from a 300 head, organically-fed cattle herd, as well as grains, legumes & hay. Organic market on the farm carries full line of groceries & dairy products. Meet for all-day tour at US-131 & Centre St (Q Ave) commuter lot in Portage. \$5/person includes handouts & look at 3 nearby Roseland farms. Call Cindy by 5/18: 616-344-4279E.

**5/25 TG Wildflower Hike at the "Commons" behind state hospital in Traverse City.** 11am. Meet at blue water tower behind Bldg 50. Some moderately steep climbs. Maxcella Latimer, 231-947-6376; John Lewis, 231-947-9104, [johnbetty@bignetnorth.net](mailto:johnbetty@bignetnorth.net).

**5/25 WMG Hike in Saugutuck with Mary Payne.** 10am. RSVP: Mary, 231-773-6986; Lisa Symons, 616-942-6549.

**5/31-6/2 SEMG North Country Trail Backpack.** Leave Brevort Lake Campground (just N of Mackinac bridge) Fri 1pm. for linear 21 miles in 3 days. River crossings, lake visits, explore exposed portion of Niagara escarpment. Backcountry camping. Must have all gear, meals & supplies for 3 days. Limit 6; reserve by 5/17. \$4 fee + fuel costs. John Calandra, 248-391-8973, [john.calandra@worldnet.att.net](mailto:john.calandra@worldnet.att.net).

## JUNE

**6/1 TG Wildflower Hike at Empire Bluff.** 10am. Meet at Sleeping Bear National Lakeshore Visitors Center, M22 & M72 in Empire. Hike 1.5 miles to Lake Michigan Lookout through climax forest of beech & maple, old orchards & evidence of farming. Pam Smith, botanist & former park service naturalist, 231-275-3322, [psmith@glec-tc.com](mailto:psmith@glec-tc.com).

**6/1 SEMG Canoe Upper Huron.** 10am. Take off in Island Lake State Park for 3-hour float down the river. Bring river lunch. Meet in Southfield behind Marathon at Tel-12 Mall, SE corner of Telegraph & 12 Mile. Send \$16 rental fee by 5/25 to Lee Becker, 32856 Harmon Dr, Roseville, 48066, 586-294-7789.

**6/2 SEMG Pedro Trail Hike (Metamora).** Noon. 5-mile, hilly hike through scenic Flint River area. Meet in Bloomfield Township Costco parking lot near McDonald's on Telegraph (east side) north of Square Lake Rd. Optional restaurant stop. John Kalam, 248-681-9160.

**The One Club project integrates conservation and outings to strengthen Chapter leadership, to make outings more relevant to the Club's objectives and to support local conservation objectives. If you like to learn more about how your group can meet those objectives, contact Julie at 989-539-1676 or [soaringbuteos@msn.com](mailto:soaringbuteos@msn.com).**



PHOTO BY GARY DE KOCK

## TO EXPLORE, ENJOY AND PROTECT THE PLANET

**6/8 WMG Hike Hoffmaster State Park with Dave Sheldon.** 9am meet at the park or 8am at Westgate Bowling on Alpine. Hike about 9 miles in 3 hours. (Break point halfway for shorter trek.) Dress for weather; bring water & lunch. Sue, 616-891-9055, [Snorman942@aol.com](mailto:Snorman942@aol.com).

**6/8 SEMG Kensington/Island Lake Biking.** 10am. Bike around Kent Lake then take underpass into Island Lake State Park. Birding stop at heron rookery. Helmet mandatory. Bring lunch & water. Goes rain or shine. Meet at East Boat launch, Kent Lake Rd entrance from I-96. Tom Griebbe, 248-349-8782, [dearbluebird@peoplepc.com](mailto:dearbluebird@peoplepc.com).

**6/9-6/15 TLG Eastern UP Bicycle Tour.** Ride from Sault Ste Marie to Whitefish Point, Tahquamenon Falls, Newberry, US 2, St. Ignace, De Tour, Drummond Island & back to Sault Ste Marie. Maximum of 60 miles/day, camp along the way. Expenses are food & camping fees. Max 15. Roger Blanchard, 906-253-9316, [RBlanchard@Issu.edu](mailto:RBlanchard@Issu.edu).

**6/15 WMG Bike along the Hart Bike Trail with Marty Lore.** 8am. Meet at Duba's Park-n-Ride. Bring water & money for lunch in a small town along the way. RSVP: Marty, 616-682-1316, [MmacCl@aol.com](mailto:MmacCl@aol.com).

**6/15 SEMG Outings Scheduling Meeting & Potluck.** 6pm. Quarterly planning meeting open to all interested in leading or learning about leading outings. Bring a dish to pass & ideas for late fall & winter outings. Meet at Joanne's, 29640 Middlebelt, #2604, (Woodcreek Village Condos) Farmington Hills, east side of Middlebelt, north of 13 Mile. Inside the complex, turn right at stop sign, left at second drive & go all the way in. Bldg is on right. 248-932-5370.

**6/15 TG Maritime Museum in Glen Haven.** Meet 10am at Museum to visit this intriguing historical place & then hike 3 miles over rolling terrain of the dunes. Great views of Lake Michigan. John Lewis 231-947-9104, [johnbetty@bignetnorth.net](mailto:johnbetty@bignetnorth.net).

**6/16 SEMG Oak Openings, Toledo, Botanizing/Hiking.** 9:30am. Explore one of Ohio's preeminent natural regions of post-glacial beach ridges & swales. Great plant diversity, including two globally rare communities, oak savanna & wet prairie. Bring food & drink for 2 meals. Meet in Southfield behind Marathon station at Tel-Twelve Mall, SE corner of Telegraph & 12 Mile. Return at 8pm. \$3 fee. Joanne Cantoni, 248-932-5370.

**6/16 SEMG Holly State Rec Area Hike.** 9am. Late spring 10-mile extended, brisk hike for the dedicated hiker. Bring lunch & trail snacks. Waterproof boots recommended. Meet in Troy behind Michigan Nat'l Bank on 14 Mile, east of I-75 (S edge of Oakland Mall). Optional restaurant stop. John Herrgott, 810-735-9313.

**6/22 TG Canoeing, Kayaking & Hiking at Bass & Deer Lakes.** 9am. Active beaver lodge & nesting loons. Benzie County. Take Trail's End Road off M22, 4 miles

south of Empire & west to parking area. Jim Stricko, 231-275-3322, [jstricko@glec-tc.com](mailto:jstricko@glec-tc.com).

**6/29 WMG Snorkeling at Half Moon Lake in Muskegon County.** 1-3pm. Take I96 west, north on M37 in Grand Rapids. After crossing 19 mile (Hall) Rd, public access site is at next corner on right. Or meet 11:30am at Duba's Park-n-Ride. Bring snorkeling gear & water shoes; scuba flippers will kick up particles & disturb vision in the water. Audrey will help identify fish in the lake. Non-swimmers & children can participate. Shallow water (no swimming involved). Snorkeling gear can be rented or purchased at area retailers. Audrey Keller, 616-459-5517.

**6/29-7/1 TLG Agawa Canyon Train/Hike Tour.** Take the Algoma Central Railroad train up to Agawa Canyon & spend several days hiking. Camp in canyon approx 1 mile south of train station. Camping gear & few days of food necessary. Train cost: about \$45/person. Max 15. Roger Blanchard, 906-253-9316, [RBlanchard@Issu.edu](mailto:RBlanchard@Issu.edu).

**6/30 SEMG Island Lake Rec Area Hike.** 9am. 14-mile extended, brisk hike for dedicated hiker. Bring lunch, water & trail snacks. Meet in Southfield behind Marathon station at Tel-12 Mall, SE corner of Telegraph & 12 Mile. Optional restaurant stop. John Herrgott, 810-735-9313.

## JULY

**7/3-7 CUP Intermediate-Level Backpacking: Drummond Island (Chippewa Co).** Explore SE quarter of island: secluded shoreline, Marble Head, sandy Pilot Cove, Glen Cove, Corn Beef Junction. Very strenuous, deep-water lake channel crossing, tough swamp crossings, non-basecamp, no trails, all bushwhacking & old jeep trails. Must be 18, non-smoker, experienced backpacker (5 trips in last 3 years), very physically fit (able to run 3 miles), swimmer, adventurous & fully equipped, including stove & rations. 8am Wed to mid-day Sun. \$10 + car ferry. More at <http://therucksack.tripod.com>. Michael Neiger, [mneiger@hotmail.com](mailto:mneiger@hotmail.com), 906-226-9620H, 906-228-2683W.

**7/6 TG Former Treat Property South of Empire.** 10am. Meet at Sleeping Bear National Lakeshore Visitors' Center in Empire. Beautiful property with farm buildings & short dunes climb to Lake Michigan Overlook. John Lewis, 231-947-9104, [johnbetty@bignetnorth.net](mailto:johnbetty@bignetnorth.net).

**7/7 SEMG Waterloo-Pinckney Rec Area Hike.** 9am. 14-mile extended hike for the dedicated hiker. Bring lunch & trail snacks. Waterproof boots recommended. Meet in Livonia between Wal-Mart & Jiffy Lube on the SW corner of Middlebelt & I-96. Optional restaurant stop. John Herrgott, 810-735-9313.

**7/7-13 Mackinac Chapter North Country Trail Service Trip in Porcupine Mountain Wilderness State Park.** See featured outing on page 24 for details. Visit

[www.northcountrytrail.org/pwif](http://www.northcountrytrail.org/pwif) for trail description & information about area. Ralph Powell, 734-971-9013, [chm\\_powell@online.emich.edu](mailto:chm_powell@online.emich.edu).

**7/12-15 SEMG North Manitou Island Backpack.** 19-mile backpack exploring the island's historical sites & artifacts. Good trip for experienced & novice backpacker. Limit 8. John Herrgott: 810-735-9313, [johnherrgott@msn.com](mailto:johnherrgott@msn.com); co-leader Phil Crookshank, 313-562-1873, [wanderphil3@netzero.net](mailto:wanderphil3@netzero.net).

**7/14-7/20 TLG Quetico Provincial Park Canoe Adventure.** We'll paddle & portage this world-class canoeing area from Beaverhouse Lake to Quetico Lake, Jean Lake, Sturgeon Lake, Maligne River, Lac Le Croix, Namikan River, Quetico River & back to Beaverhouse Lake. Trip goes deep into interior of the park, far from medical facilities, so participants should be healthy & fit. Transportation expenses from outfitter's lodge to entry point & back, canoe & park fees about \$150/person. Other expenses are responsibility of participants. Max 16. Roger Blanchard, 906-253-9316, [RBlanchard@Issu.edu](mailto:RBlanchard@Issu.edu).

**7/14 SEMG Maybury Park Hike.** 1pm. Two-hour hike in Wayne County's largest state park. Meet at park concession building accessed from 8 Mile Rd entrance (5 miles west of I-275). Optional restaurant stop. Tom LaFramboise, 734-464-7899.

**7/20 TG Hiking & Picnicking at Leelanau State Park north of Northport.** Contact Monica Evans, [imagine@bignetnorth.net](mailto:imagine@bignetnorth.net); Lynn Livingston, [redwingnut@sprintmail.com](mailto:redwingnut@sprintmail.com).

**7/20 SEMG Evening Picnic & Moonlight Hike.** 6:30pm Bring your entrée to cook, beverage & dish to pass. Leader will provide grille fire. After leisurely meal, we'll go for a 4-mile hike at dusk & return when moon is high (10pm). Bring flashlight & meet at Proud Lake State Park. I-96 (exit 159). Go 8 miles north through Wixom, follow signs to Headquarters, then 1/4 mile to Powers Beach lot. Philip Crookshank, 313-562-1873.

**7/21 SEMG Upper Huron River Canoeing.** 10am. Canoe/picnic. Bring picnic lunch. Payment of \$16 by 7/13 to 32856 Harmon, Roseville 48066. Meet in Southfield behind Marathon station at Tel-12 Mall, SE corner of Telegraph & 12 Mile. Lee Becker, 586-294-7789.

**7/27 SEMG Heritage Park Hike.** 1pm. 2-hour hike in Farmington Hill's premier park. Meet at park visitor center. From Farmington Rd south of 11 Mile, turn west into park, left on first road to parking lot. Optional restaurant stop. Tom LaFramboise, 734-464-7899.

**7/28 SEMG Maumee State Park, Toledo, Fun Day.** 10am. Enjoy full day of fun in the sun at the park. Hiking, biking & swimming. Bring lunch & beverages. Meet behind the Dearborn Civic Center (SW corner of

see *OUTINGS*, page 24



PHOTO BY JOYCE MCINTOSH

**TO EXPLORE, ENJOY AND PROTECT THE PLANET**

**OUTINGS, continued from page 23**

Michigan & Greenfield), next to King Boring ball field (east end of parking lot). Liz Allingham, 313-581-7579.

**7/28 SEMG Island Lake Rec Area Hike.** 9am. 14-mile extended, brisk hike for dedicated hiker. Bring lunch, water & trail snacks. Meet in Southfield behind Marathon station at Tel-12 Mall, SE corner of Telegraph & 12 Mile. Optional restaurant stop. John Herrgott, 810-735-9313.

**AUGUST**

**8/2-12 CUP Remote, Advanced-Level Backpacking: Pukaskwa National Park (Ontario, Canada).** We'll hike extremely rugged & seldom-traveled Coastal Hiking trail along north shore of Lake Superior. Very strenuous & isolated; deep-water river fords; some bushwhacking. Must be 18, non-smoker, experienced backpacker (5 trips in last 3 years), very physically fit (able to run 3 miles), swimmer, adventurous & fully equipped, including stove & rations. 8am Fri to early am Mon. \$20 + tug

fee & permits. More at <http://therucksack.tripod.com>. Michael Neiger, [mneiger@hotmail.com](mailto:mneiger@hotmail.com), 906-226-9620H, 906-228-2683W.

**8/4 SEMG Brighton Recreation Area Wildflower Walk.** Noon. Enjoy wildflowers on easy 2-3 hour hike. Meet in Southfield behind the Marathon station at Tel-12 Mall, SE corner of Telegraph & 12 Mile. Optional restaurant stop. Lee Becker, 586-294-7789; Joanne Cantoni, 248-932-5370.

**8/9-11 SEMG Easy Overnight Campout.** Camp 1 or 2 nights, tentatively in Highland State Rec area. Hiking, swimming, loafing. Bring gear, food/drink for all meals, including hiking lunches. Register by 7/27; details later. Camping: \$7/night. Liz Allingham, 313-581-7579; Cindy Gunnip, 248-336-2984.

**8/11-8/17 TLG Isle Royale Backpack.** Take Isle Royale Queen III from Copper Harbor to Rock Harbor & backpack from Rock Harbor to Daisy Farm, McCargoe Cove, Lake Desor & Windigo. Take the Voyageur II back to Rock Harbor & the Isle Royale Queen III back to Copper Harbor. Not a strenuous trip, but you should be fit.

Boat & park fees approx. \$150/person. Transportation expenses to & from Copper Harbor as well as food expenses are responsibility of participants. Max. 15. Roger Blanchard, 906-253-9316, [RBlanchard@Issu.edu](mailto:RBlanchard@Issu.edu).

**8/11 SEMG Grosse Ile Bike Tour.** 10am. 25-mile tour around the island, starting in downtown Wyandotte. Meet at south end of Bishop Park on Biddle, 4 blocks south of Wyandotte Gen. Hosp. If rain is predicted, call by 10pm Sat. Optional lunch stop. Don McHarness, 248-814-9937.

**8/30-9/3 CUP Intermediate-Level Backpacking: Pictured Rocks National Lakeshore.** Beaver Basin, Kingstons Plains, sink holes & north section Fox River trail (Alger Co.). Very strenuous cross-country route; bushwhacking & jeep trails; deep-water river/lake/swamp fords. Must be: 18, non-smoker, experienced backpacker (5 trips in last 3 years), very physically fit (able to run 3 miles), swimmer, adventurous & fully equipped, including stove & rations. 8am Fri to mid-day Tue. \$10. More at <http://therucksack.tripod.com>. Michael Neiger, [mneiger@hotmail.com](mailto:mneiger@hotmail.com), 906-226-9620H, 906-228-2683W.

**SIERRA CLUB/NCTA TRAIL WORK PROJECT SCHEDULED**

by Ralph Powell, Chapter Outings Chair

**July 7-13, 2002 Porcupine Mountains Wilderness State Park**

This year's trip will focus on improving about 3.5 miles of North Country Trail in virgin hardwood/hemlock forest at the southwest end of the Porkies. Built several years ago, this section receives little use compared to most other Porkies trails and is hard to follow in places. We'll do some brush clearing and delineating of the trail with logs, brush, tread leveling, etc.

The Porkies do not allow line-of-sight blazing. There are blazes, but they are sometimes quite far apart, so our challenge is to make the trail apparent in open, old-growth stands. We'll likely install a few blazes in critical areas.

Work days will be Sunday, July 7, to Saturday, July 13. There's the possibility of a free day for resting or recreation during the week. We'll camp at Presque Isle Campground on Lake Superior at the mouth of the Presque Isle River, a short drive from the work area. Camping will be available the nights of July 6 through July 13. Food (approximately \$10 per day) and tools will be provided.

Sign up for one day or part of the week. The trip is planned to include two weekend days this year, so local volunteers who have weekday jobs will have an opportunity to help. Hopefully, many of you will take advantage of this.

Contact Ralph Powell for additional information or to sign up: 734-971-9013 or [chm\\_powell@online.emich.edu](mailto:chm_powell@online.emich.edu).

**Nature is waiting for you... and so are we!**



**There's still time to travel with us in 2002!** Visit our web site, give us a call, or email us for details on any of our exciting adventures. There's no time like now for some outdoor adventure! Sign up and join us as we **explore, enjoy, and protect the planet.**

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# Shop to Stop Sprawl!

Your next shopping trip could help stop sprawl! How? By joining the Sierra Club/Huron Valley Group's **Shopping for the Earth** program, like hundreds of other people. At least 5% of your purchases will be donated to the Sierra Club.

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To join the program, just mail in the order form below with your check. You'll get EarthCash vouchers of equal value for the stores you select. Then you spend the vouchers (accepted nationwide) just as if they're cash. You can return unused vouchers for a refund if you're not completely satisfied.

For more information, please contact Michael Sklar by phone at (248) 542-1789 or by email at [redmike1@yahoo.com](mailto:redmike1@yahoo.com).

***"What a great idea! Local grassroots action to preserve nature is what the Sierra Club is all about. I encourage every Sierra Club member in Michigan to participate in Shopping for the Earth."***

**- Carl Pope, Sierra Club Executive Director**

## Sierra Club/Huron Valley Group "Shopping for the Earth" Order Form

Indicate the number of EarthCash vouchers you want by dollar amount for each store below, and enclose your check payable to "**Huron Valley Group-Sierra Club**." Total order (\$500 maximum): \$ \_\_\_\_\_.

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Farmer Jack (& affiliated stores)	_____ @ \$10	_____ @ \$20	_____ @ \$50
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Busch's	_____ @ \$5	_____ @ \$10	_____ @ \$20
Borders Books & Music	_____ @ \$20	_____ @ \$25	_____ @ \$50

Your Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
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 Your email address: \_\_\_\_\_

**Mail to:**  
 Michael Sklar  
 10404 Kingston Avenue  
 Huntington Woods, MI 48070

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**CREEKS RUNNING, ONTARIO:** Quaint Log Chalet daily or weekly. Ideal for groups of up to 6, couples welcome. From \$60 U.S. Located in the Algoma Highlands, 1/2 hour north of Sault Ste. Marie. The area is a treat for bird watchers and outdoor enthusiasts. Explore the Voyageur Trail, Robertson Cliffs, The Goulais River and Lake Superior Provincial Park. Our schedule permitting we offer informal guided hiking and canoe tours. Call Detlef or Daniela at 705-64-2186 or fax 705-649-1852.

**VACATION HOME FOR RENT ON GREAT WILDLIFE LAKE:** Sleeps 8, low rates, and access to Tawas Lake with 100's of acres of wild rice and great birding. See [www.ecologyusa.com/rental.html](http://www.ecologyusa.com/rental.html) for details.

**GREEN THINGS FOR SALE!** Hand Water Pump – Used in State Parks. Monitor II H.D., 2.5-in., 22-ft. threaded pipe, never used, \$550. Canoe, 17 ft., 65 lb., green, Old Town Oltonar/Royalex, with web seats, foam blocks and paddles, slightly used, \$750. 810-767-9904 or [mikekeeler@tir.com](mailto:mikekeeler@tir.com).

**CALENDAR EDITOR:** The Sierra Club in Michigan is seeking a volunteer to prepare copy for the Outings and Meetings pages of *The Mackinac*, a quarterly publication of the Mackinac Chapter. This statewide organization regularly conducts outings and meetings at the state (Chapter) and local (Group) levels. The Calendar editor is responsible for compiling submissions from each group for inclusion in a larger calendar that is published in *The Mackinac*. Word processing computer skills are required. Estimated hours needed per issue: 10-15. Send résumé and cover letter to [semgyarrow@aol.com](mailto:semgyarrow@aol.com).



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**BUSINESS MANAGER WANTED:** The Sierra Club in Michigan is seeking a volunteer to coordinate advertisers for *The Mackinac*, a quarterly publication of the Mackinac Chapter. Estimated hours needed per issue: 1. Call Julie at 989-539-1676 or e-mail [soaringbuteos@msn.com](mailto:soaringbuteos@msn.com).

**OFFICE VOLUNTEERS** needed to work in the Lansing Sierra Club office. Call Kathy Boutin-Pasterz at 517-484-2372.

# Learning Vacations!

*NettieBay Lodge prides itself as a learning center specializing in hands-on craft schools specializing in a variety of courses on techniques to start or encourage an already existing outdoor hobby.*

**School of Birding:** During the month of May – The guiding principle of the school is to help people get in touch with nature by: acquainting them with the beauty of birds, then providing information about birds and their habitat, and finally showing how each individual has a stake in continued existence of bird populations. Surveys show more than 80% of NettieBay's birders are almost guaranteed with new life birds.

**Split Bamboo Rodmaking:** April 1-7, 2002 – Arrive with Enthusiasm. Return home with your own handcrafted Split Bamboo Rod and the skills to continue a time-honored craft. The Genesis School of Split Bamboo Rodmaking is a five-day, intensive, hands-on craft school. The participants will learn the skills and techniques needed to complete a split bamboo fishing rod.

**School of Stone Masonry:** June 12-16, 2002 – NettieBay Lodge is committed to preserving the relationship between man's ingenuity and nature by offering courses that are essentially a hands-on introduction to stone masonry.

**Twig Furniture Making:** Day & Weekend Programs – Check web site for dates and times. Become a Twigger! Learn basic twig construction techniques from an experienced twigger. Create a twig Chair, table, or headboard from natural growing sticks. Class will cover tools, adhesives and twig selection.

**School of Photography:** May & June Classes – This photographic weekend is a guided tour designed to give photographers the opportunity to capture images of the common loon.

**Women in the Outdoors Workshop:** September – Women in Nature programs are workshops aimed at helping women learn and gain confidence in outdoor skills, skills usually associated with hunting and fishing, but useful for many outdoor pursuits.

**NettieBay Lodge**

9011 W. 638 Hwy. Hawks, MI 49743  
(989) 734-4688

[nettiebay@george.lhi.net](mailto:nettiebay@george.lhi.net)

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# TAKING ACTION: YOUR WORDS COUNT!

Get your free copy of "A Citizen's Guide To State Government" to find out who your legislators are. Call House Speaker Rick Johnson at 517-373-1747, mention that you are concerned about environmental protection, and ask him to send you a copy!

## THE WHITE HOUSE

**President George W. Bush**  
The White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue  
Washington, DC 20500  
202-456-1414

**White House fax line:**  
202-456-2461  
**White House comment line:**  
202-456-1111  
**White House e-mail:**  
[president@whitehouse.gov](mailto:president@whitehouse.gov)

## US CONGRESS

**US Capitol switchboard:** 202-224-3121

The Honorable \_\_\_\_\_      The Honorable \_\_\_\_\_  
**US House of Representatives**      **US Senate**  
Washington, DC 20515      Washington, DC 20510

## MICHIGAN

**Governor John Engler**  
State Capitol  
Lansing, MI 48909  
517-373-3400

The Honorable \_\_\_\_\_  
**Michigan Senate**  
State Capitol  
Lansing, MI 48909

The Honorable \_\_\_\_\_  
**Michigan House**  
State Capitol  
Lansing, MI 48909

## RESOURCES FOR ACTIVISTS

**Sierra Club National Legislative Hotline:** 202-675-2394

- **ENVIRO-MICH** is the Mackinac Chapter-sponsored Internet list and forum for Michigan environmental and conservation Issues. For a free subscription, e-mail [majordomo@great-lakes.net](mailto:majordomo@great-lakes.net) with a one-line message body of "subscribe enviromich" (leave your signature file off).
- **Sierra Club's National Website** is at: [www.sierraclub.org](http://www.sierraclub.org). Check out the daily *War on the Environment* postings.
- **Visit our Mackinac Chapter Website:** [michigan.sierraclub.org](http://michigan.sierraclub.org)
- **Get a free subscription to The Planet** by promising to write at least 3 letters a year to your elected officials in support of the environment. Send your name and address to Sierra Club Planet Subscription Request, P.O. Box 52968, Boulder, CO 80322-2968.

### E-mail activists needed!

The Michigan Action Project (MAP) is an electronic rapid response system to enhance communication with state and federal officials.

All you need is an E-mail address! We send you alerts 10 to 12 times a year and convert your personalized response (using our sample letter) into faxes to the appropriate decision maker. Learn more about MAP and sign up right now at [www.mecprotects.org/map.html](http://www.mecprotects.org/map.html).

# Chapter Directory

## MACKINAC CHAPTER OFFICE

109 East Grand River Avenue, Lansing, MI 48906  
Phone: 517-484-2372      Fax: 517-484-3108  
E-mail: [mackinac.chapter@sierraclub.org](mailto:mackinac.chapter@sierraclub.org)      Website: [michigan.sierraclub.org](http://michigan.sierraclub.org)

**Director:** Anne Woiwode, [anne.woiwode@sierraclub.org](mailto:anne.woiwode@sierraclub.org)  
**Development Associate:** Sarah Baker, 616-329-3289, [sarah.baker@sierraclub.org](mailto:sarah.baker@sierraclub.org)  
**Administrative Assistant:** Kathy Boutin-Pasterz, [kathy.boutin-pasterz@sierraclub.org](mailto:kathy.boutin-pasterz@sierraclub.org)  
**Political Director/Public Education Coordinator:** Dan Farough, [daniel.farough@sierraclub.org](mailto:daniel.farough@sierraclub.org)  
**Southeast Michigan Media Coordinator:** David Holtz, 313-640-9943, [david.holtz@sierraclub.org](mailto:david.holtz@sierraclub.org)  
**Water Sentinels Project Coordinator:** Rita Jack, [rita.jack@sierraclub.org](mailto:rita.jack@sierraclub.org)  
**Group & Volunteer Development/Office Manager:** Joyce McIntosh, [joyce.mcintosh@sierraclub.org](mailto:joyce.mcintosh@sierraclub.org)  
**Forest Policy Specialist:** Marvin Roberson, 810-424-3575, [gassho@softhome.net](mailto:gassho@softhome.net)

## SIERRA CLUB MIDWEST OFFICE

214 N. Henry Street, Suite 203, Madison, WI 53703      Phone: 608-257-4994

**Environmental Justice Organizer:** Rhonda Anderson, 313-821-1064, [rhonda.anderson@sierraclub.org](mailto:rhonda.anderson@sierraclub.org)

## SIERRA CLUB MIDWEST REGIONAL OFFICE

229 Lake Avenue, Suite 4, Traverse City, MI 49684      Phone: 231-922-2201

**Midwest Regional Staff Director:** Alison Horton, [alison.horton@sierraclub.org](mailto:alison.horton@sierraclub.org)

## SIERRA CLUB NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS

85 Second Street, Second Floor, San Francisco, CA 94105      Phone: 415-977-5500

## ADDRESS CHANGES

Please include old mailing label and send to: PO Box 52968, Boulder, CO 80321-2968

## CHAPTER EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

**Officers**  
Mike Keeler, Co-Chair.....810-767-9904  
Sue Kelly, Co-Chair.....810-227-9563  
Helen LeBlanc, Treasurer.....517-655-6454  
Julie Murphy, Secretary.....989-539-1676  
Kim Waldo, 5th Officer.....734-971-1941

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## NEW WATER SENTINELS LEARN ABOUT AQUATIC MACROINVERTEBRATES

by Rita Jack, Water Sentinels Project Coordinator

Luckily it was bright and sunny when 15 volunteers braved the early spring chill and learned how to collect and identify aquatic macroinvertebrates at the Water Sentinels training on April 6. The new Water Sentinels will monitor water quality at eight sites along Horse Creek and the Pine River, in the vicinity of Alma and St. Louis in Gratiot County.

Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ) aquatic biologist Gary Kohlhepp led the hardy volunteers, first in the classroom session at Alma College, and later into the frigid water of the Pine itself. Kohlhepp demonstrated collection techniques in a “field training” held at Lumberjack Park on a scenic upstream stretch of the Pine. Using the same monitoring techniques as other volunteer groups around the state, Kohlhepp and his trainees gave the river site at Lumberjack an “excellent” evaluation. Sentinels discovered stoneflies, mayflies and dam-

selflies in their outing, all indicators of good water quality. “This is so COOL!” new sentinel Scott Smith said, as he waded toward the stream bank holding a beautiful mayfly nymph.

Downstream, the Pine River has been degraded by oil refineries and a chemical plant. A “No Consumption” fish advisory, in effect on the Pine River since 1974, stretches 36 river miles, from the Alma impoundment to the confluence with the Chippewa. The advisory initially stemmed from extreme levels of DDT and PBBs spilled or discharged by the Velsicol Chemical plant (formerly Michigan Chemical). Total Petroleum and the Midwest Oil refineries have also directly discharged or spilled thousands of gallons of petroleum products into the Pine River or its Horse Creek tributary.

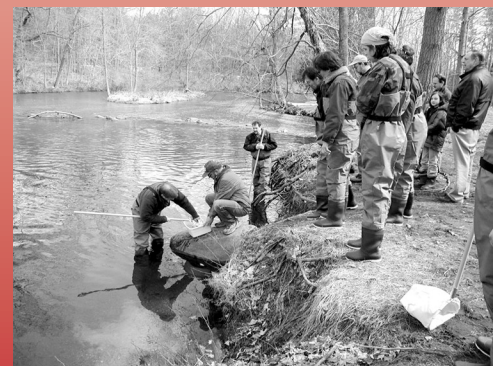
The new Water Sentinels collected river and riparian habitat information and sampled the water for benthic macroinver-

tebrates—organisms used as water quality indicators. A technical advisory committee will evaluate the information and report the extent of the degradation of the Pine River. Armed with this research, Sierra Club can then put pressure on MDEQ to get the river restored to its former pristine condition.

*If you would like to help with the Water Sentinels Pine River project, or would like to start a similar monitoring program for your Sierra Club group, contact Rita Jack at 517-484-2372, or [rita.jack@sierraclub.org](mailto:rita.jack@sierraclub.org).*



**Top: Sentinel Bob Downs examines his net while braving the chill of the Pine River.**



**Bottom: Scott Smith (background) and the rest of the Water Sentinels look on as Bob Downs transfers his catch.**

**POSTMASTER: Send address changes to SIERRA CLUB, 109 East Grand River Ave., Lansing, MI 48906**

### **What does the Sierra Club work to do?**

*To explore, enjoy and protect the wild places of the Earth; to practice and promote the responsible use of the Earth's ecosystems and resources; to educate and enlist humanity to protect and restore the quality of the natural and human environment; and to use all lawful means to carry out these objectives.*