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Explore, enjoy and protect the planet.

TheMackinac

Quarterly Publication of Michigan's Sierra Club • August-October 2003



**MICHIGAN'S FORESTS:
AN UNCERTAIN FUTURE
A Chapter Priority in 2003**

We're Protecting Michigan's Forests for the Next Generation, and Beyond

by Sue Kelly, Mackinac Chapter Co-Chair

I carried my new granddaughter Elizabeth, soundly sleeping in a baby sling, on the first of many walks that I hope to share with her in the woods of northern Michigan. This place of upland hardwoods, cedar swamp, jack pine forest and water is a place that is part of her greater family, a place that could shape her thinking about the world as much as it shapes the thinking of those of us who love her. There is so much to learn about all of the creatures that live there, or what it's like in winter on top of the frozen swamp in the middle of old cedar trees, or how a forest recovers from logging.

PROTECTING MICHIGAN FORESTS

Most of all, I hope Elizabeth learns that wild places are important even if we aren't part of the experience. There are amazing Sierra Club people who understand this and who are fighting for the true health of Michigan's forests. Tim Flynn has brought old growth forest protection to the attention of the people who could make that a reality. Marvin Roberson is preparing to address the upcoming Ottawa, Hiawatha and Huron-Manistee National Forest plans—the final plans of which will determine how these forests are managed for the next decade or so. See page 11 for the inspiring stories of forest activists, and then get involved!

ENJOYING WILD PLACES

Sharing wild places with others enriches life, and part of our responsibility as Sierra Club leaders is to extend that experience. The Inner City Outings Program is currently offering outings to kids in Grand Rapids and Washtenaw County who otherwise might not have an opportunity to see Michigan's wild places. Committed Sierra Club leaders have made this effort a priority in their lives.

The Annual Mackinac Chapter Fall Retreat is a great way to meet other people who share your values, enjoy learning some new things and generally like to have fun! Sign up today and celebrate summer on Lake Michigan. Page six has the details.

DEDICATED PEOPLE MAKE IT ALL HAPPEN

In the Mackinac Chapter, our staff are much more than hired help—they are our friends and teachers as well. Dan Farough and

David Holtz have left for new jobs, but their presence in our Chapter left indelible marks. Their amazing abilities to tackle complicated issues will be greatly missed, but most of all I will miss their great senses of humor. We are all better off having worked with them and wish both of them the best in their future endeavors.

Dedicated Sierra Club activists combined their efforts in early April to determine Chapter priorities. Despite an airport-closing ice storm, 36 of 42 expected participants made it to the Strategic Planning workshop. Forestry, water, sprawl and trash emerged as the issues the participants felt were opportunities for impact this year. We also came out of the planning session understanding that addressing membership involvement is critical to our success on all fronts. These topics will be our focus. Needless to say, if you feel strongly about any of these, please give the chapter office a call and let them know where you would like to become involved. (See the contact info inside the back cover.)

GET OUTSIDE

I hope you and your loved ones are able to find some time this summer to explore Michigan's forests. And when you return home, write a letter, send an email or make a phone call and support efforts to protect Michigan's forests. Be an example to those who will follow, who look to you for the values they will incorporate into their lives.

Sue Kelly of Brighton is the 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.



PHOTO COURTESY ANNE WOJWODE

See page 12 for the Sierra Club priority feature on saving Michigan's Forests.

Sharing wild places with others enriches life, and part of our responsibility as Sierra Club leaders is to extend that experience.

TheMackinac

QUARTERLY PUBLICATION OF MICHIGAN'S SIERRA CLUB
AUGUST - OCTOBER 2003

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POSTMASTER: Send address changes to *The Mackinac*, Sierra Club, 109 East Grand River Avenue, 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: Christine Tuntevski, 15104 Reo Ave, Allen Park, MI 48101; 313-580-8806; ctuntevski@hotmail.com. We reserve the right to refuse advertising that we feel conflicts with the goals and purposes of the Club.

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PHOTO COURTESY ANNE WOIWODE

Above: An old growth white pine stand.

Cover: Loggers and Hermansville community members pose in a denuded, early 1900s landscape with one of the last loads of logs. The devastation of Michigan's native forests during the late 1800s and early 1900s left much of the economy and ecology of the two peninsulas in shambles. Michigan's forests are still recovering from this era, and decisions made today will determine whether our magnificent forests are allowed to return. See page 12 to learn more.

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CORRECTION:

The photograph of Marty Fluharty on page 2 of the May-July issue of *The Mackinac* was taken by Rita Jack.

NEXT DEADLINE: OCTOBER 1

SEND ARTICLES & PHOTOS TO: Eric Lagergren, 517-896-5321, eric@eblwrite.com
122 Stoddard Avenue Apt B, East Lansing, MI 48823-4633

SEND MEETINGS & OUTINGS TO: Cheryl McConnell, 517-552-1464, mcconnell_cheryl@yahoo.com

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SIERRA CLUB ISSUE UPDATES FROM ACROSS MICHIGAN

by Anne Woiwode, Mackinac Chapter Director

MINERAL DEVELOPMENT THREATENS THE "HOLY WATERS" AND THE MICHIGAMME HIGHLANDS

The Au Sable River is one of the most revered trout fishing rivers in the world. At the heart of the river you can find the Mason Tract and the Mason Chapel. Remote, beautiful and quiet enough to hear a fly drop into the waters, the Mason Tract would automatically be on any short list of sensitive places to protect from oil and gas drilling in Michigan. Yet three years ago the federal government leased oil and gas rights under this precious place. Today, a proposal for drilling on neighboring semi-primitive National Forest lands along the sand road to the Chapel is under consideration by the Huron Manistee National Forest.

Comments by Nancy Shiffler and Marvin Roberson on behalf of Sierra Club appear poised to force a full environmental review of the proposed "surface occupancy permit" application to the Forest Service. The debate, however, is far from complete. A state drilling permit application has also been put on hold as the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ) seeks additional information from the applicant.

At the same time, a huge threat has emerged in the Michigamme Highlands west of Marquette. There, the Kennecott Mining Company has secured large amounts of land for undisclosed minerals exploration. Sierra Club and other environmentalists are concerned Kennecott may seek to develop hard rock minerals (which potentially includes silver, gold or diamonds). Kennecott's acquisitions have come to light only because private owners in the headwaters of the Salmon Trout River resisted selling their parcels.

Both the Mason Tract and the Michigamme Highlands mineral rights issues highlight Michigan's outdated minerals statutes. These laws were put into place at a time when mineral development was being promoted to help develop the state and to give mineral rights owners virtually unfettered authority to access their rights—even at the expense of the surface owners. Sierra Club is calling for an overhaul of these outdated laws. Senator Bruce Patterson and Representative Matt Gillard have held hearings to illuminate the problems with our current laws. They are committed to bringing the power of the Legislature to bear in protecting the Mason Tract and in seeking to fix the problems with existing laws.

BOARDMAN RIVER UPDATE

The Grand Traverse County Road Commission (GTCRC) has applied for MDEQ permits to allow wetland filling in the Boardman River Valley, site of the proposed Hartman Hammond Bridge near Traverse City. A hearing held on July 17 brought out hundreds in opposition to the filling. Monica Evans of the Traverse Group prepared Sierra Club's testimony. Sierra Club contends that the permit application is flawed in part because

no alternatives were seriously considered by the GTCRC. Construction of this bridge will harm the Boardman River Valley. The MDEQ is expected to make a decision on the permit application in the next few months.

MDA: WORDS HURT MORE THAN HYDROGEN SULFIDE?

Gerald Henning finally got the Michigan Department of Agriculture's (MDA) attention, but the agency's response to his two and a half year effort to get them to deal with the noxious fumes from his neighbor's concentrated animal feeding operation (CAFO) came in the form of prosecution for obscenity.

Last fall, after harvesting crops next to fields spread with bottom wastes from the CAFO's lagoons, Henning's daughter-in-law was sent to the hospital with suspected acute hydrogen sulfide poisoning. Henning, an 82 year old retired farmer from Clayton, called the MDA "Right to Farm" complaint line repeatedly and left messages about how the horrific smells were destroying his family's quality of life (every agency he had previously contacted with questions told him it was MDA's job to address this problem). Henning left messages on the MDA machine expressing his outrage. MDA officials responded by pressing obscenity charges against Henning, who was arrested and charged.

While he has since settled with the Ingham County Prosecutor on the criminal charges, Gerald Henning has gained the support of the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) in pursuing a defense of his constitutional right to free speech. Henning and the ACLU claim that the constitution does not require politeness in dealing with state officials.

Since the charges were filed, Gerald and his wife have undergone neurological testing by Dr. Kay Kilburn, a noted environmental health specialist. Dr. Kilburn has concluded that the Hennings both suffer neurological effects consistent with extreme chronic exposure to hydrogen sulfide.

MDEQ has been cleared this summer to begin to take enforcement action against some CAFO's for air pollution violations.

Hamtramck Incinerator Closed? 40 Violations! Future Uncertain...

by Anna Holden, Mackinac Chapter Conservation Chair

According to the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ), the Hamtramck medical waste incinerator was cited for at least 40 current violations of state and federal regulations and has agreed to close down until September 15.

The 40 citations prompting the shutdown are essentially the same violations community, environmental and health organizations—including Sierra Club—have protested continuously: emissions above mercury and carbon monoxide limits; excessive opacity (i.e. black smoke laden with lung-damaging particulate matter); failure to work with hospitals to exclude mercury products; delays in conducting required stack tests of toxic air emissions; and postponing repair/replacement of nonfunctioning equipment. In addition, owner/operator Norm Aardema installed a new autoclave last fall—another method of sterilizing medical waste—without obtaining a permit to operate this equipment or to pipe wastewater from the autoclave into

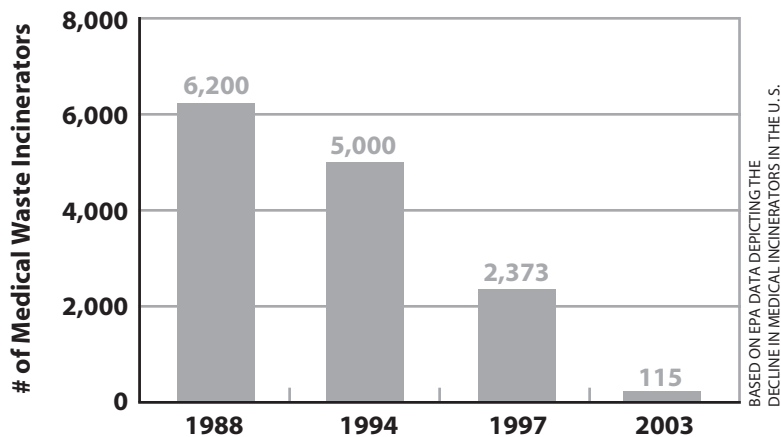
Detroit's sewer system. While autoclaving medical waste should be less polluting than incineration, permits are needed to insure that air and water releases are kept at a safe level. MDEQ recently detected mercury at the Hamtramck autoclave and at another autoclave Aardema operates in Grand Blanc.

Closing the Hamtramck incinerator is long overdue. Medical waste incineration is a dying technology (see graph), and dating back to its earliest operation, at least five owners of the Hamtramck incinerator have consistently demonstrated "irresponsible disregard for air control rules," according to Rob Cedar, Chair of the Hamtramck Environmental Action Team (HEAT). Although MDEQ claims the incinerator is

closed, owner Aardema says he still burns pathological and chemotherapy wastes periodically—about two days out of every 90 days. Hamtramck and Detroit residents who live in the wind drift are exposed to heavy discharges of toxins from this facility, as well as the Detroit solid waste incinerator and a total of 200 sources within a two-mile radius that release regulated contaminants. Pollution from all of these sources exacerbates asthma and other respiratory diseases, harms the human nervous system, increases the risk of cancer, and poisons fish in the Detroit River and Lake St. Clair.

According to a Detroit News story of June 22, Aardema is proposing yet another waste treatment process based on burn technology. He hopes to install a new process to destroy pathological and chemotherapy hospital wastes, as well as burn pharmacological waste (hospital chemotherapy waste includes regulated hazardous waste). This change would remove restrictions in the incinerator's existing medical waste permit and a Consent Order resulting from past violations. Aardema is negotiating with MDEQ to obtain permits for the two autoclaves and continue incinerating pathological and chemotherapy waste until his new process is approved. Environmentalists—including Sierra Club—question the owner's ability to operate this plant in compliance with state and federal rules. The Hamtramck medical waste facility should be closed permanently.

DECLINE IN MEDICAL WASTE INCINERATORS IN THE UNITED STATES



This chart shows the decline in medical waste incinerators in use in the United States. The first two figures are based on earlier estimates; the last two figures are based on a revised estimate and an inventory by the United States Environmental Protection Agency. The figure for 2003 is as of May 2003; it may be revised later in the year.

Note that since June 1996, only seven new medical waste incinerators have been constructed in the United States, a much lower number than the original EPA projection of 700 new incinerators expected to have been built between 1995 to 2000.

REFERENCES:

December 1988: "Hospital Waste Combustion Study-Data Gathering Phase," US EPA.

July 1994: "Medical Waste Incinerators-Background Information for Proposed Standards and Guidelines: Industry Profile Report for New and Existing Facilities," US EPA.

January 1996: "Standards of Performance for New Stationary Sources and Emission Guidelines for Existing Sources: Medical Waste Incinerators," US EPA.

June 2003: "Status of Current HMIWI Efforts," presentation by Fred L. Porter, US EPA, at the Medical Waste Institute.

ACTION ITEM

Contact MDEQ Director Steven E. Chester. Ask him to shut down the Hamtramck incinerator permanently and, based on the company's past history, deny the proposed new permits. Address: 525 West Allegan Street, P.O. Box 30473, Lansing, MI 48909-7973; Phone: 517-373-7917.

For further information contact Anna Holden, 313-331-0932, or Rob Cedar (HEAT), 313-365-4722.

WaterSentinelsUpdate

MDEQ, WE CAN DO BETTER.

DEVELOP A COMPREHENSIVE CLEANUP PLAN FOR THE PINE RIVER!

by Rita Jack, Water Sentinels Project Director

The Pine River may finally be fishable again in my lifetime, if the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ) develops and executes a comprehensive cleanup plan to address all contaminants and sources. It can happen with your help. The Lake Huron Initiative lists the Pine River (Gratiot County) as a major source of DDT and PBB, and a no-consumption fishing advisory has been in place since 1974—almost 30 years!

This summer the MDEQ and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency will release a draft remedial investigation and feasibility study of the Velsicol Chemical plant site, recently found to still be leaking chemicals to the river after it was remediated in 1982. A presentation and question/answer session is planned for the September 17 Pine River Superfund Citizens Task Force meeting in St. Louis, MI. The formal public comment period will be announced soon. Local and downstream community members should plan to attend the September 17 meeting (7 pm, open to the public) to hear about the remedial investigation and feasibility study.

Upstream in Alma, oil refinery site investigations and remediation actions continue. Valero Energy Corporation owns the former Midwest Oil refinery site, as well as the Total Petroleum oil refinery (which is currently being dismantled). A 2001 consent decree ordered a \$9 million supplemental environmental project to clean up Horse Creek, a Pine River tributary used for decades to discharge petroleum wastes. The MDEQ is investigating all contamination sources and potentially responsible parties in the vicinity of the city and the refineries.

Sierra Club supports these activities and calls on the MDEQ to develop a comprehensive cleanup plan for the whole Pine River. After decades of neglect, it's high time that communities on the Pine River and downstream get their river back.

HOW YOU CAN HELP

Send a letter to MDEQ Director Steve Chester. Ask MDEQ to develop a comprehensive plan to clean up the whole Pine River in Gratiot County. Tell him Michigan can do better!

Send your letter to:

Steve Chester
Director, Michigan Department of Environmental Quality
Constitution Hall
P.O. Box 30273
Lansing, MI 48909-7773



PHOTO COURTESY RITA JACK

Water Sentinel Rita Jack displays a core sample and her hand covered in petroleum sludge from Horse Creek, downstream from where Total Petroleum discharged petroleum hydrocarbon wastes.

Decades of discharges of pesticides, volatile organics, and heavy metals from refineries and chemical factories led to designation of the Velsicol Chemical Superfund Site in the top five on the National Priorities List. Ironically, because the Superfund program is running out of money, it is only because the site is so polluted that it's still being cleaned up. See www.sierraclub.org/toxics/superfund for the status of the Superfund program.

GreatLakesReport

IN THE HEAT OF THE NIGHT... AND THE DAY

by Mike Johnson, Kalamazoo Valley Group

We have all heard of global climate change, but we may not think of it as a threat in the same way we might feel threatened by living near a polluted river or downwind from a factory smokestack. But global climate change is indeed real, and, it is caused almost entirely by the consumption of fossil fuels in our vehicles, power plants and homes. The resulting production of “greenhouse gases” (primarily carbon dioxide) traps heat in the atmosphere, thus causing average temperatures to rise.

A report released in April by the Union of Concerned Scientists, the Ecological Society of America and the David Suzuki Society predicts the effects of climate change on the Great Lakes region over the next century if our government, our corporations, and yes, us—individual citizens—continue these consumptive ways.

The findings include:

- Over the next 100 years winter temperatures will rise five to ten degrees fahrenheit, summer temperatures 7 to 14 degrees. This is about the same temperature increase that has occurred since the end of the last ice age!
- Large cities will have a 10 to 40 fold increase in heat related deaths.
- Higher temperatures due to decreased ice cover and increased evaporation will lower Great Lakes and inland lakes levels.
- Increased evaporation will produce drier soils and increase drought which will lead to increased irrigation which will lower lakes and ground water levels, affecting agriculture, industry, and households.
- Lower ground water levels will lead to extraction of water from already lowered lakes.
- Lower ground water and lake levels will diminish wetlands, the breeding grounds and homes for innumerable

fish, amphibians, songbirds, water fowl, mammals, and invertebrates.

- More severe storms will occur. This coupled with loss of wetlands will cause more flooding and erosion.
- Pests and diseases—such as soybean beetles, corn borers, gypsy moths, Lyme disease, and West Nile virus—will expand their range northward.
- Increased temperatures will lead to more air conditioning to more fossil fuel burning to more pollution to more asthma and other respiratory diseases.
- Native aquatic communities will fundamentally change as cold and cool water species such as trout, whitefish and walleye decline, while warm water species such as zebra mussels and carp spread northward.
- Prolonged increased water temperatures will increase the duration of summer stratification in lakes leading to oxygen-depleted dead zones.
- Forest fire frequency and intensity will increase.
- Increased temperature will shrink coniferous forests and expand deciduous forests, changing animal populations as well.
- Resident birds may breed earlier and produce more broods, thus reducing food availability for migratory birds.

These devastating effects will be happening around the planet. However, we can act to lessen it . . .

WHAT CAN YOU DO TO HELP?

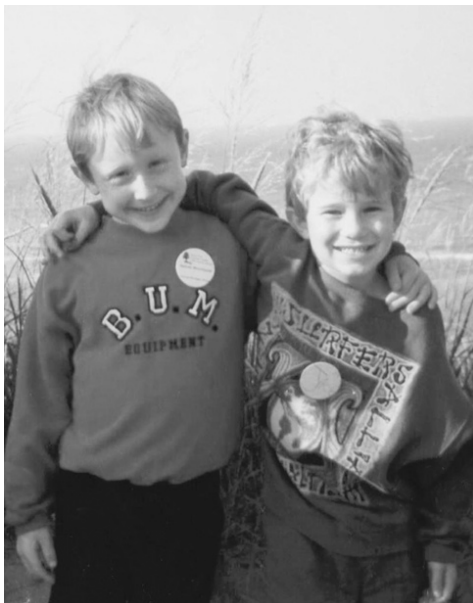
- Drive the most fuel efficient vehicle you can (ask me about my hybrid!). Try to reduce your miles.
- Maximally insulate your house to reduce heating and cooling costs.
- Use energy efficient appliances and lighting. Use fans instead of air conditioning.
- Don't contribute to sprawl.
- Demand more fuel efficient vehicles from automakers and the government.
- Lobby for more public transportation.
- Tell the utilities and government to rapidly switch from fossil fuels to renewable energies.

CALL TO ACTION

Contact the Bush administration and tell them to implement the Kyoto Protocol on global climate change. (See contact information on page 22.)

Read the full report at www.davidsuzuki.org.

“The question of the environment is more ominous than war. I’m more worried about global warming than I am of any major military conflict.”
—Hans Blix, Chief UN Weapons Inspector



Make “Forever” Friends at the Annual Mackinac Chapter Fall Retreat

by Wanda Bloomquist and Lisa Wickman, Fall Retreat Committee

Lisa’s first Retreat was as the organizer in 1994. She invited Wanda (who was not yet a member) in 1995. They’ve both been “regulars” ever since, bringing their children, Jace and Gage Wickman and Nathan Bloomquist, with them. This year Wanda and Lisa are co-organizers of the Retreat, with a built in work-crew.

We look forward to the annual Retreat as our last hurrah of summer. One last weekend to dig our toes in the sand, sing around the campfire, and walk the woods before the grind of a new year begins.

Attending the annual Sierra Club Fall Retreat has become a memory maker in our families. When we sit around reminiscing, we know we’ll talk about our favorite holidays, vacations, birthdays... and the Fall Retreats. On our walls at home, we both have the same picture of our boys, arms entwined, bodies covered in sand, with the biggest smiles in the world, standing on the tallest dune at Miniwanca. It was taken when the boys were six. Now 14, the two of them pretty much feel like they own the place when we go back each year. Jace says, “I love the free time, lots of free time and fresh air. We always have a race after lunch to see who’s the first to the water.” Nathan adds, “The weekend flies by and is never long enough!”

We look forward to the annual Retreat as our last hurrah of summer. One last weekend to dig our toes in the sand, sing around the campfire, and walk the woods before the grind of a new year begins. It is also a time to get serious. We make goals for ourselves to stick with a new yoga routine, read up on a breaking environmental issue, or explore a new interest (often inspired by a presenter or a person we sat next to at lunch).

The Retreat is not just for families. At least one couple met at the Retreat, fell in love

and were married. (We’re not naming names, but you can ask past retreat chairs Julie and Mark if this is true.) Many more people have been inspired to join the Sierra Club, get involved with environmental issues and go on to make a difference. Many of us “regulars” have friends who we only see once a year—at the Retreat. We use this time to get caught up on the issues happening in each other’s backyards, to get fresh ideas for our local groups, and to make contacts for our personal, professional and Sierra Club lives.

Lisa has this recurring thought each year: “Sometimes it seems like a lot of money when I write the check for the whole family in August, but without fail, when I’m on my way home Sunday, reflecting on all the good things that happened there, I always feel like I got more than my money’s worth.” Her favorite keynote speaker was Sierra Club Executive Director Carl Pope, in 1994. One of her funniest memories was watching amateur auctioneer Mike Keeler wrangle \$100 out of the crowd for a box of chocolate bars with endangered species wrappers at last year’s retreat. Her most touching moment? Seeing Gage and Wanda build a somewhat lopsided birdhouse together two years ago.

Gage Wickman attended his first Retreat at two months old. Now eight, Gage says what the Sierra Club Fall Retreat means to him is, “Beautiful lakes, big giant dunes and being with my friends.” Camp Miniwanca has an unmistakable charm, both architecturally and spiritually. Once there, you understand what pulls us back every year. Whatever your reason—the lake, the issues, personal growth, or making “forever” friends—please join us at this year’s Sierra Club Fall Retreat.

Rest. Relax. Rejuvenate your soul.

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Capitol Watch 2003

DOLLARS DOWN; GARBAGE MUST WAIT

by Anne Woiwode, Mackinac Chapter Director

MONEY MATTERS

The Legislature and Governor Granholm struck a disappointing deal for the budget for the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ), thus raising questions about the adequacy of funding for Michigan's pollution regulatory programs. In addition, funding for the agency was left in the air, with essential fees for several pollution permits—including water pollution control permits—remaining unpassed by the House as legislators went on summer break.

The legislatively-passed MDEQ budget assumes \$3 million in fee revenues from water pollution control fees, approximately half a million less than fee levels set by the Senate, and just 41 percent of the Governor's original proposed fee. Collectively, the Legislature's actions leave Michigan taxpayers with significant subsidies for pollution regulatory programs, while at the same time threatening to set funding levels too low to cover even minimal requirements for enforcement and monitoring of polluters.

House action on bills to set fees for several MDEQ permits have been delayed until the fall, but several regulated industries—in particular CAFO promoters—are expected to spend the summer seeking exemptions from any permit fees.

TRASH ON HOLD

An array of legislation to regulate both in-state and out-of-state trash was held over to the fall due to a lack of time for addressing the issues this spring. Representative Ruth Johnson, chair of the House Land Use Committee, has committed to bringing the bills up in September.

LAND USE LEGISLATIVE ACTION IN FALL

As the Michigan Land Use Leadership Council (MLULC) completes its work (see related story, page 15), smart growth advocates are bracing for a flurry of legislation to be introduced in the fall. While the collective will to push for land use reform has never been higher, the success of reform depends heavily on legislators hearing from their constituents telling them that the time has come for action. This spring, one land use bill, authorizing neighboring communities to establish joint Planning Commissions, passed the legislature and was signed into law by Governor Granholm.

COME TO A LANSING LOBBY DAY!

This fall the Legislative Committee is sponsoring a Lansing Lobby Day and invites Sierra Club members to join us for a day in the state's capitol. Meet with elected officials and advocate for environmental issues. Contact Lydia Fischer or Anne Woiwode (see information in box at right) to find out more about the Lansing Lobby Day.

Our State Legislators need to hear from more than just the special interests in Lansing...

... they need to hear from people in their districts about why protecting Michigan's environment is so important.

The Chapter Legislative Committee is inviting you to become a "District Watchdog"—joining a group of Sierra Club members who are willing to stand up for our state's environment by visiting their Legislators in their home district, writing them a letter or an e-mail, making a phone call to them, or writing to their local paper on behalf of important pro-environment legislation.

You don't have to be an expert—just someone who cares about Michigan's environment. We will supply you with information. You don't have to spend lots of time either, just the willingness to respond to occasional alerts that will come when your voice can be most effective.

To join, please contact Lydia Fischer, Legislative Committee Chair, 313-863-8392 or lydfisch@mindspring.com, or Anne Woiwode, Mackinac Chapter Director, 517-484-2372 or mackinac.chapter@sierraclub.org.

Champions of Michigan's Forests: Three People Making a Difference

by Anne Woiwode, Mackinac Chapter Director



NANCY SHIFFLER

When the Huron Manistee National Forest sent out a notice about proposed oil and gas drilling in the South Branch Semi-Primitive Area this summer, Forest Committee Chair Nancy Shiffler knew immediately just how bad of an idea this was. That's because in the early 1990s Nancy served as a Sierra Club representative on a Forest Service planning team considering future management plans in this area.

Nancy came to know this remote part of the Huron Manistee quite well. Situated along the Au Sable River, she's explored the South Branch Semi-Private Area with other Sierra Club volunteers and pored over documents and maps. She was also there when the Forest Service decided in 1993 that any drilling in the South Branch should be located along the paved county road, not next to the dirt road that provides primary access to the revered Mason Chapel (which sits in the middle of the state-owned Mason Tract).

Not only does Nancy have a clear memory of these events, she has the complete documentation of the process and discussions. As a result, her comments on this proposal will play a crucial role in the efforts by Sierra Club and conservation groups state-wide to protect this precious place from drilling.

A deep love of Michigan's forests, in-depth training early on, and an ongoing involvement with the issues have made Nancy Shiffler one of the Sierra Club's most articulate and steady voices on forest protection in Michigan. Nancy's roots in this effort began in the Huron Valley Group more than a dozen years ago with a study group convened by dedicated volunteers to track implementation of the first National Forest Plans in Michigan.

During the past dozen years, Nancy has served in many leadership roles in the Mackinac Chapter, but her dedication to forest protection has been constant throughout. Michigan is a much richer state because of her work.



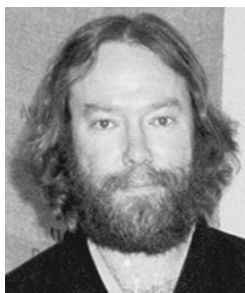
MARK JANECKO

A resident of Harrison, Mark Janeczko enjoys living near many public forest lands, where he hunts, cross country skis, hikes and camps. In the last few years Mark has joined other Sierra Club volunteers in trainings on identification and mapping of old growth and aspen areas on Michigan's public lands, as well as on how to be effective in shaping Michigan's public forest management.

Mark and his wife Julie Murphy have mapped public lands and gathered information that has been entered into the Mackinac Chapter's database (this information

will inform comments on forest planning). Mark also follows management of State Forest lands near his home. By attending open houses, monitoring compartment reviews and discussing his concerns for management with the Department of Natural Resource managers, Mark continues to help shape the future direction of these lands.

A supporter of old growth forest—as well as an avid hunter—Mark Janeczko brings to our work on forest issues a point of view that dramatically broadens the management discussions of our public forests.



MARVIN ROBERSON

"I like forests and I like to argue," is how Marvin Roberson jokingly explains his commitment to the fight for Michigan's vast but threatened forest lands. Marvin has spent more than a decade working to hold state and federal forest managers accountable to Michigan citizens for the protection of these precious lands.

Marvin's involvement in Michigan forest issues was sparked when he came across a clearcut of state forest lands near his family cabin at Higgins Lake. Compelled to take action, he called the Sierra Club Nepessing Group and was soon a volunteer with the Mackinac Chapter.

In the mid-1990's Marvin became the founding chairman of the Sierra Club Wild Planet Strategy Team. Yet his focus never strayed far from Michigan's public forests. He played a role in bringing dramatic change to the Michigan DNR's public involvement process for the state forest system, as well as contributing to the effort that demands science be used in the decisions affecting these lands.

Michigan's three National Forests are of particular interest for Marvin. He immerses himself in the minutiae of federal law, establishing a virtually unparalleled knowledge of the statutes and rules governing the management of the National Forest system. Marvin uses that knowledge to force better management of these lands. Recently, the Mackinac Chapter loaned Marvin to the national Sierra Club to assist in the drafting of detailed comments on new rules the Bush Administration is attempting to adopt. These new rules have the potential to undercut years of work to improve the management of forest lands.

One of the best activists in the country on forest policy, Roberson continues to prepare for future arguments. He recently he earned an undergraduate degree in resource ecology from the University of Michigan at Flint, and will soon begin graduate work at the University of Michigan School of Natural Resources and Environment.

National Forests at a Crossroads

by Marvin Roberson, Mackinac Chapter Forest Policy Specialist

It has long been noted that the Chinese character for *opportunity* is the same as that for *danger*. Perhaps the reason for this is that in order to take advantage of an opportunity, one must make a choice, and there is always the possibility of making the wrong (dangerous) choice.

This might be the appropriate theme for the forest planning activities about to begin on Michigan's three National Forests. The Huron-Manistee, Hiawatha and Ottawa National Forests are federally-owned public land in Michigan, encompassing over three million acres of forest lands. Every 10-15 years, these forests go through a process of planning which results in a forest plan, which will then guide the management direction of the forests for the next 15 years.

This process affords the public an opportunity to help shape the direction of these forests, but it also presents a danger. Michigan's forests were essentially removed over a century ago, and are just now beginning to recover. Before the Paul Bunyan era of logging, much of Michigan looked like Hartwick Pines, the state park where people go to enjoy the majesty and splendor of old-growth white pine groves. What most people don't realize—and what our forest managers rarely mention—is that Hartwick Pines represents the natural state of much of our landscape, and it is only through active decisions to prevent this recovery that we don't have more of it.

On much of the public forest land in Michigan, decisions are made to cut the trees before the older, long-lived species can take hold, and essentially set the clock back to the beginning, over and over again. Most residents of our state don't realize that we are being denied forests the equal of any on earth so that a few pulp and paper companies can have the wood from our forests.

This is where the danger and the opportunity exists. During this planning process on the National forests, managers and the public will be faced with a choice: do we want to allow our forests to recover to the majesty towards which they are moving, or will we choose to force this process back, so we can have more of the scrawny young forests that industry wants?

This question is particularly germane now, due in part to the stage of recovery we happen to be at presently, but also due to the political

situation. The current Bush administration is particularly beholden to industry. In fact, the Undersecretary of Agriculture—who oversees the entire forest service—was formerly the timber industry's chief lobbyist. The Bush administration has aggressively rolled back forest protections both new and old, and has plans to simply turn over much of the management of the nation's public forests to the timber industry.

For these reasons, the Sierra Club Mackinac Chapter will be aggressively participating in the forest planning process on all three national forests in Michigan. Our objective will be fairly simple: bigger, older forests with less roads. In other words, forests of the type the species that are here evolved with, and forests of the type which are trying to make a comeback in Michigan. Michigan has some of the youngest, most heavily roaded national forests in the country, and we will be pushing very hard to let them recover from this state.

To date, the Mackinac Chapter has attended public meetings, submitted written comments, and provided training to activists regarding how to participate in the forest planning process. We will continue to do so as the process unfolds. The formal beginning of the planning process on all three national forests will be the end of September, when they will publish a legal notice in the Federal Register announcing the beginning of the process. At that time a series of public meetings will be held, which we will post on our website.

If you are interested in getting involved in this process, contact Marvin Roberson at 517-484-2372 or marvin.roberson@sierraclub.org. You may also contact the national forests at the phone numbers below and ask to be placed on their contact list for forest planning.

Huron-Manistee National Forest, Cadillac:
800-821-6263

Hiawatha National Forest, Escanaba:
906-786-4062

Ottawa National Forest, Ironwood:
906-932-1330



PHOTO COURTESY MARVIN ROBBERSON

Michigan Forest Biodiversity Program training in the bush.

Meet one of Michigan's Environmental Heroes

by David Holtz, Mackinac Editorial Board

Growing up in rural Ohio, Marty Fluharty likes to say she lived her childhood in an oak tree. She'd splash through creeks and run through fields, giving her parents fits—and her life the beginnings of purpose. Nature would be nurture for Fluharty. Trees, she said, “always hugged back.”

Today Fluharty is arguably one of America's most influential tree-huggers. She directs tens of millions of dollars on behalf of two environmental foundations, has advised four Michigan governors on environmental policy (she's currently an advisor to the Granholm administration), and has written two books on land use. And in every single state with a Sierra Club chapter, Fluharty has trained leaders and activists. Fluharty's roots run deep with the club, beginning in 1969, when she got her start as an environmental activist by saving a park from development in Alma, Michigan, where she lived at the time.

“It was a little park I loved,” she recalled. “So I wrote and said ‘why don't you give this to the city?’ They wrote back and said ‘if the city wants it they can buy it like anyone else.’”

With the help of then-fledgling national Sierra Club Foundation, Fluharty raised \$78,000, bought the park, and deeded it to the city. Today, Pine River Park and its trees remain preserved and Fluharty's connection with the Sierra Club has come full circle: She is now President of the volunteer-led Sierra Club Foundation. She also serves as Executive Director of the Michigan-based Americana Foundation, which provides funding for the Michigan Forest Biodiversity Program.

Through the years Fluharty has written two books on land use and authored a handbook on how to start a Sierra Club group; she has also served as a volunteer leader with the Michigan and national club executive committees. Anne Woiwode, Sierra Club Mackinac Chapter director, describes Fluharty as a leader with vision who “has a wonderful way with everyone.”

But when Fluharty, a Republican, was appointed by Democratic Governor James Blanchard to serve on the Michigan Natural Resources Commission, some were aghast. One newspaper noted her impressive credentials but wrote, “we all know there's never been a good woman commissioner.” Several years later, when Blanchard proposed splitting up the Department of Natural Resources, then-Commission Chair and Blanchard appointee Fluharty testified in opposition to the proposal. The same newspaper that doubted Fluharty's gender qualifications was now crediting her with being “the only commissioner” with the guts to stand up to Blanchard.

On October 27 Fluharty will receive Michigan's highest environmental honor, the Helen and William Milliken Distinguished Service Award, presented annually by the Michigan Environmental Council. The award is named after one of Fluharty's early political heroes. Governor Milliken appointed Fluharty to the now-defunct Michigan Environmental



PHOTO BY DAVID HOLTZ

Marty Fluharty is arguably one of America's most influential tree-huggers.

Review Board, a panel of citizens and experts who advised the administration on policy. Milliken, she said, was about honor, ethics and doing the right thing.

“Bill Milliken believes you should stay true to your personal values and ethics and do the best job you possibly can and keep at it,” she said. “It is just an honor to be attached to Bill Milliken with this award.”

David Holtz formerly served as the Mackinac Chapter's media coordinator for Southeast Michigan. You can now find him at the Michigan Environmental Council, in Lansing, where he works as their Director of Communications and Development.

Shop to Stop Sprawl!

"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

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 what you spend will be donated to the Sierra Club.

We'll use the funds to fight the out-of-control development devastating Michigan. Each year, you can contribute hundreds of dollars to the fight against sprawl - at no cost to you!

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 (734) 717-8040 or by email at mssklar@comcast.net.

"I use EarthCash vouchers. I haven't changed what I buy or where I shop. But now we're contributing over \$200 each year to make our community a better place. It's easy, and it doesn't cost us a penny."

- Gwen Nystuen

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): \$ _____.

	\$5	\$10	\$20	\$25	\$50	\$100
Ann Arbor People's Food Co-op						
Arbor Farms						
Borders Books & Music						
Busch's						
Farmer Jack (and affiliated stores)						
Hiller's Markets						
Holiday Market (Royal Oak)						
Kroger (and affiliated stores)						
Meijer (store and gas station)						
Whole Foods (and affiliated stores)						

Your Name: _____
 Your Address: _____
 Your Phone number: _____
 Your email address: _____

Mail to:
 Michael Sklar
 10404 Kingston Avenue
 Huntington Woods, MI 48070
 (Your personal data will not be shared)

New Tools Proposed for Land Use Activism

by Rusty Gowland, Wakelin McNeel Group

The Michigan Land Use Leadership Council met on July 7, 2003, in Lansing to present and gain consensus on a draft of their recommendations for revised land use policies for our state. You may recall from the January issue of *The Mackinac* that this council was formed by Governor Granholm in February 2003 and aims to complete its report of recommendations to the Governor by the middle of August 2003.

Nearly 60 recommendations were presented at the meeting, emphasizing 1) reinvigoration of urban centers, 2) multi-jurisdictional planning of roads, sewers and schools, 3) protecting farmland and outdoor recreational land, and 4) the development of “green infrastructure.”

The recommendations stress the use of incentives and avoid any use of penalties and regulations. Incentives may include state funded education, training, tax breaks, research assistance, technical development and tourism advertisements. Possible funding sources were mentioned, but no concrete recommendations were offered.

Although the use of incentives lacks the powers of enforcement and accountability,

they do hold the promise of giving us new tools to use in grassroots activism efforts. For example, funding may be available for increased levels of Purchase of Development Rights (PDRs) and Transfer of Development Rights (TDRs) to be presented to farmers that have shown interest in selling their property to developers. Other tools would allow us to petition to define land parcels as part of other proposed programs, such as 1) Agricultural Security Areas (ASAs) that promote large parcels of land to remain allocated for farming for periods of 25 years—though Sierra Club will not be comfortable with ASAs unless they ban CAFOs from being included in them, 2) Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP) for the acquisition of boundaries

The recommendations stress the use of incentives and avoid any use of penalties and regulations.

for waterways, and 3) National Historic Area Designation to boost tourism and highlight cultural and natural beauty areas.

For more information about this meeting and the recommendations presented, contact Anne Woiwode, anne.woiwode@sierraclub.org, or Rusty Gowland, russell.h.gowland@accenture.com.

Chapter Funding Update



Joan Rose and Janet Kauffman take a water sample from a field tile outlet pipe in Lenawee County to analyze it for disease-causing bacteria. Water Sentinels all over Michigan are sampling streams impacted by factory farm waste. Member donations help realize important environmental field work like this. For more information on the Water Sentinels project, see the story on page six.

YOUR SUPPORT MAKES A DIFFERENCE!

by Sarah Baker, Mackinac Chapter Development Associate

THANK YOU, SIERRA CLUB DONORS

Mackinac Chapter members have contributed \$35,382 in response to our annual March appeal. These gifts help the Chapter continue the important work of protecting our environment right here in Michigan. We count on your support.

If you haven't mailed your annual gift yet, please do! If you would like more information on how to make a gift, or to fund one of our conservation priorities, please contact Sarah Baker, development officer, 269-383-6247 or sarah.baker@sierraclub.org.

RETREAT SPONSORS WANTED

Following in the tradition of John Muir, the Chapter volunteers are again organizing our annual fall retreat. Would your business like to be a retreat sponsor to help underwrite the cost of this event? Special signs will be posted on site in recognition of your important tax-deductible gift.

For more information on sponsorship, please contact Sarah Baker, development officer, 269-383-6247 or sarah.baker@sierraclub.org.

Group Meetings & Programs

Outings, political and conservation activities and general interest meetings are hosted regularly by groups throughout the state. There are numerous ways to get involved in your local group. Meetings are open to the public and everyone is welcome. Contact Group chairs (page 23) or those listed below. Up-to-the-minute outings and activities may be found on group websites or on the Mackinac Chapter website: <http://michigan.sierraclub.org>. [E] = educational content, [C] = conservation focus.

2003 Executive Committee Meetings

The Mackinac Chapter Executive Committee (Ex-Com) meets quarterly at locations around the state. Contact Kathy Boutin-Pasterz at the Chapter Office for details. Members are welcome and encouraged to attend.

FALL EX-COM..... September 4, Flint

WINTER EX-COM..... January 9-11, 2004, Location TBD

AG: Algonquin Group

Interested in helping to build an active Group or want information about the Sierra Club in this area? Contact Kathy Boutin-Pasterz, 517-484-2372.

CMG: Central Michigan Group

GENERAL MEETINGS: 5:30pm for supper (small donation requested), monthly meeting at 6:15, third Monday. Harris Nature Center, off Van Atta Road in Meridian Township. Pete Pasterz, 517-676-3339.

8/18 Picnic at Lake Lansing North, Oak Knoll Shelter. We'll have a fire going; bring food, beverage and tableware.

CONSERVATION COMMITTEE: 5:30pm monthly, second Monday. Maria Lapinski-LaFaive, 517-374-4444, mlapinsk@wmich.edu.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE: monthly, first Monday. Jerry Schuur, 517-351-7796.

CUP: Central Upper Peninsula Group

Central and western counties in the Upper Peninsula

GENERAL MEETINGS AND EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE: 7pm in Community Room, Peter White Library in Marquette. John Rebers, 906-228-3617, jrebers@nmu.edu.

CUP GROUP NEWS AND OUTINGS: Mail \$5 for newsletter subscription to Sierra Club, 338 West Crescent, Marquette, MI. 49855.

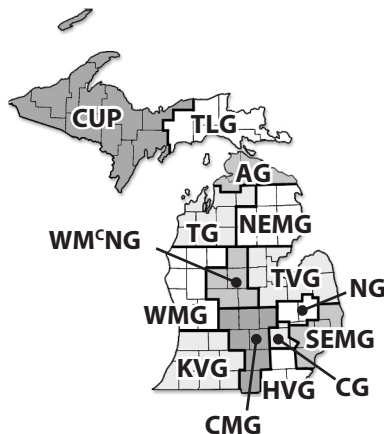
CG: Crossroads Group

<http://michigan.sierraclub.org/xroads>
Livingston, southern Genesee and western Oakland Counties

GENERAL MEETINGS: 7pm monthly, fourth Wednesday, at Brighton Public Library, 200 Orndorff Dr, Brighton. No meetings June, July or August.

CONSERVATION COMMITTEE: Meets monthly. Emily Gobright, Conservation Chair, emily@ismi.net, 517-548-0595.

OUTINGS COMMITTEE: Co-chairs Cheryl McConnell,



Group boundaries of the Mackinac Chapter Sierra Club

McConnell@cac.net, 517-552-1464; Ron Smith, rsmith9999@aol.com, 734-878-3689.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE: Meets monthly. Co-Chairs: Rick Pearsall, rick@pearsall.com, 810-227-6298; Karen Pierce, 810-227-8521, pierce@hartland.k12.mi.us.

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE: Lorne Beatty, lbeatty@bluechip-tech.com, 810-632-7766.

HVG: Huron Valley Group

www.mirror.org/groups/mi-enviro
HVG Hotline at 734-480-7751

GENERAL MEETINGS: 7:30pm monthly, third Tuesday, at UM Matthaei Botanical Gardens, 1800 N Dixboro Rd, Ann Arbor. Non-members welcome!

HVG BOOK CLUB: 7:30pm monthly, second Tuesday at Nicola's Books in Westgate Shopping Center, Ann Arbor. Small group book discussion about nature or the environment. Call 734-332-0207.

CONSERVATION TEAM: 7pm monthly, fourth Monday. Dave Brooks, 734-475-9851; Nancy Shiffler, 734-971-1157.

8/19 [C] What's Killing Our Ash Trees? presented by Dave Roberts of Michigan State University.

9/16 [E] Thinking Globally, Acting Locally: Getting Involved With Your Local Sierra Club Group.

10/15 [C] Preserving Open Space in Our Community.

11/19 (Tentative) Alone Across the Arctic: One Woman's Epic Journey by Dog Team presented by Pam Flowers.

KVG: Kalamazoo Valley Group

GENERAL MEETINGS: 7:30pm monthly, third Thursday, at Kalamazoo Valley Community College, Texas Twp Campus, Room 4370. Verne Mills, 269-344-4279 (evenings); 269-488-4268 (days).

10/16 [E] William McDonough Video: "The Next Industrial Revolution." Narrated by Susan Sarandon, this video shows how the marriage of economics and ecology, when applied to corporate decision-making, can change the world, ushering in a "clean manufacturing" revolution.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE: 7:30pm monthly, second Wednesday. Verne & Cindy Mills, 269-344-4279.

NG: Nepessing Group

www.michigan.sierraclub.org/nepessing

GENERAL MEETINGS: 7pm, monthly, second Wednesday at Mott Community College in "New Students" Prah Building, Genesee Room, 1401 E Court St, Flint. Free parking, refreshments. Linda Berker, 810-653-8242, lberker@earthlink.net.

NEMG: Northeast Michigan Group

Interested in helping to build an active Group or want information about the Sierra Club in this area? Contact Kathy Boutin-Pasterz, 517-484-2372.

SEMG: Southeast Michigan Group

www.michigan.sierraclub.org/semg

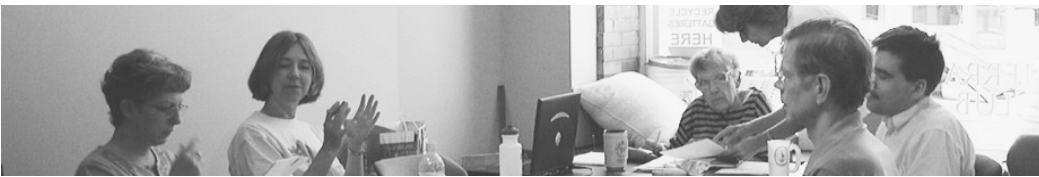
GENERAL MEETINGS: 6:30 or 7pm monthly Sept-June, first Thursday, at Northwest Unitarian Universalist Church, 23925 Northwestern Hwy (southbound M-10 service drive) between Southfield & Evergreen and Nine & Ten Mile in Southfield. Carol Izant, 248-352-6137, cogknot@yahoo.com.

9/48 Welcome new (and returning) members. 6:30pm Potluck. Bring a dish to pass.

10/4 Sat. Pasta dinner fundraiser hosted by the Political Committee.

11/6 [E] Pam Flowers completed the longest solo dog sled journey by a woman, and she has an evening of stories to tell. An advocate of the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge (ANWR), Pam's journey inspired her activism on behalf of arctic environmental concerns.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE: 7:30pm monthly, second Thursday at 2727 Second Avenue, Detroit. Jim Nash, 248-471-3759, nashlibdem@msn.com.



MEMBERS OF THE CONSERVATION COMMITTEE MEET JUNE 21, 2003, AT THE CHAPTER OFFICE IN LANSING. PHOTO: RITA JACK

CONSERVATION COMMITTEE: monthly meetings at 2727 Second Avenue, Detroit. Mary LaFrance, 734-282-6935.

OUTINGS COMMITTEE: quarterly planning meetings. Outings Chair Philip Crookshank, 313-562-1873, wanderphil3@netzero.net; Outings Coordinator Joanne Cantoni, 248-932-5370.

POLITICAL COMMITTEE: 6:30pm monthly, last Thursday, at Jimi's Restaurant on Washington, one block north of Lincoln (10-1/2 Mile), Royal Oak. Tim Killeen, Political Chair, 313-526-4052, timk@bikerider.com.

TLG: Three Lakes Group

Upper Peninsula counties of Chippewa, Luce, Mackinac and Schoolcraft

GENERAL MEETINGS: monthly Sept-May, first Wednesday, at Walker Cislser Center on the Lake Superior State University campus. Roger Blanchard, 906-253-9316, rblanchard@LSSU.edu.

BUSINESS MEETINGS: monthly in Sault Ste Marie. Floyd Byerly, 906-632-0218.

TVG: Thumb Valley Group

Interested in helping to build an active Group or want information about the Sierra Club in this area? Contact Kathy Boutin-Pasterz, 517-484-2372.

TG: Traverse Group

www.michigan.sierraclub.org/traverse

GENERAL MEETINGS: 1-3pm monthly, second Saturday, Traverse Area District Library, 610 Woodmere Ave, Traverse City. Monica, 231-325-6812; Lynn, 248-547-0842.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE: Meetings held following general meetings.

CONSERVATION COMMITTEE: 1-3pm monthly, fourth Sunday, Horizon Books, downstairs café, downtown Traverse City. Monica, 231-325-6812.

POLITICAL COMMITTEE: Monica, 231-325-6812.

OUTINGS COMMITTEE: John Lewis, 231-947-9104; Andrea Dean, 231-947-9344, deana@elmo.nmc.edu.

WMcNG: Wakelin McNeel Group

<http://michigan.sierraclub.org/wakelin-mcneel>

For information about the Sierra Club in this area, contact Kathy Boutin-Pasterz, 517-484-2372.

WMG: West Michigan Group

www.westmichigansierraclub.org

GENERAL MEETINGS: 6pm monthly, second Thursday, at downtown YMCA, 33 Library NE, Grand Rapids. Marty Lore, 616-682-1316.

Preserve The Future.

Not everyone can make a large gift to protect the environment during their lifetime, but you can preserve the environment for generations to come by remembering the Sierra Club in your will.

There are many gift options available. We can even help you plan a gift for your local Chapter.

For more information and confidential assistance, contact:

John Calaway
Director, Gift Planning
85 Second Street, 2nd Floor,
San Francisco, CA 94105
(415) 977-5639 or e-mail:
planned.giving@sierraclub.org



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Thank You Mackinac Chapter Sierra Club Members!

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Mackinac Chapter Outings

Abbreviations in capital letters signify the group planning the outing. Refer to the Group Meetings map, page 16, to determine a group's location. [E] = educational content, [C] = conservation focus, [T] = trail maintenance. Trips begin at the trailhead. Fees are a suggested donation. Outings are open to everyone. All participants on Sierra Club outings are required to sign a standard liability waiver. If you would like to read the liability waiver before you chose to participate on an outing, please go to: www.sierraclub.org/outings/chapter/forms, or contact the Outings Department at 415-977-5528 for a printed version.

August

8/16 WMG Kayaking at the Kalamazoo Nature Center. Kayak with a naturalist from the Kalamazoo Nature Center as part of their "Connecting Women & Nature" series. Lisa Symons, 616-942-6549; Jen Wright at the Nature Center, 269-381-1574.

8/17 SEMG [E] Algonac State Park. 11:30am. 4 moderate miles. Explore oak & prairie savanna. View passing freighters on St. Clair River. Meet in Troy behind the Standard Federal Bank on 14 Mile, east of I-75 (S of mall) or at 1pm at park entrance. Optional restaurant stop. Sudha Chhaya, 248-219-3326.

8/22-8/24 NG South Manitou Island Base Camp & Day Hike. Explore old buildings, virgin cedar forest, ship wrecks & sand dunes. Hike 0.3 miles to campsite; day hike Fri & Sat. Take ferry from Fishtown in Leland. Make individual ferry reservations, 231-256-9061 (\$23 round trip). National Park entrance fees. Must call Don Persson, 810-257-7441(d), 810-695-0516(e), Donald.persson@delphi.com.

8/22-8/25 TG Two-Hearted River Canoe/Hike. Starts 5pm Fri. Easy. Car camp at State Forest campground at mouth of Two-Hearted River on Lake Superior. Canoe Sat & hike the North Country Trail on Sun. Nightly campfire. Group potluck Sun night. Camp fee \$6/day; outings donation \$1; canoe rental \$30 from Rainbow Lodge. Campsites are first come, first served, but we'll have a few tagged. BYO food & gear. Prepare for rain & cool nights. Limit 14. Reserve by 8/1 & get directions: Lynn Livingston, 248-547-0842, redwingnut@sprintmail.com.

8/24 SEMG [E,C] Pickerel Lake Hike, Swim & Picnic. 10am. Join Ed McArdle, conservation co-chair, on 5+ mile hilly hike in Pinckney Rec Area. View Pickerel Lake (slated for "improvement" by the DNR) from the Crooked Lake trail. Bring swimsuit & trail lunch. Optional restaurant stop. Park entrance fee. Meet in Livonia between WalMart & Jiffy Lube on SW corner of Middlebelt & I-96. Ed McArdle, 313-388-6645.

8/29-9/3 CUP [E] Advanced-level backpacking: McCormick Tract (Champion, Marquette Co). Explore the wildest, remotest, trail-less tract in the UP. Rugged, pristine bivouacs among moose & wolves. Strenuous. No trails, 100% bushwhack with deep-water lake/river/swamp fords or swims. Not a basecamp trip; trek every day. Instruction in tarp rigging & land navigation. Must be: 18, non-smoker, very experienced backpacker (5 recent trips), very

physically fit (good aerobic endurance), swimmer, adventurous & fully equipped (bivouac gear, stove, rations, etc.). 8am Fri to midday Wed. \$10. Info & photo-journals at <http://therucksack.tripod.com>. Michael Neiger, mneiger@hotmail.com, 906-226-9620.

8/30 SEMG [E] Maybury State Park Bird Hike. 11am. 4-mile moderately paced hike through late summer woods & fields on the lookout for resident bluebirds, meadowlarks & other wildlife. Rain or shine. Meet at park concession building, Eight Mile Rd entrance. Optional restaurant stop. Tom Griebe, 248-349-8782.

September

9/5-9/7 NG North Manitou Island Backpack. Easy. Beautiful, flat, wilderness island. Hike 7 miles to west side of island. Camp 2 nights on bluff overlooking Lake Michigan. Day hike interior on Sat; early hike out Sun to catch ferry. No dogs. Take Manitou Island Transport Ferry Dock from Fishtown in Leland. Make individual ferry reservations, 231-256-9061 (\$22 round trip). National Park entrance fees. Must call Don Persson, 810-257-7441(d), 810-695-0516(e), Donald.persson@delphi.com.

9/6 HVG Lakeland Rails to Trails Bike Ride. 9am. Bike converted pathway through Pinckney-Stockbridge area. Trail bikes recommended; helmet required. Bring snack. Meet at Ann Arbor City Hall parking lot. John Schumacher, 734-662-8007.

9/6 WMG [E] Eco-Tour. Join the Kalamazoo River Protection Association for eco-tour of local endangered forests. Picnic afterward & "eco-float" down wild stretch of the Kalamazoo River. Lisa Symons, 616-942-6549.

9/7 HVG Bird Hills Hike. 1pm. Leisurely 4 miles. Meet at Ann Arbor City Hall parking lot. Ken Morley, 734-677-7791.

9/7 SEMG [E] Cass Benton Park Hike. 12:30pm. Hike 5 miles over rolling hills named after the historic Cass. Explore more than 400 species of shrubs & trees in Bennett Arboretum. Meet in picnic area, NW corner of 6 Mile Rd & Northville Rd. Restaurant stop. Lee Becker, 586-294-7789; Liz Allingham, 313-581-7579.

9/13 HVG [C] Adopt-a-Highway Clean-up. 9:15am. Help keep M-14 beautiful. Make a visible & positive change in our local environment. Meet at Big Boy

on north side of Plymouth Rd between US-23 & Green Rd, Ann Arbor. Expect to finish at 12:15. Kathy Guerreso, 734-994-7030.

9/13 NG Pine River Kayaking/Canoe Trip. 9am sharp at Elm Flats. 20 difficult miles. Starts in Lake County; Elm Flats to Low Bridge. Pine River is fast, numerous rapids. Participate at own risk. Restaurant stop TBD. Bring boat, lunch, etc. National Forest Recreation Vehicle Pass required. Reserve: Cindy Engelmann, 810-715-0660.

9/13 SEMG Outings Committee Scheduling Meeting. 5:30pm. Quarterly planning meeting & potluck dinner for those interested in leading outings. Bring dish to pass & ideas for winter/spring outings. Cindy Gunnip, 248-336-2984.

9/14 WMG Walk Blandford Nature Center. After the Organic Harvest Festival. Lisa, 616-942-6549.

9/14 SEMG [E] Island Lake Hike. 11am. 8 fast-paced miles. ID late wildflowers along Huron River & thick forests. Meet in Southfield behind Marathon station at Tel-Twelve Mall, SE corner of Telegraph & 12-Mile Rd. Rain or shine. Restaurant stop. Cindy Gunnip, 248-336-2984.

9/19 HVG Friday Night Hike. 6pm. Short 5-mile hike at EMUs offsite field lab, Loesell Lab. Meet at K-Mart parking lot, Washtenaw & Golfside. Gary Hannan, 734-484-4906.

9/20-9/21 NG Shinglemill Pathway Fall Backpack. 9:30am Sat at trailhead. Easy, flat, beautiful trail. Backpack 7 miles Sat, 4 miles Sun. Contact Dave Mansfield, 810-658-0406, mansfieldd@chartermi.net.

9/21 KVG Apple Cider Pressing. 2-5pm. Learn how to make cider at our fall cider-pressing party. Bring apples, your crank-turning muscles & clean containers (a bushel makes 2-3 gallons) to catch your cider as it comes off the press. Snacks provided. Meet at 8866 N 14th Street, Kalamazoo. Call 269-344-4279.

9/21 SEMG Holly Rec Area Hike. Noon. 5 moderate miles. Explore thick forests, rolling hills & lakes left by glaciers. Meet in Troy behind Standard Federal Bank on 14 Mile Rd, east of I-75 (S side of Oakland Mall). Restaurant stop. Call if weather questionable. Sudha Chhaya, 248-219-3326.

9/27 WMG Farm Harvest Festival. Join larger group at Lubbers Family Farm for hayride, bonfire, band &



CHAPTER EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS ENJOYING LEELENAU STATE PARK. PHOTO COURTESY ANNE WOIWODE

potluck (bring a dish to pass & your own table service). This annual event is fabulous fun! Beth Laug, 616-456-0804; 616-698-6661 (evenings), BLaug@grymca.org.

9/27 NG Lapeer State Game Area West Unit Day Hike. 10am. 6 moderate miles. Park at Valentine Rd lot. M-24 north to Plum Creek, west to Valentine, north 2 miles to lot on left. Meet at trailhead. Dogs allowed. Vehicle permit required. Linda Berker, 810-653-8242(d), 810-653-0142(e), DL1james@aol.com.

9/27 TG Sleeping Bear Dunes Bay View Trail Hike. 7-mile trail divided into several shorter loops through beech-maple forest, old farm fields & pine plantation. Spectacular views of Lake Michigan. Trailhead: north-bound vehicles take second Thoreson Rd junction off M22 (3.5mi) north of Glen Arbor. National Lakeshore visitors fee required. Andrea Dean, 231-947-9344, andreadean113@msn.com.

9/28 SEMG [E] Brighton Rec Area Hike. Noon. Moderate to quick paced, 5-mile hike. ID late summer wildflowers & first hints of fall colors. Dress for weather; bring water & trail snacks. Meet in Southfield behind Marathon station at Tel-Twelve Mall, SE corner of Telegraph & 12-Mile Rd. Restaurant stop. Michael Scanlon, 313-884-2214.

October

10/2-6 CUP [E] Intermediate-level backpacking & basic spelunking: Pictured Rocks National Lakeshore (Munising, Alger Co). Explore prime shoreline section of unique lakeshore as well as visit several wilderness caves hidden deep in the backcountry, including the 2,000-person Amphitheater, Down & Out, Coal Hole, Raptor, Split Roof. Not a basecamp trip; trek every day. Instruction in tarp rigging & land navigation. Must be: 18, non-smoker, experienced foul-weather backpacker (3 recent trips), physically fit (good aerobic endurance), swimmer, adventurous & fully equipped (UIAA- or CEN-approved climbing helmet, bivouac gear, stove, rations, etc.). 8am Thur to midday Mon. \$10. Info & photo-journals at <http://therucksack.tripod.com>. Michael Neiger, mneiger@hotmail.com, 906-226-9620.

10/3-6 SEMG Gerard Hiking Trail Backpack Trip. 36-mile loop in Oil City State Park in NW Pennsylvania. Scenic vistas, waterfalls & historic sites. 10 miles/two days. Meet locally 7am Fri (meeting location TBD). Tent sites & adirondack-type shelters with fireplaces, toilet & water supply. Bring own backpacking equipment, food/water for 4 days. \$60 estimate for trip, park & rideshare. Limit 8. Must reserve by 9/27. John Calandra, 248-391-8973, johnndcal@comcast.com.

10/4 NG Lapeer State Game Area Hike. 10am. 5 moderate miles. No vehicle permit required. Dogs allowed. From I-69 & M-24, go north on M-24 4 miles to Daley

Rd. Turn east, go 3 miles to Fish Lake Rd, north 3 miles to Eastern Michigan Kresge Center. Marian Listowak, 810-688-3192.

10/4 TG Bass Lake Kayak/Canoe/Hike. 10am. Meet at parking lot at end of Trails End Road. Bring kayak, canoe, binoculars & hiking boots. Monica Evans, 231-325-6812, imagine@betsievalley.net.

10/4-10/5 NG Llama Packing. 9am. Craig Lake area or Yellow Dog River area with pack llamas carrying your gear. Camp Sat along trail. Backpackers carrying own gear welcome also. No dogs. Reservations required; limit 8. Dave Foy, 810-636-2059, foyllama@yahoo.com.

10/5 SEMG [E] Proud Lake Day Hike. Noon. Easy 5-mile hike through pine plantings, climax forests, swamps, ponds & river edges. Meet in Southfield behind the Marathon station at Tel-Twelve Mall, SE corner of Telegraph & 12-Mile Rd. Restaurant stop. Liz Allingham, 313-581-7579.

10/11 NG Moonlit Hike & Campfire. 6:30pm. 6 difficult miles. Ortonville Recreation Area Equestrian Campground. Dogs allowed. Vehicle permit required. Cookout after. Hadley Rd 4 miles south of Hadley to Fox Lake Rd, west on Fox Lake about 1 mile. Park on north side of Fox Lake Rd. Bring chair, food, beverage & flashlight. Terry Lemmer, 810-732-9902.

10/11 SEMG Green Lake Overnight Campout. Overnight campout in rustic camp followed by Waterloo hike on Sun. Arrive Sat (or Fri), set up, paddle the lake, fish, hike & supper cookout. Break camp Sun after breakfast & drive 10 miles to trailhead. \$20 includes camping & 3 meals: Sat supper, Sun breakfast & lunch. Reservations required by 9/28. Philip Crookshank, 17916 Colgate, Dearborn Heights, MI. 48125. 313-562-1873.

10/11-10/12 SEMG [E] Waterloo-Pinckney Area Backpack. Hike 6 miles of Waterloo-Pinckney Trail on Sat morning, then join basecampers Sat night sharing gourmet meal. Pack up on Sun & loop back to starting point. Must have own equipment. Contact John Herrgott by 10/1. 248-766-9575, johnherrgott@hotmail.com.

10/11-10/12 NG Jordan River Pathway Fall Backpack. Meet Sat, 9:30am at trailhead. Moderate 10 miles on Sat, 9 miles Sun. M-32 west out of Gaylord to US-131. Turn left (south) 1.5 miles to Deadman's Hill Rd. Turn right (west) to parking area. Reservations: Don Persson, 810-257-7441(d), 810-695-0516(e), Donald.persson@delphi.com.

10/12 HVG Dexter Cider Mill Bike Ride. 1pm. 16-mile roundtrip ride on paved roads from Barton Park in Ann Arbor (about 1 mile west of Main on Huron River Dr). Helmet required. Rain/shine. Milton French, 313-295-6321.

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see *OUTINGS*, page 20



KIDS OF ALL AGES HAVING FUN AT A PREVIOUS MACKINAC CHAPTER ANNUAL RETREAT. DON'T FORGET TO REGISTER FOR THIS YEAR'S RETREAT! SEE PAGES EIGHT AND NINE FOR MORE INFO. PHOTO COURTESY ANNE WOIWODE

OUTINGS, continued from page 20

10/12 NG Bald Mountain Hike, North Unit. 1pm. 6 moderate miles. Vehicle permit required. M-24 to Lake Orion, east on Flint St to Orion Rd to left on Stoney Creek Rd to left on Harmon Rd. Trailhead parking at Harmon & Predmore. Restaurant stop. Greg & Mary Downey, 810-664-4917, marydowney@blclinks.net.

10/12 SEMG Bald Mountain Hiking. Noon. A 5-mile hike at a moderate pace to view fall colors. Meet in Troy behind the Standard Federal Bank on 14 Mile Rd just east of I-75 (S edge of Oakland Mall). Restaurant stop. Lee Becker, 586-294-7789.

10/13 NG Columbus Day Holiday: Murphy Lake Hike/ Kayak. 9am. 6 difficult miles. Bring lunch. Kayak/canoe around Murphy Lake after hike. No vehicle permit required. Dogs allowed. M-15 to Millington, east 4 miles to Millington Rd (only stop light in Millington). Trailhead across from Mt. Kotarski sign. Gloria Bublitz, 810-664-0304, glorypepper@yahoo.com.

10/18 NG Hadley Hills Lookout Mountain Hike. 10am. 6 difficult miles. M-15 one mile south of

Goodrich to Green Rd, east 2 miles to Washburn Rd, south 1 mile to Fox Lake Rd, east 0.5 mile. Trailhead on north. Vehicle permit required. Dave Mansfield, 810-658-0406, mansfieldd@chartermi.net.

10/19 HVG Crooked Trail Hike. 1pm. 4-mile hike over glacial terrain. Meet at Ann Arbor City Hall parking lot. Milton French, 313-295-6321; Beatrice Green, 734-975-1383.

10/19 SEMG [E] Kensington Fall Hike. Noon. Moderate 5-mile walk. View fall colors & ID migrating birds. Meet in Southfield behind Marathon station at Tel-Twelve Mall, SE corner of Telegraph & 12-Mile Rd; or 12:45 at Nature Center in Kensington. Call if rainy. Restaurant stop. Jean Mercier, 313-581-6648.

10/25 TG Good Harbor Bay Hike. Flat 2.8 mile loop passes through woodland, coastal dunes & swamp. Historic portion of Leelanau County is one of northern Michigan's most beloved environmental treasures. Trailhead: Take M-22 to county road 669 (8 miles north of Glen Arbor). Follow 669 toward Lake Michigan. Turn right on Lake Michigan Rd & to the trailhead. National Lakeshore pass required. Monica Evans, 231-325-6812, imagine@betsievalley.net.

10/25 SEMG [E] Maybury State Park Hike. 11am. Moderate-pace, 4-mile hike through autumn shaded woods & golden, frosted fields. Learn history of old sanitarium site turned into State Park. Rain or shine. Meet at park concession building, Eight Mile Rd entrance. Optional restaurant stop. Tom Griebel, 248-349-8782.

10/25-10/26 NG Hoist Lakes Backpack. Moderate. 9 miles Sat, 6 miles Sun. \$5 permit required (purchase at Glennie Party Store). Call for details. Don Persson, 810-257-7441(d), 810-695-6529(e), Donald.persson@delphi.com.

10/31-11/3 CUP [E] Intermediate-level Backpacking: North Country Trail (Chippewa & Mackinac Cos.) Explore interesting section of trail & adjoining bush. Instruction in tarp rigging & land navigation. Must be: 18, non-smoker, experienced foul-weather, 15-degree backpacker (3 recent trips), physically fit (good aerobic endurance), swimmer, adventurous & fully equipped (bivouac gear, stove, rations, etc). 8am Fri to midday Mon. \$10. Info & photo-journals: <http://therucksack.tripod.com>. Michael Neiger, mneiger@hotmail.com, 906-226-9620.

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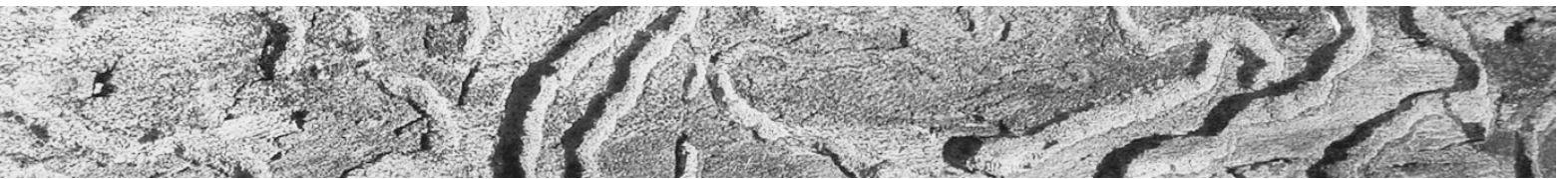
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"Rascal" was drawn by John Nystuen, Huron Valley Group member.

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A FALLEN TREE LIMB ETCHED BY INSECTS NEAR CADILLAC. NATIVE INSECTS PLAY CRITICAL ROLES IN NATURAL FORESTS, FROM POLLINATION TO HELPING BREAK DOWN FALLEN TREES. PHOTO: ANNE WOIWODE

November

11/1 SEMG Bald Mountain North Area Hike.

12:30pm. Moderate-brisk, 5+ miles. View lakes, ponds & late fall colors on rolling hilly. Meet in Troy behind Standard Federal Bank on 14 Mile Rd (S edge of Oakland Mall). Optional restaurant stop. Don McHarness, 248-814-9937; Cindy Gunnip, 248-336-2984.

11/1 NG Holly Recreation Area Hike. 10am. 7-10 moderate miles. Dixie Hwy to Grange Hall Rd, east to McGinnis Rd, right on McGinnis to park entrance. Meet in Overlook Parking Lot. Bring lunch. Vehicle permit required. Dave Mansfield, 810-658-0406, mansfieldd@chartermi.net.

11/2 SEMG [E] Two Preserves Hike. 11am. 5-mile hike through West Bloomfield Nature Preserve & Orchard Lake Nature Preserve. Observe wildlife in Heron Rookery. Bring trail snacks. Meet in Bloomfield Twp in Costco parking lot near McDonalds on Telegraph. Restaurant stop. Joy Lovio, 248-470-0229; Phil Crookshank, 313-562-1873.

11/2 NG Hogback Hills Hike. 1pm. 5-6 difficult miles. Vehicle permit required. Dogs allowed. Meet at Fishing Parking lot near 12406 E Stanley Rd, 3 miles east of M-15. Potluck after. Gloria Bublitz, 810-664-0304, glorypepper@yahoo.com.

11/ 8 KVG Saugatuck Dunes State Park Hike & Crane Orchards Restaurant visit. 11am. Annual outing has become a popular final hike before snow flies. After the hike we'll stop at Crane Orchards Restaurant. Meet at D Ave "Share-a-Ride" lot or Saugatuck Dunes parking lot at noon. Rus or Ann Hollister, 269-685-2301.

11/8 SEMG [E] Waterloo Rec Area Peak-Bagging. 9:30am. Climb all 6 of topo maps' named hills in Waterloo SRA & enjoy spectacular vistas. Hills include: Shanahan, Riley, Stofer, Sugarloaf, Prospect & Sackrider. Some bushwhacking (non-trail hiking); dress accordingly. Bring snacks & water. Basic map & compass instruction provided. Meet in Livonia between WalMart & Jiffy Lube (near Jeffries) on SW corner of Middlebelt & I-96. Milton French, 313-295-6321; John Herrgott, 248-766-9575.

11/15 NG For-Mar Nature Preserve Hike. 10am. 5 easy miles. Meet in main parking lot. No dogs.

Restaurant stop. 2142 N Genesee Rd, Burton (just north of Davison Rd). Terry Lemmer, 810-732-9902.

11/16 SEMG [E] Holly Rec Area Hike. Noon. 5 moderate miles. Explore thick forests, rolling hills & lakes left by glaciers. Meet in Troy behind Standard Federal Bank on 14 Mile Rd east of I-75. Restaurant stop after. Call if weather is questionable. Sudha Chhaya, 248-219-3326.

December

12/5-8 CUP [E] Intermediate-level Backpacking: High Country Pathway, (Montmorency Co). Explore interesting section of trail & adjoining bush. Instruction in tarp rigging & land navigation. Must be: 18, non-smoker, experienced foul-weather 0-degree backpacker (3 recent trips), physically fit (good aerobic endurance), swimmer, adventurous & fully equipped (bivouac gear, stove, rations, etc). 8am Fri to midday Mon. \$10. Info & photo-journals: <http://therucksack.tripod.com>. Michael Neiger, mneiger@hotmail.com, 906-226-9620.

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- **Sierra Club's National Website** is at: www.sierraclub.org. Check out the daily *War on the Environment* postings.

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Michigan's Great Forests Deserve a Second Chance

The 1893 World's Fair Load of white pine logs was sent to Chicago to show the world the huge trees being logged in Michigan's Upper Peninsula. The trees were hundreds of years old. Less than 1/20th of one percent of Michigan's native white pine forests remain today.

The Sierra Club believes Michigan's Great Forests deserve a second chance, and we are working to restore and protect significant areas of Michigan's native forests.

See page 12 for our cover story, and visit <http://michigan.sierraclub.org/greatforests> to learn more about our forests' past, present and future and what the Michigan Forest and Biodiversity Program is doing to help.



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