



THE MACKINAC

QUARTERLY PUBLICATION OF MICHIGAN'S SIERRA CLUB

MAY - JULY 2000



SCORE! The USFWS admits that the Mackinac Chapter has a point.....3

YER OUT! Senator Abraham's lousy batting average is on his card.....4

HOME RUN! The Supreme Court pitches a winner for clean water.....12

IN THE LINE-UP: Detroit selected for key environmental justice fight.....13

30th Earth Day finds Michigan's Legislature environmentally challenged.....2

Leadership training is a venue for tried, true, and new ideas.....5

Michigan Forest Biodiversity update.....6

NEW COLUMN! Great Lakes Report: Great Lakes Washington Days.....7

Forestry/Biodiversity workshop dishes the scoop on healthy ecosystems.....8

Year of the Hog Spring Update.....9

Mackinac Chapter 2000 Autumn Retreat!...10

In Memory of Alice Schiffler.....10

Wilderness Skills:
Don't get stuck in the rain!.....14

Group meetings and programs.....16

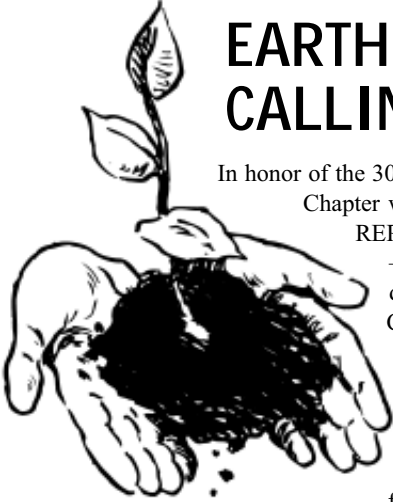
State & local outings.....18

WebWatch:
Map out your trip online.....22

The Miners Castle sandstone formation along the south shore of Lake Superior in the Pictured Rocks National Lakeshore. (Upper Peninsula, Alger County).

PHOTO COURTESY MICHAEL NEIGER

EARTH DAY FINDS ACTIVISTS IN LANSING CALLING FOR ENVIRONMENTAL LEADERSHIP



In honor of the 30th Earth Day, Sierra Club activists from the Mackinac Chapter were joined by activists from the Michigan chapter of REP America (Republicans for Environmental Protection — a national grassroots organization) for a legislative day in Lansing. The volunteers spent April 18th at the Capitol talking about key environmental issues with their Representatives. They urged that the Michigan Legislature take immediate action to address urban sprawl at a state level, assure that utility deregulation in Michigan includes real environmental protections, and spend the Clean Michigan Initiative bond money for real environmental gains.

In briefings for the activists and media prior to meetings with legislators, Sierra Club and REP America leaders reflected on how Lansing is measuring up on the yardstick of environmental progress.

As we celebrated the 30th Earth Day this year, we could take pride in what has been done to protect wild places and endangered species, to clean up our air and water, and to cut pollution all across the country. We should be proud of how loudly and clearly the vast majority of Americans — and Michigan residents, in particular — say they want to protect the environment with stronger and better-enforced environmental laws.

It is deeply troubling, though, that Michigan's Lansing leadership lags so far behind the sentiments of those they represent — and, in fact, so far behind where their predecessors were 30 years ago — when it comes to protecting the environment.

In the 1970s and 1980s the State of Michigan was a national leader in environmental protection. Michigan was a model for the rest of the nation as it put laws in place advancing clean air, clean water, and protection of forest, coastal, and wetland treasures. Michigan's ethic

of environmental stewardship and its enactment of farsighted environmental protection laws, coupled with strong implementation and enforcement, substantially improved the quality of life for Michigan residents.

By contrast, Lansing's track record on the environment has been dismal over the past decade. It has been a parade of actions responsive to corporate special interests and scornful of constituents concerned about assuring a healthy environment for our families and future. Gutting Michigan's landmark polluter pay law, giving polluters new secrecy privileges, failing to carry out responsibilities to protect endangered species and our natural heritage, cutting off local governments' authority to protect residents from factory farm pollution — Lansing has lost touch with what the people of Michigan want.

It's past time for the Michigan Legislature to take stock of the work that needs to be done in Michigan.

We need to protect the health of our families from harmful pollution. This means cleaning up dirty, old, coal-fired power plants as a part of utility deregulation in Michigan. It means putting an end to toxic medical waste incineration, insisting hospitals provide "health care without harm." And

it means securing environmental justice for minority or low-income communities that suffer a disproportionate burden of pollution impacts.

We need to curb urban sprawl and protect our communities and open space. This means making smart growth decisions at state and local levels that fund open space protection, promote comprehensive planning, and promote efficient, environmentally sound transportation. It means we need to regulate pollution and harmful impacts of factory farms.

We need to protect the Great Lakes and our rivers and streams. This means insisting that Clean Michigan Initiative funds be spent on clean-ups, pollution prevention, and watershed protection for waters ranging from Lake St. Clair to Lake Superior to the Grand River. It means we need to stop the escalating loss of sand dunes along the Great Lakes. It means we need a new drain code that actually protects the interests of the public and the environment. And we need tax incentives to prevent pollution from occurring in the first place.

We need to protect Michigan's forests, parks, and natural values. This means fully enforcing existing natural resource laws and regulations as a first step in reversing the decline of State Forests, State Parks, Wildlife Areas, and other publicly owned lands. It also means reforming Michigan's oil and gas development practices to adequately protect sensitive areas and citizen interests.

We need to restore Michigan's stewardship ethic and environmental protection programs. This means we need to put an end to the administrative and legislative climate that allows Michigan to be awash in violations of environmental laws, while funding and staffing in environmental agencies is suffering. It also means we need to restore meaningful citizen oversight of and right to know about, comment on, and appeal decisions made by the state's environmental agencies.

If the Michigan Legislature were to step forward on each of these fronts with proactive environmental protection initiatives this year, our Earth Day assessment next year could be very different. We would welcome the opportunity to report that environmental leadership has been restored in Lansing. ☀

THE MACKINAC QUARTERLY

The Mackinac (USPS 396610) (ISBN 0744-5288) is published quarterly (February, May, August, November) by the Sierra Club's Mackinac Chapter, 300 N. Washington Square, Suite 411, Lansing, MI 48933. Periodical postage is paid at Lansing, MI.

Postmaster: Send address changes to The Mackinac, Sierra Club, 300 N. Washington Square, Suite 411, Lansing, MI-48933.

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 15,000 members and friends of the Sierra Club in Michigan. Both display and classified advertising is accepted. For a current ad rate card, contact: Gary Semer, Business Manager, 449 Pacific, Plymouth, MI-48170; 734-453-4443; e-mail: semer@tir.com.

We reserve the right to refuse advertising which we feel conflicts with the goals and purposes of the Club.

Bylined articles represent the research and opinions of the author and not necessarily those of the Sierra Club or the Mackinac Chapter.

Mackinac Chapter Office:

Phone: 517-484-2372

Fax: 517-484-3108

E-mail: mackinac.chapter@sierraclub.org

Website: www.sierraclub.org/chapters/mi

Mackinac Editor: Davina Pallone

Contributing Editors: Alison Horton

Anne M. Woiwode

Business Manager: Gary Semer

Calendar Editor: Bob Volz

Editorial Board: Lydia Fischer

Mike Johnson

Sue Kelly

Helen LeBlanc

Fred Townsend

MACKINAC CHAPTER OF SIERRA CLUB SCORES MAJOR ENVIRONMENTAL VICTORY

USFWS AGREES TO STOP MASSIVE MISMANAGEMENT OF FUNDS AND PROTECT WILDLIFE HABITAT IN RESPONSE TO LEGAL ACTION

BY ANNE WOIWODE
Project Director

The Mackinac Chapter of the Sierra Club has achieved a major victory in its effort to bring the world's largest wildlife habitat-manipulation program into compliance with federal environmental laws. In response to the threat of litigation regarding Pittman-Robertson Act projects in Michigan, the US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) has committed to substantive changes nationwide to bring the agency into compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act and the Endangered Species Act, passed in the late '60s and '70s. In addition, the agency is initiating an environmental review and ESA consultation on one of the Michigan grants Sierra Club specifically targeted in threatening litigation.

The agency's commitment marks the first time the USFWS has guaranteed that major programs administered by the USFWS Office of Federal Aid will be brought to public scrutiny and environmental review. As we go to press, the Sierra Club is seeking some additional clarification from the USFWS, and is poised to closely monitor both the process in Michigan and the guidance being crafted for the entire nation. However, the USFWS commitments put the agency on a course to address the majority of concerns raised by the Mackinac Chapter over the last five years.

"This is an enormous step forward in bringing sunshine into programs which affect millions of acres of wildlife habitat on public and private lands in every state in the Union," said Marvin Roberson, Project Consultant to the Sierra Club's Michigan Forest Biodiversity Program. "In order to effectively protect wildlife habitat, agencies must collect and publicly disclose the potential environmental effects of their management choices. We are thrilled that the USFWS has at long last committed to making this kind of disclosure a reality."

The focal point of the Michigan Sierra Club effort was on the Pittman-Robertson Act (P-R), officially known as the Federal Aid in Wildlife Habitat Restoration Act of 1937. The program was created to collect taxes on firearms, archery equipment and ammunition to be used for restoration of habitat for all native bird and mammal species. P-R was a visionary program established by hunters and conservationists concerned that the loss of habitat was destroying wildlife populations. Grants under P-R are distributed by the USFWS to fund state wildlife agencies, which are required to match these funds by dedicating all hunting license fees to wildlife management. P-R funds have been used by every state to alter habitat and ecosystems to influence wildlife populations, however environmental reviews have not been required by USFWS even when major effects are clearly expected.

As a result of the Sierra Club's efforts in Michigan, the USFWS has initiated the first

intra-agency consultation under the Endangered Species Act on a Pittman-Robertson project grant to the State of Michigan. The agency has also committed to the preparation of the first ever Environmental Assessment (EA) under the National Environmental Policy Act on the same grant, and intends for a draft EA to be released for public comment in approximately 90 days. In addition, the agency has committed by September 1, 2000 to have in place nationwide guidance under both the federal Endangered Species Act and the National Environmental Policy Act to bring all USFWS Regions into compliance with these laws.

"The USFWS's commitment is a major victory for anyone who cares about wildlands, wetlands, forests, and prairies — whether they are hunters, bird watchers, or recreationists who enjoy the out of doors," said Tim Flynn, Mackinac Chapter volunteer leader. "This marks a significant change nationwide to normal procedures by the USFWS and at long last brings the agency into compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act

and the Endangered Species Act."

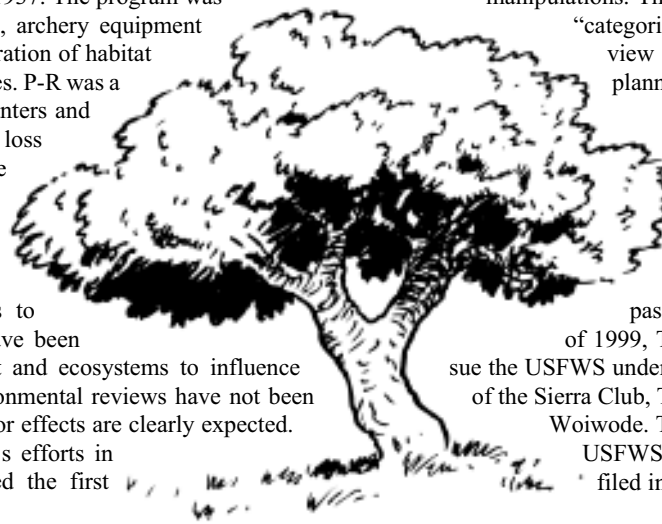
The Pittman-Robertson Act provides funding for state wildlife agencies in all 50 states, providing approximately \$300 million annually through matching grants to the states. Additional programs administered by the USFWS are expected to be affected as well. The USFWS commitments, made in a letter sent to Sierra Club's attorney, Tom Buchele of the Environmental Law and Policy Center, came after Michigan Sierra Club leaders worked for almost five years to bring the agency into compliance with environmental laws.

In 1995, Sierra Club volunteer Tim Flynn learned of a 5-year, \$35 million grant application by the State of Michigan to the USFWS under the P-R. What caught Flynn's eye was that the project proposed 40,000 acres of clearcutting per year on the Michigan State Forest system, elimination of predators, and additional large-scale habitat manipulations. The USFWS decided this grant should be

"categorically excluded" from environmental review based on the claim that the activities planned were so minor as to not require additional consideration. Flynn's discovery set him, Marvin Roberson, and Anne Woiwode of the Sierra Club's Michigan Forest Biodiversity Program on a multiple-year quest to bring the USFWS into compliance with environmental laws passed almost three decades ago. In August

of 1999, Tom Buchele filed a notice of intent to sue the USFWS under the Endangered Species Act on behalf of the Sierra Club, Tim Flynn, Marvin Roberson, and Anne Woiwode. The letter received on April 14 from the USFWS was in direct response to the notice filed in August. ☀

"In order to effectively protect wildlife habitat, agencies must collect and publicly disclose the potential environmental effects of their management choices. We are thrilled that the USFWS has at long last committed to making this kind of disclosure a reality."



SENATOR ABRAHAM HELD ACCOUNTABLE FOR STRIKING OUT ON THE ENVIRONMENT AT TIGER'S OPENING DAY GAME

BY DAN FAROUGH

Environmental Voter Education Campaign Coordinator



Dozens of Sierra Club volunteers from across Michigan descended on the new Comerica Park for the Tiger's opening day game on April 11. The group braved cold, rainy weather to welcome fans by distributing thousands of giant-sized environmental baseball cards depicting Senator Abraham's 1999 0% batting average on the environment and his career average of 7%, as well as to distribute a litany of information on the Abraham record.

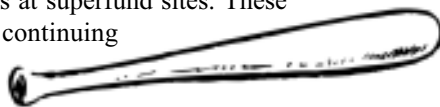
PHOTO: SUE KELLY



Club volunteers welcomed Tigers fans by distributing thousands of giant-sized environmental baseball cards depicting Senator Abraham's 1999 0% batting average on the environment and his career average of 7%.

"Michigan residents expect their leaders to be pitching for the environment, not against it," said Alison Horton, Director of the Mackinac Chapter of the Sierra Club. "Recent polling released by the League of Conservation Voters Education Fund reveals that 94% of people in Michigan favor stronger enforcement of laws to protect Michigan's rivers and the Great Lakes, and 87% want tougher laws on the books. Rarely have we seen such a disconnect between the concerns of the public and actions taken by a member of the Michigan delegation." The average 1999 environmental score for Michigan's two senators and 16 members of Congress was 49%.

Among Senator Abraham's many strikeouts on the environment, the group pointed to votes he made that had particular impact on Great Lakes water quality. In 1995, at the start of his career, the Senator voted for legislation that would have initiated a broad roll-back in clean air and water standards while crippling the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) ability to enforce environmental laws [HR 2099 9/27/95]. Among the bill's many riders was a provision that would have prevented the EPA from promulgating updated protections on arsenic in drinking water — a particular problem in the wells of northern Oakland County. 1996, '97, '98, and '99 bore witness to a continuation of bad votes for the Great Lakes, including a vote in 1998 which turned away a 40% funding increase in funding to accelerate clean-ups at superfund sites. These toxic sites pose a continuing threat to Michigan's water quality. 1999



saw the Senator reject the Clean Water Action plan that would have helped address what some have described as the biggest challenge to water quality in the next century — non point-source pollution.

"We couldn't pass up this opportunity to let the public know what Abraham has been up to in Washington DC," said Sarah Howerzyl, a volunteer and Group Chairperson from West Michigan Group. "Our message was simple: stop the switch-

hitting on the environment. The people of Michigan have a right to know the truth about his record and that's why we made the three-hour trip from Grand Rapids."

The volunteers distributed over 6,000 cards at the event, calling upon the Senator to support clean water laws in upcoming budget bills. "Michigan deserves and needs a better batting average on protecting our Great Lakes heritage, clean water, and air," said

volunteer Steve Walker. "This is about making sure people know the score on where our public officials stand on the environment." Volunteers from Southeast Michigan, West Michigan, Crossroads, Nepessing, and Huron Valley groups made sure it happened.

If you would like to be a part of the Environmental Voter Education Campaign, please call Daniel Farough at the chapter office, 517-484-2372. ☀



Earthwise Living

Non-Toxic
Home and Building Supplies

Nadia Johnson
517-627-7739

- Artist Line
- Carpeting
- Cleaners
- Paints
- Personal Care Items
- Sealers
- Stains
- Woodcare

LEADERSHIP TRAINING BENEFITS BOTH VETERANS AND NEWBIES

BY DAN FAROUGH
Membership Involvement Director

The Kettunen Conference Center outside Cadillac, MI became a training ground for Mackinac Chapter veterans and new leaders over the April 8 weekend. The group gathered to learn how to run more effective local groups and to share common challenges and success stories. Opportunities were also provided to observe the operation of the Mackinac Chapter's Executive Committee in action, setting policies.

The leadership training agenda focused heavily on mobilizing members, building more effective conservation and political programs, and giving new leaders a sense of the environmental lay-of-the-land in Michigan. The program also provided vital opportunities for veteran activists to share experiences with new leaders and, in turn, to hear from them new innovations and insights.

Participant responses indicate the training was a smashing success and should be repeated in the coming years. Thank you to all who participated! A special thanks to Judy Thompson, Chapter Conservation Chair; Gwen Nystuen, Chapter Political Chair; Helen LeBlanc, Chapter Treasurer; Sue



PHOTO: SUE KELLY

Veteran Sierra Club activist Judy Thompson spreads the weath of her knowledge to new leaders-in-training.

Kelly, Chapter Vice-Chair; Lydia Fischer, Chapter Chair; and Alison Horton, Staff Director — as well as all our other presenters, trainers, and outings leaders.

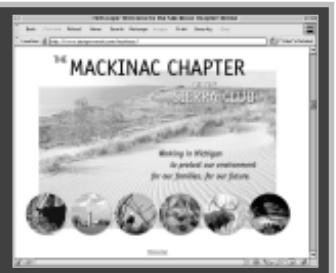
Please contact Daniel Farough at the Chapter Office, 517-484-2372, if you would like to get involved. ☀

THE MACKINAC CHAPTER WEB PAGE

Your online information source about environmental issues, current action alerts, outings, and lots of ways to get involved.

Find links to your state legislators, important state environmental agencies, and other sources of environmental information.

MICHIGAN.SIERRACLUB.ORG



American Brittany Rescue

The Brittany's medium size, wash & wear coat, and happy, intelligent temperament make them a wonderful breed. Brittans are very devoted and make excellent pets and companions for single people and families. They require personal attention every day and often don't make good "kennel" or outdoor dogs because of their devotion to their owners. Contact Brittany Rescue to find out if a Brittany is the right dog for you. Homes are needed in Michigan and Ohio!

For more information about adoption or becoming a foster home contact Jennifer Brooks or Jane Rechsteiner:
517-686-4102 or jandjdogs@aol.com



MICHIGAN FOREST BIODIVERSITY PROGRAM



ANNE WOIWODE
Program Director

MARVIN ROBERSON
Project Consultant

DNR TIMBER MANDATE:

INDUSTRY'S FOURTH-YEAR PUSH MAY BE THE WORST

The Michigan timber industry's extraordinary greed in demanding a mandated minimum logging level on Michigan's State Forests may backfire this year. The aggressive lobbying has focused long overdue attention on the industry as well as on how timber sales are handled on Department of Natural Resources (DNR) lands. The timber mandate will receive further action in the Michigan Senate in May, as the DNR budget bill (HB 5281) moves forward.

For three years the Michigan timber industry, led by the Michigan Association of Timbermen (MAT), has convinced the Legislature that a mandated floor on marking for logging Michigan's State Forests was essential to assure that the DNR cuts enough timber to serve industry interests. As the industry's demands have intensified, opposition has emerged from an increasingly wide spectrum of organizations and individuals, all concerned about sound management of State Forests. Michigan continues to be the only state in the nation where such a mandate exists, and only Alaska's Tongass National Forest has anything comparable on public lands nationwide.

In the 1997 Legislative debate, the mandate was linked to early retirements from the DNR, and was set at the previous year's harvest level. In succeeding years, however, the industry has claimed that a DNR official promised increased timber production off state lands if they lobbied the legislature for additional taxpayer money to be put into the Forest Management Division in 1994. The industry has also argued that State Forests could dramatically increase logging, basing their claim on a report paid for by the industry-run Forestry Roundtable of the Michigan Economic Development Corporation — although the report is at odds with the DNR's own figures.

In this, the fourth year of debate, the industry has escalated its efforts again. A valiant effort by the Michigan United Conservation Club's staff to create a compromise position with the industry through months of negotiations was torpedoed when MAT and other major players refused to agree. MAT, joined by Mead Paper Company and Champion International — two of the largest timber industries in Michigan — convinced a House Appropriations Subcommittee to insert language which would require the DNR to cut timber at or above the agency's estimated maximum sustainable level of logging on the State Forests in FY 2001, even if the timber industry failed to bid on or buy the timber put up for sale. In a stinging editorial regarding this mandated logging of State Forests, the Detroit Free Press suggested the state rename itself the "Clearcut State," and that when the Michigan quarter was produced by the US mint that it should have an axe on it, since two-bits was about all the state's natural resources policies were worth.

Representative Lynne Martinez of Lansing took the lead in fighting the mandated logging level in the full Appropriations Committee, pointing out that this mandate puts the state in direct competition with private forest landowners by intentionally flooding the market with timber, thereby driving prices down. The DNR also pointed out in testimony that they don't actually cut the trees on State Forests, but

instead offer timber sales to private contractors who do the cutting. These concerns joined growing public concern that State Forests are being turned into tree farms by this legislative mandate — losing sight of wildlife, water quality, recreational, and other uses of the woods. In a compromise agreed to by Representative Paul Tesanovich from L'Anse — the most outspoken advocate in the House for timber mandates — an amendment removed the mandated timber cutting, but put in its place a requirement that the DNR be required to offer timber sales at the same, unsustainable quantity. With some modifications approved on the floor of the House, the mandated timber sale levels moved on to the Senate.

The Senate Appropriations Subcommittee hearing on April 4th brought new voices of opposition into the fray from drastically different points of view. Former DNR Acting Director Mike Moore brought a historical perspective to the discussion, and cited the danger of setting of timber levels legislatively. For those who support timber production

on State Forests, Moore pointed out that future legislators could well mandate zero production of timber in the budget, and with term limits such actions could well occur in the future. By contrast, Sara Davis of Forests Forever — which had staged a protest against the mandate in Traverse City the previous week — called for giving the public a better chance to learn about what is going on in the forests, pointing out that many Michigan citizens are unaware this mandate is being discussed. Davis was given a very rough time by Subcommittee Chairman Senator George McManus, her State Senator, whose offense at the protest in his district led to badgering and insulting

Davis as she testified.

The Sierra Club testified as well, pointing out that in this same bill (HB 5281), the Legislature is being asked to appropriate \$2.5 million of General Fund monies to make up for a "revenue shortfall" caused by a backlog in the completion of timber sales by the industry on State Forest lands. The Club observed that the claims by the industry that the DNR is failing to put up enough timber for sale stood in stark contrast with this backlog and revenue shortfall. The DNR confirmed that there is a backlog of timber sales, caused in part by the generous terms of DNR timber sales. Unlike private forest landowners, the DNR requires only 10% of the timber sale bid up front, and gives up to 4 years for a timber sale to be completed. The backlog is about 175% of the annual mandated timber marking level from the last two years, and has caused a surplus in the agency's budget to disappear over the past few years.

As the Mackinac goes to press, the next meeting of the Subcommittee is scheduled May 9th. It is possible that the Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Natural Resources will vote on the bill that day, after which the bill will go to the full Senate Appropriations Committee, and then to the Senate Floor. After Senate action, any differences between the House and Senate will need to be reconciled in conference committee. Concerned persons should contact their State Senator by mid-May to express concerns about the mandated timber sales in the DNR's budget bill, HB 5281. ☀

In a stinging editorial regarding the mandated logging of State Forests, the Detroit Free Press suggested the state rename itself the "Clearcut State."

GREAT LAKES REPORT:

MICHIGAN GOES TO DC FOR GREAT LAKES WASHINGTON DAYS

BY MICHAEL JOHNSON

Chapter Executive Committee



Five members of the Mackinac Chapter of the Sierra Club traveled to Washington, DC this winter to be part of Great Lakes Washington Days, a follow-up to last year's Great Lakes Ottawa Days. 25 other volunteers — members of environmental groups and labor organizations from the Great Lakes Basin states and provinces — joined them. The Sierra Club and Great Lakes United, a 170-member Great Lakes environmental coalition (www.glu.org), organized the event.

The Days began with training that focussed on issues influencing the environmental quality of the Great Lakes watershed. Topics covered were:

1. The Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement, a document in which the US and Canada set out ways of protecting and restoring Great Lakes Basin waters;
2. Restoring degraded areas within the Basin;
3. Atmospheric deposition of pollutants into the Basin, which now account for more than 50% of new Great Lakes toxic pollution;
4. The selling of Great Lakes waters; and
5. Habitat loss.

With four of these issues, there are already agreements or acts that would greatly protect and restore the Great Lakes if only congress would act to fully implement them. For example, on the sale of Great Lakes water: there is presently no enacted legislation to protect the Lakes, but there is legislation before congress that would do so.

The next two days, volunteers visited offices of our representatives, senators, and Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) staff. During these meetings, the volunteers provided information about problems facing the Great Lakes, shared their views on the importance of protecting the Lakes, and asked that officials work to ensure the Basin be protected and restored. Some legislators and staff members were well informed on Great Lakes issues, and their records demonstrated a willingness to act on the Lakes' behalf. With others, this was less apparent. However, in comparing responses received during these Washington Days to those received while visiting Michigan legislators during Alaska Wilderness and Utah Washington Days, there was significantly more interest shown for the Great Lakes — even by legislators not known for their support of the environment. After all, the Great Lakes are a local issue for all of Michigan's elected officials, even those in landlocked districts — and local issues get attention.

An interesting aspect of the event was the presence of labor organization volunteers in addition to the expected environmental

volunteers. Members of the United Auto Workers and the Canadian Auto Workers showed as strong a devotion to the Great Lakes as Sierra Club members did. And, when talking to legislators, having labor present along with the usual environmentalists added greater depth to the discussions. Hearing about the cooperative efforts of environmentalists and labor at the World Trade Organization meeting in Seattle — and now in our own backyard — well, I was heartened and encouraged to more strongly believe that people can work together to make a difference in the direction our government takes regarding the environment. Now we need to a few business-types to join in!

Another occurrence deserves reporting: I regularly write to my congressman expressing opinions — both pro and con — on his voting record, but I wasn't convinced letters were worth the time it took to write them. I was greatly surprised when, having completed our talks on Great Lakes issues, my congressman's legislative aide brought out a letter I had written in October 1999 that criticized the congressman's environmental record. My congressman had read the letter, highlighted parts of it, and kept it. His aide and I spent the next 30 minutes discussing the letter. Letters are important! I also learned that an occasional positive letter is greatly appreciated.

Write your representative and — if you have time — Carol Browner, EPA Chief. Ask them to work hard to fully implement the Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement, the Clean Water Act, the Clean Air Act, and the Great Lakes Fish and Wildlife Restoration Act. Ask your representative to co-sponsor legislation to prohibit the sale of Great Lakes water. Remember: The

Great Lakes are a local issue for all of Michigan's elected officials.

The Great Lakes Washington Days were both an education on the environment and in civics. They were interesting and fun — it wasn't all work! Should you have the opportunity to participate in future Great Lakes Washington Days — you don't have to be an expert on the issues, you only need have concern for the Lakes — or any other environmental (or labor?!) Washington Days event, I most strongly recommend you take advantage of it. It will change you and it may also change our environment. ☀

*Members of
the United Auto Workers and
the Canadian Auto Workers
showed as strong a devotion
to the Great Lakes
as Sierra Club members did.
And, when talking to legislators,
having labor present
along with the
usual environmentalists
added greater depth
to the discussions.*

The Mackinac Chapter has a Great Lakes Subcommittee. We invite you to get involved with it! If you wish to, or if you have questions about Great Lakes environmental issues, please contact Mike Johnson at 616-948-8840.

FORESTRY/BIODIVERSITY WORKSHOP SHEDS LIGHT ON GOOD FOREST PRACTICES

BY BOB DUDA AND BARBARA YARROW

Member Programs Committee Chair and Executive Committee At-Large Representative, Respectively

It took just 32 years to cut down the great hardwood forests of Michigan — trees 400 years old in forests that had been emerging for thousands of years were leveled in a short span, leaving only ghost forests as a legacy.

Rebuilding Michigan's forests and managing for biodiversity were the topics of a March 25 Forestry/Biodiversity Workshop sponsored by the Sierra Club. About 30 people attended the class at Kensington Metropark Nature Center, where they learned about forest succession, issues influencing management of Michigan's public land forests, and the agencies charged with making decisions on forest management.

Anne Wiowode and Marvin Roberson discussed public forests and how best to protect them. The workshop was a unique opportunity to explore forestry interconnectedness on a biodiversity level while learning more about how concerned citizens can become involved in the decision-making processes of state and national



PHOTO: BARBARA YARROW

Anne Wiowode (left) illustrates to the group the variety of land forms, organisms, and creatures that call a healthy, diverse forest their homes.

forests. Following the informative presentation, the group of activists moved out of the classroom to experience biodiversity on the nature trails. Strolling along Deer Trail, the hikers learned to recognize the forest's diversity by touching the forest and enjoying a beautiful early spring afternoon walk in the woods.

Thanks to Anne and Marvin for making the time in their busy schedules to help Club members appreciate and learn ways to protect our forests. Thanks also to Bob Duda and Sharon Rafalko for planning and facilitating the workshop. ☀

A WILL IS A WAY...

To make a substantial gift to protect the environment. Continue your involvement by including the Sierra Club in your will. There are several ways to include the environment in your long-range plans — we can even help you plan a gift to support your local Chapter. For information and confidential assistance, contact:

Sage Kuhn
Sierra Club Planned Giving Program
85 Second Street, 2nd Floor
San Francisco, CA 94105
415-977-5639

BEGINNING KAYAKING LESSONS

AT BLACK PARROT PADDLING, L.L.C.



Learn to quickly master strokes & bracing techniques

Also covered:
Safety, Equipment,
Rescues & Rolling

CALL NOW!
RON SMITH

734-878-3689 or rsmith9999@aol.com

MICHIGAN 2000: YEAR OF THE HOG

A SPRING UPDATE

BY ANNE WOIWODE
Program Director

Michigan's 1st quarter in its Year of the Hog has seen a lot of activity in a number of different arenas. A long, slow dance is unfolding as environmental groups and the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) are moving toward bringing the defiant State of Michigan into compliance with federal laws, while the state agencies and legislature continue to plow ahead with implementing their weakening of the Right to Farm Act.

US EPA INVESTIGATIONS UNDERWAY

In response to a petition filed jointly in November by the Sierra Club, the Michigan Land Use Institute, and the Michigan Environmental Council, the US EPA has begun an investigation of charges which has led the petitioners to call for withdrawal of the Michigan Clean Water Act delegation. Representatives of the three environmental organizations and an individual who personally submitted a petition met with EPA staff and provided additional details regarding the petition. The EPA explained that they would be conducting interviews and reviewing Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) and Department of Agriculture files in an information-collecting mode with regard to the petition.

Meanwhile, the EPA is independently raising concerns with the State under provisions of the Clean Water Act that involve federal funding of a portion of the Michigan DEQ Program. Correspondence between the USEPA and the DEQ, going back to mid-1999, spells out a gentle but firm insistence by the EPA that the state follow federal direction on confined animal feeding operations (CAFOs), while the DEQ officials simply refuse. The only area of acquiescence to the EPA's demands by Michigan has been a promise to compile a list of facilities meeting the federal definition of CAFO.

Michigan continues to refuse to issue any water quality permits for CAFOs, even those against which enforcement action has been taken by the state. In a December 17 letter to the EPA, DEQ Director Russell Harding states — in an amazing bit of doublespeak — that “It has never been Michigan's compliance or enforcement policy to permit activities that are in violation of the law. Compliance and enforcement activities are utilized to bring these facilities into compliance. Once these facilities are brought into compliance, they no longer have the potential to discharge and do not require a permit because of the exemption allowed under federal regulations.”

In a somewhat similar situation, Ohio's environmental agency — with significantly less violations of the federal direction — was sanctioned by the US EPA through withholding of funds for failing to bring its program into compliance. The Michigan process appears to be taking longer because of the state's overt defiance.



PREMATURE PREEMPTIONS HARMING COMMUNITIES

In several Michigan communities, the effect of the Legislature's preemption of control over CAFOs is on course to be worse than lawmakers had intended. Senate Bill 205, passed in December, was given an effective date of June 1 to allow for development of new Generally Accepted Agricultural Management Practices (GAAMPS) by the Department of Agriculture. A number of communities, however, have seen new or expanded CAFOs proposed in the last few months — in some cases with local government officials mistakenly believing the preemption was already in effect. In cries for help from several communities and in testimony offered in the legislature, it appears that at least some CAFO operators are taking advantage of the confusion to get approvals from communities which would have otherwise placed restrictions on or turned the proposals down cold.

GAAMPS JUST UNDER THE WIRE

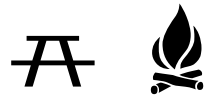
In fact, there is no guarantee that the GAAMPS will have any salutary effect on CAFOs built after June 1. In passing the preemption of local control, the Legislature also directed the Department of Agriculture to develop GAAMPS relating to odor and setbacks. An appointed GAAMPS committee, representing a somewhat broader range of concerns than in previous committees, is currently working on the proposed practices.

The scheduled date for adoption by the Michigan Agriculture Commission is June 1, the very day the preemption goes into effect. While some involved in developing the GAAMPS say these standards intend to set requirements that would apply prior to construction of new facilities, it is not clear how this will work, as the law is enforced through complaints. Draft GAAMPS will be made available for public input, with hearings for comments occurring on May 2 and 10 and a decision set for June 1 by the Agriculture Commission.

Due to the short time-frame for comments on these proposed standards, you should contact the Department of Agriculture by phone, 1-877-MDA-1-RTF, or through their website at www.mda.state.mi.us/right2farm/farm.htm if you wish to have a chance to comment on the GAAMPS prior to their adoption. ☀



RETREAT TO LAKE MICHIGAN! SEPTEMBER 15-17



The Mackinac Chapter's 11th annual Autumn Retreat is once again scheduled for beautiful Camp Miniwanca on Lake Michigan's shoreline. Miniwanca is located just north of Muskegon, on Michigan's west coast.

Each year, the Mackinac Chapter of the Sierra Club hosts the Autumn Retreat to encourage its members, family, and friends to gather, attend optional educational workshops, or just relax and get away from day-to-day stresses. From forested hills to streams and lakes, Miniwanca is the perfect place to renew your spirit and reconnect with other environmentalists.

As in past years, participants can choose from rustic camping in cabin-like shelters to more modern dorm lodging. Food and lodging are included in the registration fee (see

registration form below).

Watch for exciting new speakers and workshops AND the return of YOGA! Start cleaning out your closets in search of lost treasure for the silent auction! Look for the upcoming August issue of *The Mackinac* for more details.

If you have questions, please contact Mark & Julie Janeczko at 517-539-1676 or e-mail ravenhillacres@i2k.com. ☀

▲ ▲ 2000 AUTUMN RETREAT REGISTRATION FORM
☀

NAME(S): PLEASE INCLUDE ALL NAMES IN YOUR GROUP, INCLUDING AGES FOR CHILDREN.

ADDRESS:

PHONE:

VEGETARIAN MEALS? (CIRCLE ONE): YES NO


Send Registration Form with payment
by September 1!
Make checks payable to: Sierra Club.



SIERRA CLUB
FOUNDED 1892

SEND TO:
Sierra Club Autumn Retreat
c/o Dave & Nancy Christiansen
535 Slayton Avenue
Grand Haven, MI 49417

AGE CATEGORY	FEE	TOTAL
0-4 YEARS OLD	FREE	
5-17 YEARS OLD	\$40	\$ _____
ADULT RUSTIC SHELTER	\$65	\$ _____
ADULT REGULAR DORM	\$75	\$ _____
ADULT LAKESIDE DORM	\$100	\$ _____
TOTAL ENCLOSED:		\$ _____



IN MEMORY OF ALICE SCHIFFLER

We were saddened by the passing of Alice Schiffler, Nancy Schiffler's mother. Alice loved and respected nature and found great joy in the outdoors, qualities that she undoubtedly passed on to Nancy and her other children. Nancy, a distinguished Chapter Chair from 1994 through 1997, is the current Huron Valley Group Vice-Chair and a key volunteer in the Mackinac Chapter work on forest preservation.

The charity selected for Alice's memorial is the Mosquito Hill Nature Center in New London, Wisconsin; the Schiffler family is planning to donate sets of field guides to its education program. Contributions can be sent to the Center c/o Jim Anderson, N3880 Rogers Rd., New London, WI 54961. ☀

WILDTYPE

Native Plant NURSERY



900 N Every Road
Mason MI 48854
(517) 244-1140
wildtype@msu.edu
www.msu.edu/~wildtype

Free Catalog

Trees • Shrubs • Wildflowers • Grasses
bare root • plugs • small containers

Open Sundays 11 A.M. – 4 P.M.
May 21 THROUGH LABOR DAY

money for nothing !

Money for nothing? Yes, it's true! With the Sierra Club's Huron Valley Group Shopping for the Earth program you can contribute to the Sierra Club and protect the environment every time you shop — at no cost to you!

Here's how we make this financial alchemy work: We buy gift certificates from our eight retail partners at a small discount and re-sell them to you at face value. We use the difference to fund our environmental education and conservation activities.

Best of all, you get \$1 in merchandise for every \$1 in gift certificates you buy, so it costs you nothing to partici-



pate! You can use certificates to buy any item (except lottery tickets or money orders) in the stores listed below.

To participate, all you have to do is complete and mail in the order form below with your check; we'll send you the certificates, and then you spend them in the corresponding store just as if they're cash.

For more information, please contact Michael Sklar by phone at 734-995-1831 or by e-mail at tiger3@provide.net. You can also visit our website at www.mirror.org/groups/mi-enviro and click on the "Shopping for the Earth" link.

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

Please indicate the number of gift certificates of each denomination you want for each store in the table below, and list the total value of your order (\$500 maximum) here: \$ _____. Please be sure to enclose your check, made payable to "Huron Valley Group — Sierra Club."

Ann Arbor People's Food Co-op	_____ @ \$5	_____ @ \$10	_____ @ \$20	
Arbor Farms	_____ @ \$5	_____ @ \$10	_____ @ \$20	
Borders			_____ @ \$20	_____ @ \$50
Busch's	_____ @ \$5	_____ @ \$10	_____ @ \$20	
Farmer Jack and affiliated stores		_____ @ \$10	_____ @ \$20	_____ @ \$50
Kroger and affiliated stores		_____ @ \$10	_____ @ \$20	_____ @ \$50
Leopold Brothers Eco-Brewery	_____ @ \$25 only			
Meijer (store and gas station)		_____ @ \$10	_____ @ \$20	_____ @ \$50
Whole Foods and affiliated stores		_____ @ \$10	_____ @ \$20	_____ @ \$50

Name: _____
 Address: _____

 Phone & E-mail: _____

Mail to:
 Michael Sklar
 2545 Meade Court
 Ann Arbor, MI 48105



ENVIRONMENTAL LITIGATION: STANDING UP FOR CLEAN WATER



BY CHRIS BZDOK

For the last 30 years, the court system has been a powerful tool for environmentalists. Because “citizen suits” are so important, it has been alarming to watch the US Supreme Court, in the words of the American Bar Association, “chipping away” at the public’s right to file them.

Recently, however, the pendulum swung the other way, with the Supreme Court’s decision in a case called *Friends of the Earth vs Laidlaw*. With its *Laidlaw* decision, the Court not only stopped chipping away at citizen suits — it repaired some of the damage, too.

The subject of the *Laidlaw* case is a legal doctrine called “standing.” In order to bring a lawsuit, the constitution says a person must have “standing to sue.” The Supreme Court has said this means that the potential plaintiff must have been injured in some way by the conduct of the defendant. This can be difficult in cases where the most obvious injury is to the environment, through pollution or bad development, and not to the citizens themselves.

Led by Justice Antonin Scalia, certain members of the Supreme Court have used the doctrine of standing to dismiss cases brought by citizens to enforce statutes like the Endangered Species Act and the Community Right-to-Know laws. Scalia’s view is that citizens who sue to clean up a smokestack or protect an owl may be trying to serve the greater good, but they do not have enough personal stake in the outcome to have standing. For a while at least, it appeared this view was becoming the law of the land.

Then came *Laidlaw*. *Laidlaw Environmental Services* ran a wastewater treatment plant near the North Tyger River in South Carolina. As part of its operation, the company had a permit to discharge certain chemicals into the river. *Laidlaw* violated that permit many times, and in particular it violated the limits placed on its mercury discharges. Over an 8-year period, in fact, *Laidlaw* broke the mercury limit almost 500 times.

Led by the Friends of the Earth and joined later by the Sierra Club, a coalition of environmental groups sued *Laidlaw* using the Clean Water Act. They asked the federal judge for an injunction prohibiting any more mercury violations. They also requested that the court levy civil fines against *Laidlaw*, and order the company to pay for their attorney fees.

After the suit began, *Laidlaw* violated the mercury limit 13 more times. Then *Laidlaw* stopped operating the treatment plant. Once the violations ceased, *Laidlaw*’s lawyers argued that the case was moot, and therefore the court had no

authority to impose fines and penalties. *Laidlaw* also argued that the members of the environmental groups had no standing to sue. Their reasoning? The environmentalists had not demonstrated that the mercury discharges had damaged the river.

The federal judge disagreed with the company’s lawyers. He found that by not reducing its mercury discharges, *Laidlaw* had gained a “benefit” worth over one million dollars. He then fined the company \$405,000.

Writing for the majority, Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg rejected Laidlaw’s argument about the case being moot. If not deterred by a judgment in this lawsuit, she wrote, the company could easily go back to polluting again later.

The environmental groups lost at the first level of appeal, but they won in the Supreme Court. Writing for the majority, Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg rejected *Laidlaw*’s argument about the case being moot. If not deterred by a judgment in this lawsuit, she wrote, the company could easily go back to polluting again later.

Then, in the most important ruling in the case, Ginsburg held that the plaintiffs had standing to sue. She took industry’s argument — that there was no proof *Laidlaw*’s permit violations had damaged the river — and turned it on its head: “The relevant showing for purposes of...standing,” she wrote, “is not injury to the environment but injury to the plaintiff.” In other words, if *Laidlaw*’s violations had prevented the citizens from enjoying the river, then the company had injured the citizens and they had a right to go to court.

And there was plenty of evidence that this was the case. People testified that they no longer fished or swam in the North Tyger River because of their concern about pollution. Sierra Club member Norman Sharp said that he canoed other parts of the river, but would not paddle the area near the treatment plant because of the discharges. The Supreme Court ruled that in effect, these people were suing to protect their own interests: their interests in using the river free from a concern about pollution.

By focusing on the people who used the river, and how pollution kept them from doing what was important to them, the Supreme Court reversed a disturbing trend in its case law. While the *Laidlaw* decision is good news everywhere, it could be most important right here in Michigan. In Michigan, you might say, we all have a personal interest in keeping our abundance of rivers and lakes clean for fishing, swimming and boating. In *Laidlaw*, the Supreme Court gave its blessing to go out and defend that interest. ☀

Club member Chris Bzdok is an attorney with Olson, Noonan & Bzdok, P.C., a Traverse City firm with a statewide practice in environmental law.

SIERRA CLUB SELECTS DETROIT AS KEY ARENA IN THE FIGHT FOR ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE

BY LYDIA FISCHER
Chapter Chair

Environmental justice exists when environmental protection reaches people regardless of race, ethnicity, income, national origin, or similar factors. Solutions to the burdens of toxicity, pollution, habitat destruction, and other types of degradation must benefit all groups, not just the privileged. While the national Sierra Club has been vigorous in the pursuit of environmental justice goals through statutory and regulatory actions, it has lagged some in lending its clout and expertise to local struggles.

There is now heightened recognition within the Club that community, hands-on work towards environmental justice merits and requires additional emphasis and resources. As grant funds have become available, the national Sierra Club has established four Environmental Justice Field Organizer (EJFO) positions. Standing ready with support, expertise, organizing talents, and other resources, the role of the EJFO is to help bring communities together to advance the cause of environmental equity and to join the fight against environmental problems when invited to do so by the community. Largely because Sierra Club members — being predominantly European American and middle-income — are infrequent victims of environmental injustice, Sierra EJFOs and volunteers must defer to community decisions regarding an agenda and plan of action, and assist in the fight for environmental justice on the community's terms.

The Detroit area was selected as one of the four cities where an Environmental Justice Field Organizer will be located (the other three are Memphis, Washington DC, and Los Angeles). This is a most appropriate choice: the Detroit region has long been home to pollution and environmental degradation leading to disproportionate burdens on low-income and minority neighborhoods. Moreover, there is a base of joint activity on which to build. In recent years, the SouthEast Michigan Group, the Mackinac Chapter, other environmental groups, and community, civil rights, environmental justice, and faith-based organizations have often come together against an environmental hazard. In coalition with one or more of these groups, Sierra volunteers have battled the expansion of the Central Wayne Incinerator in Inkster as well as the medical waste incinerators in Hamtramck and at Henry Ford Hospital in Detroit. They have engaged in activities to warn subsistence anglers about the dangers to health from fish consumption, and have denounced the brownfield clean-up strategies touted by Governor John Engler and Detroit Mayor Dennis Archer, among other campaigns.

Many more challenges lie ahead. Thanks to the Sierra volunteers and staff whose enthusiasm and hard work helped the Detroit area be chosen for one of the EJFOs' job, the chances are higher that they will be met.

The Mackinac Chapter in Lansing is accepting applications for the Environmental Justice Field Organizer position. Call Alison Horton at 517-484-2372 if you would like an application. ☀

JOIN YOUR LOCAL-STATE-NATIONAL-GLOBAL SIERRA CLUB!

Name _____
Address _____
City _____
State _____ Zip _____
Phone (optional) () _____

Check enclosed, made payable to Sierra Club
 Mastercard Visa

Cardholder Name _____
Card Number _____
Expiration Date _____ / _____

Contributions, gifts, or 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.

MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES

	INDIVIDUAL	JOINT
REGULAR	<input type="checkbox"/> \$35	<input type="checkbox"/> \$43
SUPPORTING	<input type="checkbox"/> \$50	<input type="checkbox"/> \$58
CONTRIBUTING	<input type="checkbox"/> \$100	<input type="checkbox"/> \$108
LIFE	<input type="checkbox"/> \$1000	<input type="checkbox"/> \$1250
SENIOR	<input type="checkbox"/> \$15	<input type="checkbox"/> \$23
STUDENT	<input type="checkbox"/> \$15	<input type="checkbox"/> \$23
LIMITED INCOME	<input type="checkbox"/> \$15	<input type="checkbox"/> \$23

F97QW1_
F97QW1G



SIERRA CLUB
FOUNDED 1892

300 N. WASHINGTON SQUARE, SUITE 411
LANSING, MI 48933

Advertise in
The Mackinac
and reach 16,000
households in Michigan!
Call 734-453-4443 for
our rate card, or email:
semer@tir.com.





WILDERNESS SKILLS: BUILDING THE BRUSH HUT SURVIVAL SHELTER

BY MICHAEL A. NEIGER

Central Upper Peninsula Group

Copyright ©2000

Knowing how to improvise a field-expedient survival shelter could save your life. My favorite survival shelter for snow-free periods in the wilds of Michigan and Canada is the “brush hut.” It’s a relatively easy-to-construct shelter using any number of natural materials found in the woods. Not unlike a squirrel’s nest, it’s essentially a mound of forest litter assembled in such a manner as to keep out wind and rain while retaining internally generated heat.

Recognizing and accepting your predicament before sunset is the all-important first step. Everything’s much easier to do in the daylight. The best locations for a shelter are those near a source of water, sheltered from the wind, with a southern exposure, and with an abundance of natural construction material close by. If you’re awaiting rescue, a location where emergency signals can be readily seen and where search and rescue crews will look first is critical. If possible, stay near a foot trail, two-track, railroad grade, river, lake, or large opening in the forest canopy.

After gathering some sturdy poles or small-diameter logs, the next step is to assemble a skeleton-like frame. It should resemble a small teepee or an A-frame in which one end of the ridgepole rests on the ground and the other is supported four feet off the ground by a stump, crook of a tree, or tripod made from poles. Steep-sided shelters shed rain better and the smaller the interior, the warmer it’ll be.

Once you’ve got a skeleton framework assembled which is strong enough to prevent collapsing as layers of material are added, you’ll need to close in the framework so debris added later won’t simply fall into the interior. First, lean additional, smaller-diameter poles between the main poles and then weave branches and sticks horizontally, diagonally, and vertically among the poles to create a latticework-like effect.

The next step is to gather up leaves, bark, grass, ferns, moss, boughs, pine needles, and whatever else is nearby and pile them on the shelter. This collection and hauling process will be a lot easier if you’ve got a garbage bag in your survival kit. After every six-inch layer of debris, add a thin layer of twigs and sticks to anchor the forest litter and prevent it from sliding off or being blow away. For the warmest, driest shelter, aim for a two- to four-foot-thick covering. By “shingling” bark and other flat items on top, you’ll stay drier inside if it rains.

The next step is to make an entryway that is just big enough to crawl through. For protection from the prevailing winds and to take advantage of the morning sun, it should face east.

The final step is to fill the interior of the shelter three-quarters full of leaves, pine needles, moss, and any other soft, dry material. With this done, crawl inside and pack the debris down, making sure at least one foot of compacted debris remains underneath you as insulation from the cold, damp ground. Add more debris if necessary. Next, add enough additional debris to the interior of the shelter so you can fill in and close off the tunnel-like entrance during use. You should also have enough extra debris inside so you can cover yourself with a foot-thick layer of insulating debris.

Unless it’s extremely mild or you’ve got a couple cords of firewood, don’t bother imitating the simple lean-to shelter depicted in just about every fair-weather survival

*Recognizing
and accepting
your predicament
before sunset
is the all-important
first step.*

book. This point can’t be emphasized enough: If you want a warm, rain-shedding shelter, it should be fully enclosed with a two- to four-foot-thick layer of forest debris.

While anything — dead or alive — is fair game in a true, life-and-death survival situation, practice your low impact, leave-no-trace skills at all other times. If you build a practice shelter — and you should — limit your debris collection to the unobtrusive and that which is dead and down. Pick an area far off the beaten path and leave the live stuff alone. When you’re finished, disassemble your shelter and broad-scatter the debris and pole framework over a wide area.

Hey, if a squirrel can make it through an entire winter in one of these, you should be able to gut-it-out for at least one or two nights. See you in the bush! ☀

Michael Neiger of Marquette, Michigan is an avid wilderness tripper and Central Upper Peninsula Group wilderness trip leader who welcomes your comments and opinions via e-mail at mneiger@hotmail.com. ☀

Go on an adventurous wilderness trip with Michael Neiger! Check out page 19 of this issue’s Outings section for details on Michael’s Memorial Day Weekend trip: Backpacking among wolves, moose, and bear in Lake Superior Provincial Park, Ontario, Canada (1.5 hours north of Soo, MI).



Planned Parenthood® Affiliates of Michigan salutes the Sierra Club's efforts to ensure access to family planning through its Global Population Stabilization Program.

We invite you to join our Responsible Choices Action Network.

PLANNED PARENTHOOD IS COMMITTED to providing high-quality, confidential and affordable reproductive health care to anyone who walks through our doors. We are also committed to defending the right to that care.

Make a
difference
with
responsible
choices
Planned Parenthood®

THE RESPONSIBLE CHOICES ACTION NETWORK allows you to send a free fax or e-mail to members of Congress and the Michigan Legislature by responding to the e-mail action alerts that you receive from Planned Parenthood. You will also receive regular e-mail updates on issues affecting reproductive health. Of course, people who don't have e-mail can still be an Action Network member. Fill out the form below to receive mail, phone or fax alerts.

You can also become involved locally by calling your nearest Planned Parenthood:

Planned Parenthood of Mid-Michigan (734) 973-0710 • Planned Parenthood of Southeast Michigan (313) 822-7285
Planned Parenthood Northern Michigan (231) 929-1844 • Planned Parenthood of South Central Michigan (616) 372-1205
Planned Parenthood of East Central Michigan (810) 234-1659 • Planned Parenthood Centers of West Michigan (616) 774-7005

For your nearest health center, call 1-800-230-PLAN.

Visit the Planned Parenthood Federation of America web site at **www.plannedparenthood.org** or the Planned Parenthood Affiliates of Michigan web site at **www.ppam.org**

Mail this form to Planned Parenthood Affiliates of Michigan • P.O. Box 19104 • Lansing, MI 48901-9104 or e-mail us at ppadvocates@voyager.net

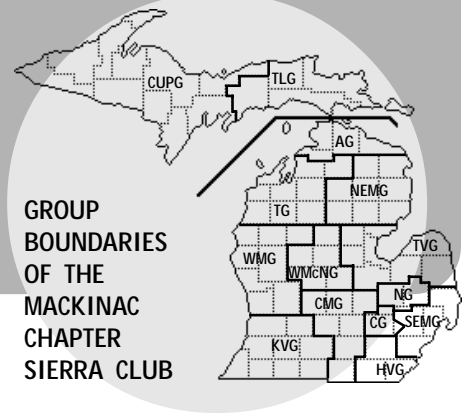
Name _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
E-mail (_____) _____
Phone (_____) _____ Fax (_____) _____

**it's
quick,
easy,
and
free!**

*You may disenroll at any time.

Yes! Sign me up for the Responsible Choices Action Network!

GROUP MEETINGS & PROGRAMS



AG Algonquin Group

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

CMG Central Michigan Group

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

The Conservation Committee usually meets the 2nd Monday of each month in Wells Hall on the MSU campus. Call Maria Lapinski, 517-569-3302.

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

CUP Central Upper Peninsula Group

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

To receive news about outings or other Sierra Club activities in the Central Upper Peninsula, 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 and western Oakland Counties meet monthly at the Brighton District Library, 200 Orndorff Drive, Brighton, for informative and entertaining programs. These meetings begin at 7pm and are open to the public.

The Conservation Committee also meets monthly to discuss and address local issues. Call Emily Gobright, 517-548-0595 or David

Wright, 810-229-1685.

The Executive Committee meets the last Wednesday of each 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 each month at the UM Matthaei Botanical Gardens, 1800 North Dixboro Road, Ann Arbor. Call 734-480-7751 for details.

KVG Kalamazoo Valley Group

General membership meetings are usually held 7:30pm the 3rd Thursday of each month at Kalamazoo Valley Community College, Texas Township Campus, Room 4370.

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

5/18 7:30pm at KVCC Texas Twp Campus, Room 4370. Slide Show: Tour the Western US and Canada. Cover 10,000 miles from Michigan's UP across the plains to the Rockies. Then 4 corners to the Grand Canyon and Death Valley. Follow the Sierras and Cascades north into Canada and Banff and Jasper National Parks. Back into the US to Glacier, Yellowstone, and the Tetons.

NG Nepessing Group

Meetings are held 6:30pm the 2nd Wednesday of each month at Mott Community College in the "New Students" Prael Building, Genesee Room, 1401 East Court Street in Flint. These meetings are free and refreshments are available. Non-members are welcome, and parking is free of charge. Find out what local volunteers are doing and hear our featured speakers. Call Carol Graham, 810-659-4965.

Our current projects include working to get curbside recycling in Flint, water testing in the Flint River watershed, fundraising, trail repairs, and great outings. Come help us and meet some fun and interesting people!

GROUP
BOUNDARIES
OF THE
MACKINAC
CHAPTER
SIERRA CLUB

Check the Nepessing web page at www.gfn.org/sierrang.

The Nepessing Group weekly hiking schedule is available at 810-743-0335 or on our web page.

8/22 (Sat) Annual Sierra Club Picnic. Noon-5pm. Ligon Outdoor Center, 5213 East Farrand Road, Clio. Replaces July group meeting.

NEMG Northeast Michigan Group

If you are interested in helping to build an active Group or want information about the Sierra Club in this area, call Dan Farough at the Mackinac Chapter office, 517-484-2372

SEMG Southeast Michigan Group

General membership meetings are held 7:30pm the 1st Thursday of each month, September-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. Call Cindy Gunnip, 248-336-2984.

June General Membership Meeting. Topic: "River Day." Jim Stone of Friends of the Detroit River will discuss how to encourage activism in activities such as upcoming "River Day" on June 3rd.

The Executive Committee meets 7:30pm the 2nd Thursday of each month at St. John's Episcopal Church, Woodward and 11 Mile Road, Royal Oak. Call Anna Holden, Chairperson, 313-331-0932.

Conservation Committee meetings are held 7:30pm the 3rd Thursday of each month at St. John's Episcopal Church. Parking in back of the church, south of 11 Mile Road. Call Ed McArdle, 313-388-6645.

Outings Committee. Contact Phil Crookshank if you are interested in planning or leading outings, 313-562-1873.

continued on next page

GROUP MEETINGS & PROGRAMS

continued from page 16

Political Action to support state and national pro-environment legislation. Call Tim Killeen, Chair, Political Action Committee, 313-526-4052.

6/10 (Sat) Outings Planning Meeting. Come join our quarterly planning meeting. This is open to all who are interested in talking about or doing outings. Non-committee members are welcome, just bring a dish to pass. Meet 6pm at June Cox's house for pot luck supper out under the tree canopy, and then plan fall and early winter outings. 1525 West Windemere, Royal Oak — just east of Crooks Road and 1 block north of 13 Mile. 248 435-9522.

**TLG
Three Lakes Group**

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

**TVG
Thumb Valley Group**

No group meetings are planned at this time. See Outings, page 18, for group activities. Call group chairs Craig and Janis Kendziorski, 517-631-5170, for updated information, participating on the leadership team, or leading an outing.

**TG
Traverse Group**

At this time, no general membership meetings or programs are scheduled. See Outings, page 18, for special Traverse Group activities.

**WMcNG
Wakelin McNeel Group**

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

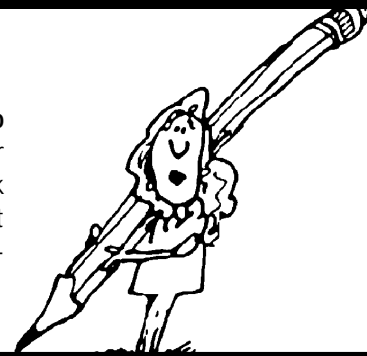
**WMG
West Michigan Group**

Meetings are held 7pm the 2nd Thursday of each month at Kent Community Hospital meeting room. Everyone welcome! Call Marty Lore, 517-682-1316.

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 Chuck Perricone at (517) 373-1774, mention that you are concerned about environmental protection, and ask him to send you a copy!



THE WHITE HOUSE

President Bill Clinton
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Ave.
Washington, DC 20500
(202) 456-1414

White House Fax Line: (202) 456-2461
White House Comment Line:
(202) 456-1111
White House email:
president@whitehouse.gov

US CONGRESS

US Capitol Switchboard: (202) 224-3121

The Honorable _____
US House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable _____
US Senate
Washington, DC 20510

MICHIGAN

Governor John Engler
State Capitol
Lansing, Michigan 48909
(517) 373-3400

The Honorable _____
Michigan Senate
State Capitol
Lansing, Michigan 48909

The Honorable _____
Michigan House
State Capitol
Lansing, Michigan 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, send email to: majordomo@great-lakes.net with a one-line message body of "subscribe enviro-mich" (leave your signature file off).
- **Sierra Club's National Web Page** is at: www.sierraclub.org. Check out the daily *War On the Environment* postings.
- Find our **New, Improved Mackinac Chapter Web Page**, by Davina Pallone + designwrench information arts, at: www.sierraclub.org/chapters/mi
- 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.



MACKINAC CHAPTER SIERRA CLUB

OUTINGS

TO EXPLORE, ENJOY AND PROTECT

Abbreviations in capital letters signify the group that is planning the outing. Refer to the Group Meetings map on page 16 to determine a group's location. Trips begin at the trailhead. Outings are open to everyone.

MAY

▲ **5/5-6 NG Metamora-Hadley Service Outing.** Bridge removal on hiking trail w/overnight camping Friday. Late lunch/dinner at White Horse Tavern in Metamora Saturday. BYO food & beverage Friday, & knee-high rubber boots. Strenuous. State Park Vehicle Permit required. Charlie Warner, 810-635-8184 & Jan Hanson, 810-232-1304.

5/6 SEMG (Sat) Year 2000 Earth Day Service Event. Let's celebrate this 30th Earth Day anniversary at Kensington Metropark by literally weeding Nature's Gardens. Bring the family, wear sturdy boots, & bring work gloves to help remove some of the invasive weeds taking over this pristine area. Potluck lunch afterwards (bring a dish to pass) at East Boat Launch picnic grounds. Take I-96 to exit 151 (Kensington Rd) to park entrance. Meet 10:30am at the Nature Center. Bob Duda, 734-464-0076.

5/6 HVG 5th annual Freedom High Potluck Picnic & Wildflower Hike. Bring a dish to pass. Wear long pants & hiking boots to explore ravines & marshes for trillium & trout lillies on this privately owned Freedom Township property. Meet 11am at City Hall parking lot to carpool. Tom Tuer, 734-442-0887.

5/7 NG (Sun) Jossman Road Hike, Holly Rec Area. Noon. 4 miles. Take Grange Hall Rd to Jossman Rd. South to 2nd parking lot on west side. State Park Vehicle Permit required. Restaurant stop. Mike Keeler, 810-767-9904.

5/7 SEMG Sharon Hollow Wildflower Walk. See this jewel of the Nature Conservancy's preserves SW of Ann Arbor during Spring blooms. Trilliums, Dutchmans Breeches, Jack in the Pulpits & others on display. Bring

flower guides & mud shoes for this slow, naturalists walk. Meet 9am between WalMart & Oil Dispatch (near Jeffries) on the SW corner of Middlebelt & I-96 (Jeffries Fwy) in Livonia. Restaurant stop. Max Nemazi, 734-421-4397.

5/13 NG (Sat) Lapeer State Game Area Hike. 10am. 5-6 moderate miles. I-69 to M-24. North about 7.5 miles. West on Sawdust Corners Rd. 0.6 mile to parking lot on north side of road (go past "Road Closed" sign). Restaurant stop. Greg & Mary Downey, 810-664-4917.

5/13 SEMG (Sat) Raisin River Wilderness Canoe. The headwaters of the Raisin are described as the most wild & the "crookedest" in MI. A tricky, twisty, but gentle 4-5 hour float through wild forests & an old mill pond to downtown Manchester. Some canoe experience necessary. Bring river lunch, meet 8:30am behind the Dearborn Centennial Library, south side of Michigan Ave just east of Southfield Fwy. Meet at west end of parking lot. \$16 fee must be received by 5/6. Philip Crookshank, 17916 Colgate, Dearborn Heights, MI, 48125, 313-562-1873.

5/13 TVG Mushroom Brunch & Outing. Meet 10am at Bill Mudgett's house (1511 Gay Lane, Midland). Bring a mushroom dish to pass or better yet to cook. Bill will provide mushrooms & kitchen. Afterwards we will take a short wildflower/woods walk & possible visit to the Pinecrest greenhouse & a beehive. Bill, 517-835-3454, to coordinate food item.

5/14 HVG/TVG Pictured Rocks 5th Annual Mothers Day Hike. Moderately easy 4-6 mile hike with lunch at Chapel Rock on Lake Superior's shore. Bring water, snack & lunch (no water at trailhead) & come prepared for wet or chilly weather. Hike may be canceled in event of pouring rain. Meet 9:30am at Chapel Basin parking lot on Chapel Road. Take H-58 to Melstrand, turn north on Chapel Road for 6 miles. Nancy Kressler, 517-689-5500 or Esther Smith, 517-689-4864.

5/14 SEMG Mothers Day Wildflower Walk. A 3-hour stroll in Holliday Nature Preserve (Cowan Rd entrance) will reveal 21 flower species, with a few surprises. Flower lists are

provided, bring flower field guides, magnifiers, cameras, etc. Meet 9am in Westland at the 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.

▲ **5/16-19 CUP Pictured Rocks "Trail Opening."** A service outing to help clear a backcountry section of the North Country Trail. Base camp at Beaver Creek, with access via hiking or canoe. Food & group gear provided, personal camping equipment available with advance request. No fee, but early registration is requested. Contact: trailbos@bresnanlink.net, 906-228-6744.

5/20 SEMG (Sat) Trillium Hike, Bald Mt South. We'll be surrounded by hillsides of trilliums as we hike about 5 miles at a moderate pace on very wet trails. Wear lug sole shoes & dress in layers. Meet at noon behind Marathon station at Tel-Twelve Mall, SE corner of Telegraph & Twelve Mile Rd in Southfield. Restaurant stop. Tom & Pat Skinner, 517-552-9121.

5/20 HVG Losee Trail Hike. Come hike this 3plus-mile trail in Pickney Rec Area. Bikes are prohibited on this trail. Meet 1pm at City Hall parking lot to carpool. Milton French, 313-295-6321.

▲ **5/20-21 NG Hoist Lakes Spring Backpacking.** 9 miles on Saturday. 6 miles on Sunday. Start 9:30am at Hoist Lakes Foot Area parking lot on M-65, 7 miles north of Glennie. \$5 recreation fee demonstration project required (purchase at Glennie party store). Don Persson, 810-695-0516.

5/21 KVG (Sun) Climb Kalamazoo! Climbing Wall. No experience necessary. Staff will provide training. Adult day pass is \$10, 14 yrs & under \$6. Equipment rentals & safety lesson (for 1st timers) available for additional fees. Climb Kalamazoo offers a wide variety of basic to very challenging walls. Meet 11:15am at Denny's restaurant on Sprinkle Road (I-94 exit 80) to carpool. Scott, 734-424-0031.

5/21 SEMG Highland Rec Area Hike. We'll start by scanning Haven Hill Lake for migrat-

continued on next page

OUTINGS*continued from page 18*

ing waterbirds, then follow a nature trail along the shore & into Haven Hill Natural Area, whose forest types include tamarack swamp, cedar, beech-maple, oak, hickory, & mixed hardwood. We'll split our attention between the flowers on the forest floor & the warblers above us in the canopy. Bring binoculars & flower guides. Park entrance is on M-59, 10+ miles east of Rt 23. Meet 10am in Goose Meadow parking area (1st picnic area), or meet 9am for leaderless carpool in Bloomfield Twp's Costco parking lot near McDonalds on Telegraph (east side), north of Square Lake Rd. Ken & Stephanie Jacobsen, 248-684-8844.

5/21 HVG Waterloo Recreation Area Hike.

Hike about 3 miles or more depending on group preference, enjoying Spring. Meet 1pm at City Hall parking lot to carpool. Ron Killebrew, 734-429-0671.

▲ **5/25-29 HVG North Manitou Island Service Trip.** Memorial Day trip to North Manitou Island, part of Sleeping Bear Dune National Lakeshore. Trip consists of 1 work day & 1 free day to enjoy the island. North Manitou is a designated wilderness with sand dunes, wildflower meadows, forests, & unspoiled beaches. Denny Burr, 734-482-9686.

▲ **5/26-29 CUP Backpack Among Wolves, Moose, and Bear: Lake Superior Provincial Park, Ontario, Canada (1.5 hours north of Soo, MI).** Join us for a moderately paced 24km hike along gnarly but picturesque Coastal Hiking Trail. Our route traces Lake Superior's shoreline where we'll have opportunities for rest stops on rock outcrops, secluded sand beaches, & rock-studded shorelines. On our trip near this area in Feb, our advance party spotted 2 wolves working their way down a creekbed. Last spring's trip, we found 2 huge moose sheds & watched a black bear amble along a sand beach north of Indian Harbor. We'll travel to the area Thurs night. After a vehicle shuttle on Friday, we'll hike 6km from Gargantua Harbor to a sand beach tucked in Rhyolite Cove. Saturday, we'll hike 8km to another beach nestled in Beatty Cove. Sunday we'll hike 6km to Baldhead River where we'll spend our final night on Superior. Monday, we'll hike 4km to our vehicles at Orphan Lake trailhead. If the weather cooperates, this should be a fun trip. It's suitable for the non-smoking intermediate-level backpacker who's physically fit, adventurous, fully equipped (w/food), & who's willing to hike & camp in foul weather. A \$15 donation to the Sierra Club is welcomed. Michael Neiger, 906-226-9620 or 906-228-2683; e-mail mneiger@hotmail.com; write 313 Jonathan Carver Road, Marquette, MI, 49855.

▲ **5/26-29 SEMG Memorial Weekend**

Basecamp. Camp at a private, rustic spot (w/showers) near Baldwin. 1) Hike Nordhouse Dunes Wilderness Area & swim Lake Michigan. 2) Canoe 5 hours down Pere Marquette River. 3) Hike a nearby section of North Country trail. Fee of \$110 covers camp, rentals, meals, Sat-Mon morning. Send full cost by 5/12 to Philip Crookshank, 17916 Colgate, Dearborn Heights, MI, 48125, 313-562-1873.

5/27 NG (Sat) Polly Ann Trail Bridge Builder. 10am. Meet in Dryden at old co-op park on the trail. Work entails converting railroad trestles into safe bridges. Bring work gloves & carpentry tools. Donated building materials will be at the site. Sack lunch provided. Larry Rumley, 810-796-3788.

▲ **5/27-29 NG West Michigan Coastal Kayaker Symposium.** Camp Pandaluam on Big Blue Lake north of Muskegon. Many classes, demos & lessons. If you want to rent a kayak, contact me early. Rated easy. Reservations required. \$75. Meal ticket (3 days) \$45. Carpooling. Jim Ledtke, 517-624-9195.

5/28 SEMG Indian Springs Hike. Meet for breakfast at 9am, then a relaxed, moderate 5-mile hike looking for birds & wildflowers on a lovely Spring morning. Meet 9am in Costco parking lot near McDonalds on Telegraph (east side), north of Square Lake Rd in Bloomfield Township. Restaurant stop. June Cox, 248-435-9522.

5/28 NG (Sun) Elba Equestrian Complex Hike & Campfire. 7pm. 5 moderate miles. Located on Genesee/Lapeer County line north of Elba. I-69 to Elba Rd exit. North 4-5 miles to entrance on west side. Hike ridge loop & meadow trail. Bring flashlight, chairs, food to roast, & beverage. Cindy Engelmann, 810-743-0335.

JUNE

6/3 Mackinac Chapter Outing: Chapter and HVG National Trails Day Hike on North Country Trail. Hike about 9 miles in the Huron-Manistee National Forest from the Vince Smith Memorial Bridge to Timber Creek campground. Meet 9:30am at the campground off US 10 and carpool to starting point near the bridge. Options to camp at Timber Creek. Ron Killibrew, 734-429-0671 or Ralph Powell, 734-971-9013.

▲ **6/3-4 Mackinac Chapter Outing.** National Trails Day Hike on the North Country Trail in Baldwin District. Options to camp at Timber Creek campground (about 9 miles west of MI-37). Ralph Powell, 734-971-9013 or Ron Killibrew, 734-429-0671.

6/3 NG (Sat) Bird Hike. 8am. 1 easy mile. Limit 10 persons. Bring binoculars & bird field

guides. An easy walk through a variety of bird habitats. The objective is to identify birds by sight & song. Call for location. State Park Vehicle Permit required. Fred Townsend, 248-627-3587.

▲ **6/3-4 NG Shingle Mill Pathway Backpacking.** 7 miles on Saturday. 4 miles on Sunday. Easy, flat, beautiful trail. Great for beginning backpackers. Start 9:30am at Pigeon Bridge trailhead. I-75 to exit 290 Vanderbilt. Left at blinking light on Sturgeon Valley Rd, 8 miles to trailhead. Don Persson, 810-695-0516.

6/3 SEMG (Sat) Maybury State Park Birding Hike. Join a slow-to-moderate 2-hour outing. We'll watch for bluebirds — sightings are highly probable! Rain or shine, dress appropriately. Meet 9am at park concession bldg, Eight Mile Rd entrance, just west of Beck Rd & Northville; 5 miles west of I-275. Optional restaurant stop. Tom & Alice Griebe, 248-349-8782.

6/4 SEMG West Bloomfield Nature Preserve Hike & Birding. If we're lucky, we may see herons pushing their young out of their nests for a flying lesson at this rookery. Also, the resident owl might be spotted. Meet 9am in Southfield behind Marathon station at Tel-Twelve Mall, SE corner of Telegraph & Twelve Mile Rd. Restaurant stop. Call if weather is doubtful. June Cox, 248-435-9522.

▲ **6/9-11 HVG Annual AuSable River Canoe Trip.** Canoe downstream both days & camp at same spot both nights for a relaxing weekend on this beautiful river. Look for marsh marigolds, signs of beavers, & eagles. Good for beginners. Joan Paskewitz, 734-428-0887.

6/9 SEMG (Fri) Lunar Observing & Stargazing. Join Warren Astronomical Society for an evening lecture & after dark lunar observing, utilizing their 22-inch telescope. If cloudy, a lecture & slide show. Dress warm, June is cool after dark! Meet in Sterling Heights at Metro Parkway (16 Mile Rd) & Van Dyke (SE corner) in SMART parking lot between the banks. Meet 6pm for dinner or 7:30pm for ride sharing to the "observatory" near 30 Mile & Romeo Plank (maps will be provided). Dress for outside. Bring binoculars or scopes if you have them. John Herrgott, 810-735-9313.

▲ **6/9-11 NG Leelanau State Park Car Camping.** Camp 2 nights on Lake Michigan. Day hikes Saturday & Sunday. BYO food. Reservations required. State Park Vehicle Permit required. Rated easy. Jean Gaffney, 810-695-6529.

6/10 NG (Sat) Richfield Park Hike. 4 miles.

see OUTINGS page 20

OUTINGS

continued from page 19

10am. Meet at fishing parking lot just north of park entrance, 6550 N Irish Rd, about 6 miles north of I-69. Rated easy. Bring lunch. Leroy Bressler, 517-871-4948.

6/11 SEMG Hidden Lake Garden Hike. This beautiful botanical area near Tecumseh is owned by MSU. We haven't visited in years — will do a very scenic, moderate 5-mile hike. Meet noon in Southfield behind Marathon station at Tel-Twelve Mall, SE corner of Telegraph & Twelve Mile Rd. Restaurant stop. John Kalam, 248-681-9160.

6/17 NG (Sat) Mott Lake by Moonlight Hike. 9pm. 4 easy miles. Meet at Genesee County Parks & Rec office at 5045 E Stanley Rd, Flint (corner of Genesee Rd). Bring a flashlight. Restaurant stop. Tim Gundlach, 810-232-0917.

6/18 HVG Maybury State Park Hike. An easy warm weather hike across open fields & hardwood forest. Meet 1pm at City Hall parking lot to carpool. Milton French, 313-295-6321.

6/18 SEMG Addison Oaks Hike. Let's enjoy a nice June day to look for wild flowers, birds, & animals on this nice & easy stroll. Meet 10am in Rochester Hills on NW corner of Avon & Rochester Rd in KMart lot, near the gas station. Restaurant stop. Lee Becker, 810-294-7789.

6/24 HVG Lost Nations State Game Area Hike. Explore a potential route for the North Country Trail. Meet 8:30am at Fox Village Theater parking lot to carpool. Kevin Bell, 734-447-2837.

6/24 NG (Sat) Holdridge Lakes Mt Bike Trail Hike. West loop. 4-6 miles. 10am. Directions, see Jan 22. State Park Vehicle Permit required. Restaurant stop. Bob Climie, 810-687-1537.

6/24 SEMG (Sat) Canoe the Upper Huron. We call this a "wilderness trip close to home." The Huron flows slowly through heavily wooded Island Lake Rec Area for a nice 4-hour trip, good for beginners. Bring your lunch & beverage & dress for the weather. Send \$15 check for rentals by 6/20 to Don Dahlin, 3556 Tothill, Troy, MI, 48084. We'll meet 8:45am in Southfield behind the Marathon station at Tel-Twelve Mall, SE corner of Telegraph & Twelve Mile Rd. Don Dahlin, 248-644-2746.

6/25 SEMG Pointe Mouillee Hike. We'll see lots of birds on Lake Erie's shore as we do an easy 4-5 mile walk along the dikes. Bring hat & insect repellent. Meet 12:30pm at west end

of parking lot behind the Dearborn Centennial Library, south side of Michigan Ave just east of Southfield Fwy. Restaurant stop. Ed McArdle, 313-388-6645.

6/25 HVG Belle Isle Nature Center Trail Hike. Bring a snack & water. We'll visit the Nature Center & hike along their newly restored trail. Meet 12:30pm at City Hall parking lot to carpool. Allow for about 1 hour travel time each way. Kathy Guerresco, 734-994-7030. Cancelled if rain.

JULY

▲ 7/1-4 NG Bruce Peninsula National Park (Ontario) Car Camping. East I-69 to Port Huron. Bluewater Bridge to 402 east. North on Ontario 21 to Bruce Peninsula & Tobermory, Ontario. Day hikes including Bruce Trail, Flowerpot Island & Fathom Five National Marine Park. Camping fees. Greg & Mary Downey, 810-664-4917.

7/2 SEMG Circle Newburgh Lake. This level 2.5-hour walk covers shaded glens, pathways, & urban streets. See the effects of the lake restoration project completed by Wayne County in 1999 & check out the varied flora in the woods (including Mulberry fruits). Meet 10am at Newburgh Pointe parking lot on Hines Drive between Newburgh & Haggerty. Restaurant stop. Leader, Max Nemazi, 734-421-4397.

7/8 NG (Sat) Crooked Lake Hike. Pinckney Rec Area. 10am. 5 moderate miles. Carpool 9am from Fenton K-Mart. Restaurant stop. Sue Morris, 810-233-6569 or 810-232-3532.

7/8 SEMG (Sat) Kensington Hike. Let's hike the loops of the trails near the Nature Center early to see the critters. Meet 9:30am in Southfield behind the Marathon station at Tel-Twelve Mall, SE corner of Telegraph & Twelve Mile Rd, or 10:15 at the Nature Center. Call if raining. Restaurant stop. Jeanne Mercier, 313-581-6648.

▲ 7/7-9 NG Bliss Festival Cross Village, Michigan Car Camping. 2pm. Two nights camping at folk music festival. Day hikes (easy) at Wilderness State Park. Tickets from Ticketmaster. Reservations required. State Park Vehicle Permit required. Jean Gaffney, 810-695-6529.

7/9 SEMG Stalk the Wild Chanterelles. Join the Michigan Mushroom Hunters Club on a 2-hour hunt for 'shrooms, then a potluck where we will sauté the found treasures. Bring paper bags or basket for gathering the woodsy loot, water, hat, whistle, & a potluck dish to pass for the feast afterwards. Optional swimming. Meet 9am at the Highland Rec Area, Goose

Meadows parking lot, follow signs from park entrance on M-59, 3.5 miles east of Milford Rd or 11 miles west of Telegraph. Nancy Sommers, 248-681-2833 & Ann Putti, 313-533-5519.

7/15 HVG Adopt-a-Highway Cleanup. Come help make a visible, positive physical change in the local environment! Meet 9:15am in the parking lot at Big Boy's on Plymouth Road near US-23 to carpool. Kathy Guerresco, 734-994-7030.

7/15 NG (Sat) Sleepy Hollow Hike. 10am. 5 moderate miles. Swimming & picnicking available. Bring lunch & bathing suit. Carpooling 9am from Swartz Creek St Mary's Church, Morrish Rd, just south of I-69. State Park Vehicle Permit required. Tim Gundlach, 810-232-0917.

7/15 SEMG (Sat) Evening Picnic & Moonlight Hike. Bring your own entrée to cook, a beverage, & a dish to pass. Your leader will provide a grille fire to roast your dog or tofu tube on. After a leisurely meal & conversation, we'll go for a 4-mile hike, leaving at dusk & returning when the moon is high (10pm). Bring a flashlight & meet 6:30pm at Proud Lake State Park parking lot off Wixom Rd (follow SIERRA signs), 8 miles north of Rte 96 (exit 159). Philip Crookshank, 313-562-1873.

7/16 HVG Barton Park to Silver Lake Ride & Swim. Come enjoy the ride & then a refreshing plunge into the lake. Bike helmet required. Bring a snack & swimsuit. Meet at Barton Park main entrance on Huron River Dr, located about 1 mile from N Main Street & Huron River Dr intersection. Milton French, 313-295-6321.

7/16 SEMG Teeple Lake Hike, Swim, Picnic. Let's do a joint outing with the Vegans in Motion again (www.all4vegan.net). We'll have a leisurely hike on this warm day, take a cool dip in the lake after, & enjoy lunch together at Highland Rec Area. Pack your hiking boots & swimsuit for after the hike. Bring a vegan dish to pass for a potluck lunch, or bring your own picnic to eat on Lake Teeple's grassy banks. Meet 10:30am in Bloomfield Township in the Costco parking lot near McDonalds on Telegraph (east side) north of Square Lake Rd. Lee Becker, 810-294-7789; Liz Allingham 313-581-7579; Jim & Meriam Corcoran, 248-591-9543.

7/23 HVG Pickerel Lake Hike & Swim. A warm weather afternoon with "open air" changing rooms, or wear your suit. Meet 1pm at City Hall parking lot to carpool. Ron Killebrew, 734-429-0671.

continued on next page

OUTINGS*continued from page 20*

7/23 SEMG Heritage Park Hike. We'll do a rain or shine 5-mile hike over hills, meadows, rivers, & streams through this 211 acre Farmington Hills park. Meet 10am in Farmington Hills Heritage Park in the visitor center lot. Turn west off Farmington Rd between 10 & 11 Mile Rds, left at 1st road. Restaurant stop. Tom LaFromboise, 734-464-7899.

▲ 7/27-31 KVG Time for some fun in the UP! We'll have our base camp on remote Mulligan Creek in Marquette County. Day hike possibilities include numerous small lakes & waterfalls. Look for old mine shafts around Silver Lake Basin, or just make like a bear & pick berries. There's even a 300-foot escarpment for the more adventurous. Experienced kids ok. Space limited, so please make reservations by July 7th. Paul Haas, 616-664-5417.

▲ 7/28-8/2 HVG Isle Royale Backpack Trip. Hike the eastern half of the island on this moderately difficult trip. Mostly through hiking 6-8 miles a day with a 2-day base camp & longer day hike. Nancy Shiffler, 734-971-1157.

7/29 NG (Sat) Corsair Hike. Tawas City. 11am. 6 moderate miles. Hike & ski trails. Lots of huckleberries along trail. \$3 donation. Restaurant stop. Carpool from Clio park & ride at 9am. Sue Morris, 810-233-6569 or 810-232-3532.

7/30 SEMG Maybury Hike & Bird. We'll do a 3-mile hike with some birding opportunities as we review the recent bluebird box refurbishing & look for some fledglings. Meet 11:30am rain or shine at the state park concession bldg, Eight Mile Rd entrance, just

west of Beck Rd & Northville; 5 miles west of I-275. State park fee. Restaurant stop. Tom Griebel, 248-349-8782.

AUGUST

▲ 8/4-6 NG Pictured Rocks Backpacking. Mosquito Beach/Chapel Beach triangle. 10am. 12 miles. Holly Lubowicki, 810-767-4004.

8/5 NG (Sat) Flint River Trail Clean-up. See April 29. Cindy Engelmann, 810-743-0335.

8/6 SEMG Mini-Potawatami Hike. If the 14- or 17-mile version of this hilly, wooded trail is not your cup of tea, try this abbreviated, 5-mile version that will circle Crooked Lake. Meet 9am in Livonia between WalMart & Oil Dispatch (near Jeffries) on the SW corner of Middlebelt & I-96 (Jeffries Fwy) or 9:45 at the Silver Lake parking lot. Bring water & trail snacks. Restaurant stop. Max Nemazi, 734-421-4397.

8/6 TVG (Sun) Pictured Rocks Friendship Day Hike. Moderately easy 2.8-mile hike w/ lunch at Mosquito Falls. Good hike for children. Bring water, snack, & lunch (no water at trailhead). Meet 9:30am at Chapel Basin parking lot on Chapel Road. Take H-58 to Melstrand, turn north on Chapel Road for 6 miles. Nancy Kressler, 517-689-5500 or Esther Smith, 517-689-4864.

▲ 8/10-13 CUP Backpack Pictured Rocks. See *Looking Ahead*, below, for more info.

▲ 8/11-13 NG Port Austin Beach Bumming. Camp at Port Crescent State Park organization campsite. Tip of the thumb. Car camp. Walk the beach of Lake Huron, bring kayaks. Fish, swim, plus lots more including Michigan's own petroglyphs! Reservations before 8/1. State Park Vehicle Permit required. \$1/person/night

to camp. Carpooling encouraged. Cindy Engelmann, 810-743-0335.

▲ 8/13-19 Mackinac Chapter Outing: Chapter Service Trip in Upper Peninsula. See *Looking Ahead*, below, for more info.

8/13 SEMG Island Lake Canoe. Spend a day on the Upper Huron river in Island Lake State Park with Sierra friends. We'll have a leisurely 5-hour float, divided by lunch at a shelter. Dress for the weather, bring river lunch & clothes in a dry bag. Send rental cost of \$16 by 8/6 to Lee Becker, 32856 Harmon Dr. Roseville, MI, 48066. We'll meet 10am in Southfield behind the Marathon station at Tel-Twelve Mall, SE corner of Telegraph & Twelve Mile Rds. Lee Becker, 810-294-7789.

▲ 8/18-20 NG Grand Island Backpacking. Munising. 25 miles. Ferry departs from Grand Island Landing on M-28, 4 miles west of blinking light in Munising. Moderate. Reservations required. \$12 round-trip ferry fee. Carpooling. Jim Ledtke, 517-624-9195.

8/19 NG (Sat) Otter Lake Hike. 6pm. 5 easy miles. From corner of M-57 & M-15 in Otisville, go north on M-15 2.8 miles to Willard Rd. Go east 2.6 miles. Left at fork 0.1 mile to trailhead, parking lot on left. Restaurant stop. Leroy Bressler, 517-871-4948.

8/27 SEMG Maybury State Park Summer Wildflower Roundup. We'll see how many different kinds we can spot as we roam this lovely gem for 2-3 hours. Meet 9am in Southfield behind the Marathon station at Tel-Twelve Mall, SE corner of Telegraph & Twelve Mile Rds, or 10am at park concession bldg, Eight Mile Rd entrance, just west of Beck Rd & Northville; 5 miles west of I-275. Optional restaurant stop. John Herrgott, 810-735-9313 & Joanne Spatz, 248- 932-5370.

L O O K I N G A H E A D :

These outings, all 4 or more days in length, are scheduled at least 3 months after this issue's publication date & require advance planning. Sign up early!

CUP OUTINGS WITH DAVE BOS

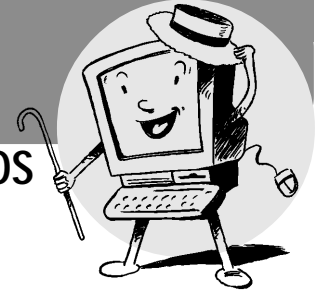
8/10-13 Backpack Pictured Rocks. A scenic, easy backpacking trip suitable for beginners. Short backpacking segments of up to 7 miles/day, 3 unique backcountry campsites. View several waterfalls, caves, coves, arches, big cliffs, & sandy beaches. Swimming, wildlife, & good company make this a fun outing. Group gear & food provided; personal backpacking gear available with advance request. Pre-registration required w/\$65 fee. Group size is limited, so sign up early. Dave Bos, trailbos@bresnanlink.net or 906-228-6744.

9/9-17 Kings Canyon Service Outing. There's room for a couple more people on this exciting trip to the High Sierras. Base camp at 9,000ft. Work on famous Bubb's Creek Trail, w/recreation time to hike part of Pacific Crest Trail. Group gear provided. Target group size is 8. \$60 fee. This is an advanced outing with leader approval required. Contact: trailbos@bresnanlink.net, or 906-228-6744.

MACKINAC CHAPTER OUTINGS

8/13-19 Chapter Service Trip in Upper Peninsula. Construct or maintain sections of the North Country Scenic Trail. Possible projects could include construction of new trail shelters. Spend a day or the whole week. Gene Elsinga, 906-225-1704 or Ralph Powell, 734-971-9013.

WEBWATCH: TOPOMAPS, NAUTICAL CHARTS, AND AERIAL PHOTOS



BY MICHAEL A. NEIGER
Central Upper Peninsula Group
Copyright ©2000

Several websites offer free access to a variety of digital images of Michigan and beyond. These images include detailed topographic maps, nautical charts, and aerial photos from NOAA and the USGS. They're real handy for reconning a wilderness area or a remote waterway before a trip. My favorite site is www.terraserver.com — its *continued on next page*



www.terraserver.com



www.maptech.com



www.topozone.com

Learn how to build with logs and stone!

The Michigan School of Log Building and Stone Masonry offers 5-day hands-on workshops in early June. Call (517) 734-4688 for information now!

- Scandinavian Full Scribe Technique
- Chink-style Building & Saddle Notching
- Complete Stone Masonry Work; Tools Provided

Courses include the option of three excellent meals daily and comfortable lodging at NettieBay Lodge.

Other workshops at NettieBay Lodge:
School of Bird Identification Weekend
The Outdoor Woman Workshop
Facilities available to groups for private workshops.

Your hosts: Mark and Jackie Schuler
9011 West 638 Hwy., Hawks, MI 49743
(517) 734-4688
nettiebay@george.lhi.net

NettieBay Lodge



WEBWATCH

continued from page 22

mammoth digital database reportedly makes it the largest site on the Net. Terraserver has some remarkable, one-meter-resolution aerial photographs for parts of Michigan. To see for yourself, take a look at the images of Isle Royale and you'll be able to see the Ranger docked at Rock Harbor. Equally impressive is Mackinac Island where high-speed ferries can be seen on Lake Huron, between the island and the mainland. You can even see vehicles on the Big Mac, just to the west. In addition to topographic maps, Terraserver also offers unique Expedia relief images of the earth. Try scrolling from the Great Lakes up to the polar ice cap. This powerful website includes a user-friendly search engine that accommodates both place name and latitude/longitude inquiries.

For the sharpest USGS topographic images of Michigan and several other states, point your browser to www.maptech.com. If you're planning a coastal paddling trip, MapTech's nautical charts from NOAA will be extremely useful.

Detailed topographic images for the entire country are also available from TopoZone at www.topozone.com. Both TopoZone and MapTech have easy-to-use search engines. ☀

E-mail your favorite wilderness-oriented websites to Michael Neiger of Marquette, Michigan, at mneiger@hotmail.com.

SIERRA CLUB MACKINAC CHAPTER DIRECTORY

MACKINAC CHAPTER OFFICE

300 North Washington Square, Suite 411
Lansing, MI 48933
Phone: 517-484-2372
Fax: 517-484-3108
E-mail: mackinac.chapter@sierraclub.org
Website: www.sierraclub.org/chapters/mi
Allison Horton, Director
Anne Woiwode, Program Director
Dan Farough, Member Involvement/Organizer
Joyce McIntosh, Office Manager

SIERRA CLUB MIDWEST OFFICE

214 N. Henry Street, Suite 203
Madison, WI 53703
Phone: 608-257-4994
Carl Zichella, Midwest Regional Staff Director
Emily Green, Great Lakes Program Director

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
Lydia Fischer, Chair..... 313-863-8392
Sue Kelly, Vice Chair..... 810-227-9563
Helen LeBlanc, Treasurer..... 517-655-6454
Mike Johnson, 4th Officer..... 616-948-8840
Fred Townsend, 5th Officer..... 248-627-3587

At-Large Representatives

(Terms expire January 2001)
Lydia Fischer..... 313-863-8392
Mike Keeler..... 810-767-9904
Helen LeBlanc..... 517-655-6454
Gary Semer..... 734-453-4443
Mike Johnson..... 616-948-8840
(Terms expire January 2002)
Sue Kelly..... 810-227-9563
Judy Thompson..... 734-487-5548
Fred Townsend..... 248-627-3587
Barbara Yarrow..... 248-932-9164

Group Representatives

Central Michigan
Tom Nelson..... 517-336-9707
Central Upper Michigan
Richard Posey..... 906-226-7934
Crossroads
David Wright..... 810-229-1685
Huron Valley
Nancy Shiffler..... 734-971-1157
Kalamazoo Valley
Paul Haas..... 616-664-5417
Nepessing
Holly Lubowicki..... 810-750-6838
Southeast Michigan
Anna Holden..... 313-331-0932
Three Lakes
Floyd Byerly..... 906-632-0218
Thumb Valley
Craig Kendziorski..... 517-631-5170
West Michigan
Linda Rosenthal..... 616-776-0817

REGIONAL GROUP CHAIRS

Central Michigan
Pete Pasterz..... 517-676-3339
Central Upper Michigan
Richard Posey..... 906-226-7934
Crossroads
Rick Pearsall..... 810-227-6298
Huron Valley
Doug Cowherd..... 734-662-5205

Kalamazoo Valley
Rus Hollister..... 616-685-2301
Nepessing
Linda Berker..... 810-653-8242
Southeast Michigan
Anna Holden..... 313-331-0932
Three Lakes
Floyd Byerly..... 906-632-0218
Thumb Valley
Janis and Craig Kendziorski..... 517-631-5170
West Michigan
Sarah Houwerzyl..... 616-361-5943

CHAPTER COMMITTEES

Awards
Mike Keeler..... 810-767-9904
Conservation
Judy Thompson..... 734-677-2517
Chapter Elections and Nominations
Linda Rosenthal..... 616-776-0817
Elections
Bonnie Maidak..... 517-381-8692
Environmental Education: Open
Fall Retreat
Dave and Nancy Christiansen..... 616-842-6019
Martie Hoadley..... 517-336-0335
Mark and Julie Janeczko..... 517-539-1676
Finance
Gary Semer..... 734-453-4443
Information Systems
Alex Sagady..... 517-332-6971
Inner City Outings
West Michigan: John Pulver..... 616-453-2480
Washtenaw: Megan Beardsley..... 734-996-5615
Legal: Open
The Mackinac Newsletter + Website
Davina Pallone..... 801-961-9939
Mackinac Chapter History
Gwen Nystuen..... 734-665-7632
Member Programs
Bob Duda..... 734-464-0076
Nominations
Sue Kelly..... 810-227-9563
Outings
Ralph Powell..... 734-971-9013
Personnel
Lydia Fischer..... 313-863-8392
Political
Gwen Nystuen..... 734-665-7632
Raffle
Mike Keeler..... 810-767-9904
Sexual Harassment Investigation
Lydia Fischer..... 313-863-8392
Sierra Club Council Delegate
Mike Keeler..... 810-767-9904
Sierra Club Delegate to MRCC
Sarah Houwerzyl..... 616-361-5943

**NEXT DEADLINE:
JULY 8**

Send your Group Meetings and Outings to:
Bob Volz, Mackinac Calendar Editor
414 Sleepy Hollow Dr.
Flushing, MI 48433
hvolz@gfn.org

Submit articles & photos to:
Davina Pallone
756 East 800 South
Salt Lake City, UT 84102
801-961-9939
davina@designwrench.com



PHOTO: MICHAEL NEIGER

A pair of moose calves greet early spring canoeists paddling up the West Aubinadong River in Ontario, Canada, only 60 miles north of Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan.

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.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to SIERRA CLUB, 300 N. Washington Sq., Lansing, MI 48933